



# MICHIGAN FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**August 14, 2020 12:00 AM**

**155 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603**

### **Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 12:00 am by President Bigger

### **Roll Call of Officers:**

President Bigger, VP Blomstrom, Treasurer Dean, Secretary VanHorn, UP VP Vaught, (on Phone), East VP Wilson, South VP Wlosinski (on Phone) Members at Large Parker, Dornbush, Carroll, Hubbard. Past President Cousins.

**Excused Absences:** North VP Silva and West VP Cleveland

### **Guests:**

Charles Pichon, Eileen VanHorn

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Approval of Agenda:** Blomstrom/Hubbard – Passed

**Reading/Minutes of Previous Minutes:** Carroll/Wilson - Passed

**Guest Presentations (Preapproved, 5-minute time limit):** None

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Dean stated that we have \$45427.04 in the bank our Savings account has \$1797.24. Couple outstanding balances on the cards which comes from checking.

Card #1 has \$ 40.00, card #2 has \$0.00, Card #3 \$187.89. There are 2 bills waiting for payment as soon as we get the invoices, Provident and McNeil. Discussion held. Motion to accept report. (Parker/Cleveland) Passed

## Standing Committees

### Instructor of the Year (**Wilson/Wlosinski/Blomstrom**):

VP Blomstrom stated that we do not have any applications as of this time. Discussion held.

### Conference/Programs (**Bigger/VanHorn/Cleveland**):

Pres. Bigger It been hard working with the offices as they have a minimal staff. The hotel is open. Everything is filled up for the conference at this point. Have been getting class and bios in and forwarding to Rick and Mark. Rick has not received any from Don. Looking into this issue. Don has an email thing or something else. People last week where still getting rooms in our block. The biggest change is expected is we will have the Instructors meeting Friday Morning. We will have meeting and elections in the morning of Friday. Blomstrom is still planning on having a Train – the- Trainer for McNeil in Traverse and they are updating the material for the Train–the-Trainer. Discussion held.

### Articles and By-Laws (**Hubbard/Wilson/Blomstrom**):

MLB Hubbard stated they are on the website with the colored revisions. They have been on for 1 month. They will need to be voted on to approve changes. Discussion Moved for vote to new business. 0h35m56s

### Membership/Web Report: (**VanHorn/Cleveland/Vaught**):

VanHorn reported that we have 424 current members that includes Lifetime members. There are members that fall off due to expiration and some that renew membership, this is continually changing. Membership is holding good. Discussion Held.

### Public Relations and Conference Advertising (**Silva/ Carroll/Parker/Dornbush**)

Member at Large Parker reported that they have nothing just trying to get the UP thing going. Discussion Held.

### Education/Research/Development (**Dornbush/Cleveland/Hubbard**):

No Report

## Special Committees

### Deward Beeler Scholarship (**Parker/Dornbush/Dean/Vaught**)

Member at Large Parker had reported they have 1 scholarship application so far. Discussion held.

### Joint Council (**Wlosinski/Carroll**)

Wlosinski reported they meet last week. There was a little discussion on the SE conference being cancelled for 2020. They are going to work with them to revise the Fire Expo, March 29, 30, &31, 2021. The other thing they are looking at are some off site classes. Ray cautioned the chair that the Instructors have a conference in December that their classes do not conflict with the Instructors Conference classes. Shaun Abbey is still working on a mental health summit and more information will be coming soon for that. Discussion held.

### Fire Fighter Training Council (**Blomstrom**)

Blomstrom reported that the Council that Fire Marshal Sehlmeier informed everyone that on May 15, 2020 under Executive Order 2020-77, firefighter training and council approved courses can resume. Fire marshal conducted training with coordinators, spent time going over procedures to follow to conduct training and testing going forward. On June 3, 2020, the fire marshal provided clarification on facemasks and helmet shields. While testing, a person who is participating and practicing a skill or is being evaluated on a test can remove facemasks as long as people in immediate area have facemasks on. The fire marshal shared that the entire Bureau of Fire Services (BFS) office is currently working from home. Dan Hammerberg and Fire Marshal tried out an online orientation last week, limited it to 16 students because they wanted it to be more interactive. The Curriculum Committee met on Wednesday June 10th to go over the Fire Officer I exam.

Zoom Trial Course Incident Safety Officer (ISO): The Brighton and Howell Fire Departments reached out and sought approval to do a trial ISO course via Zoom Meeting. Brighton laid out 4 all the activities and how this would be done. Feedback would be given to the fire marshal upon completion of the trial course. Course was approved on the basis that virtual courses are going to become more prevalent.

Virtual Fire Fighter I & II Course: Fire Marshal Sehlmeier, Dan Hammerberg, and Jon Stone of Stanton Fire Department brought forth the idea of teaching the Fire Fighter I & II course through a virtual learning platform. All of the lectures would use the J&B Premier Platform. Would need 16, eight (8) hour days to do all the practical items. The only way the virtual course can be done is breaking the course into 15 hands on modules. Every two (2) weeks the participant would be required to call the course manager on Zoom to check in. Practical days would use a 5:1 instructor/student ratio. A total of 60 participants would be in the first virtual trial, each 20-person group would have a course manager. Each person signed up would pick their course manager. There would be a lead instructor and four (4) instructors who take care of the modules. Looking to do this in the Western Upper Peninsula. This group is not looking for any funding. It will be funded by County funds in the Upper Peninsula. Council discussed the need for this type of course offering, especially in the wake of Covid-19.

Talked about Fire-Expo. Going forward they are open to any ideas on where to take the expo, be it different locations throughout the state. Looking to potentially add classes and training while at the expo. Adoption of updated NFA FI:FR Curriculum: The NFA has disseminated the new Fire Investigation: First Responder (FI:FR) course. The one currently on file has been decommissioned by the NFA and is outdated. The new text is titled the same, with the only difference being the updated material and made it a 2nd edition. Councilperson Blomstrom and Dan Hammerberg are looking to update the course code to "C01D" and the remaining courses will be taught with the updated curriculum. Discussion Held.

### Curriculum Committee (**Wlosinski/Blomstrom**)

VP South VP stated they the Fire Officers examine to make sure all the questions appeared in the book and certified that examine. We have been put on hold until we get direction with the rules and stuff like that. Discussion Held.

### Coalition (**Bigger/Blomstrom**/)

Pres. Bigger reported that they are meeting the same way we are meeting right now. Biggest thing that happened is the current chairman Coffman resigned from the position, Andy Fowle is going to be temporary chairman. Not sure how long he will be chair as he is retiring. Some changes going on with that. That was the last virtual meeting. We didn't have a Kelley Cawthorne meeting prior we just had the Coalition. Discussion held.

Public Assemblage Ad Hoc (Cleveland /Cousins)  
Past Pres. Cousins stated it has not move forward.

### Reports/Communications

<b>Upper Peninsula Vice President</b> No Report	<b>Vaught</b>
<b>West Vice President</b> No Report	<b>Cleveland</b>
<b>East Vice President</b> No report	<b>Wilson</b>
<b>South Vice President</b> No report	<b>Wlosinski</b>
<b>North Vice President</b> No report	<b>Silva</b>
<b>Treasurer</b> Gave financial report	<b>Dean</b>
<b>Secretary</b> No report	<b>VanHorn</b>
<b>Executive Vice-President</b> Reported that he is awaiting the update from McNeil.	<b>Blomstrom</b>

### **President**

### **Bigger**

Decker and Provident worked on and came out with a liability plan that covers other Fire associations or organized fire or County groups. 1 Million dollars per occurrence, 3 Million dollars per year. This does not include membership to MFSIA because each instructor need more coverage and you still need to be a member of the MFSIA Association. The policy was about \$1200.00. Talk to Brian as he currently has one tabled with his county. If you would like this get ahold of Kevin or talk to Brian. Trying to get ahold of Guy so we can get them on the web site.

### Old Business

Storage plans for our trailer

### New Business

Vote on By-Law changes  
Motion to accept By-Law changes as written and posted on Web site. (VanHorn/Wilson)  
Passed

### Next Meeting Location.

October 9, 2020  
Brighton Area Fire Authority  
2755 Door Rd.

DW\_A0100

Brighton, MI 48116

**Good of the Order**

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn (Wlosinski/Blomstrom). Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Secretary Rick VanHorn*