



MICHIGAN FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2020

Live Meeting at 2755 Dorr Road

Brighton Area FD, Station #34

Brighton, MI

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 12:09 am by President Bigger.

Roll Call of Officers:

President Bigger, VP Blomstrom, Treasurer Dean, Secretary VanHorn, East VP Wilson, South VP Wlosinski, West VP Cleveland, Members at Large Parker, Dornbush, Carroll, Hubbard, Past President Cousins.

Excused Absences: UP VP Vaught, North VP Silva, and,

Guests:

Charles Pichon, Eileen VanHorn

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Agenda: Dean/Blomstrom – Passed

Reading/Minutes of Previous Minutes: Hubbard/Carroll with changes

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

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dean stated that we have \$42548.00 in the bank our Savings account has \$1797.30. Couple outstanding balances on the cards which comes from checking.

Card #1 has \$ 40.00, card #2 has \$80.00, Card #3 \$1515.03 There are 1 bill waiting for payment as soon as we get the invoices, McNeil. Discussion held about the monies from DTE 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 Reported on the hotel situation for the conference in December. We cannot have the Hospitality room is a no go. We could use it as a classroom if we need it, but we would just delete the room. All meals would be brought to us, we cannot have a buffet. We could have a buffet, but the hotel employees would be dishing the food this is something Don was going to talk with the hotel about. The bars are open. They are having conferences; we would be the biggest one there. Don sent a memo to our insurance company about us holding the conference and should a person come down with Covid-19 could we held liable? The carrier sent back a statement saying they could allege to contract at the conference however it would be hard to prove, they could take you to court. We do not have a virus liability clause, however we are covered. They advise us to follow the CDC recommendations and make sure your compliant with our activities. They also sent Don a form which all attendees would have to fill out, date and sign, stating they are aware of Covid-19, they are aware they know what is going on. This came from the insurance company. We would have to make masks and hand sanitizer available to all attendees. The hotel is already doing this, but because of our size we would probably need to supply. Don stated that we were going to have a meeting today and he would let the hotel what's going on. The hotel stated that our room bookings are overfull. Currently we have 29 signed up for the conference and 26 of they have paid. Don asked if we are able to hold the conference with our board? Discussion held. After much discussion, the board has decided to continue on with the conference pending no more changes by the state. Don will check with the hotel on what they are suppling.

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

MLB Hubbard stated they have no report.

President Bigger stated that some things that need to be fixed, spacing red letters need to be changed.

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

VanHorn reported that we have 459 current members that includes Lifetime members. 21 of them are ne members. There are members that fall off due to expiration and some that renew membership, this is continually changing. Membership is holding good.

Montcalm County Instructors Association purchased liability insurance through Decker Ins. Total cost of the package was under \$1200.00. Part of their policy is a liability policy for instructors that teach for the county. It is only \$3 Million dollars of coverage, not the \$10 million that the MFSIA covers. This policy covers instructors that are teaching for the county association only not any guest instructors. Their board decided not to pay for the \$85.00 membership fee to MFSIA, they will have to purchase on their own insurance from MFSIA if they are teaching for another county or around the state. Montcalm County Instructors assn. will not double cover these instructors. Form that seven out of the eleven will be purchasing

from MFSIA the insurance because they want the \$10 million rather than the \$3 million from the county. Discussion Held.

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

Member at Large Dornbush stated that they feel as Public Relation that we take Covid serious and that they feel that the board will make the appropriate decision on the conference for the better, and to make formal communication on what we are going to do with the conference. Thea brought up the BAND app that we used at the last conference and was wanting to know if we are going to use it again at the 2020 conference. The Board discussed and decided to use BAND again and that Thea start setting up for the conference.

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

No Report. Discussion held about the picking of the people for the Fire Officer 1 TtT by the FFTD.

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 had a zoom meeting on Sept. 9, 2020. Fire Marshall stated that there were some State Legislatures that wanted to take away the Emergency Management from the State Police. Rules were in to JCAR and being processed. 250's for 2020 for any class need to be in by the first of October. House bill 4792 in process passed the House and is in the Senate committee. Fireworks were at record sales this year. Reported sales of \$2.3 million. TJ's position no movement at this time. Anything that is needed will have to go through Dan. Recruitment and retention committee was formed and Chief Carroll, Kym and Chief Mike Kennedy will be on that committee. They will look at different things in recruitment and retention. Michigan Prevention with a grant of \$250,000 training and a PSA video being created. Michigan Prevention is now funded it is not funded by grants any more. They did talk about the Expo it is still going. Discussion held.

Fire Fighter Training Council (Blomstrom)

Blomstrom has no report. They did not meet.

Curriculum Committee (Wlosinski/Blomstrom)

VP Wlosinski has no report.

Coalition (Bigger/Blomstrom/)

Pres. Bigger reported no report. This may turn out to be a Kelley Cawthorne coalition meeting. Discussion held.

Public Assemblage Ad Hoc (Cleveland /Cousins)

No report

Reports/Communications

Upper Peninsula Vice President
No Report

Vaught

West Vice President
No Report

Cleveland

East Vice President
No report

Wilson

South Vice President
No report

Wlosinski

North Vice President
No report

Silva

Treasurer
Gave financial report is above.

Dean

Secretary
No report

VanHorn

Executive Vice-President

Blomstrom

Reported that he had straightened out the By Laws. Update the Drivers Training update coming. MFSIA/Nation Fire Academy class is coming up for bidding, but with Covid-19 with the class coming out in January Brian will have to check if he can hold it at the School. Right now, they are not letting any visitors. Health and Safety program Manager course which replaced the old HSO. Talked about the memo that the Fire Marshall sent out.

President

Bigger

Thanks for the input on the conference discussion. He will get answers that were brought up

Old Business

Printer needs replacement. Requested a quote from Kraft for replacement. They came back with a quote for Leasing a printer copier. Quote was 100.00 per month that includes service, replacement and toner and any other things that we need. This a 5-year contract. Its like a new printer/copier every year. We are allowed a 2000 sheet per month with carry over. This is a commercial version copier/printer vs. a off the shelf version. Discussion held. Motion to approve because of the size of expenditure. (Wlosinski/Blomstrom) Motion passed

Next Meeting Location.

Park Place Hotel
MFSIA 72nd Convention
Traverse City, MI

Good of the Order

Have long healthy careers, long healthy retirements. Do not forget the others issues we have other than Covid and that is Cancer. Watch for it take care of it.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (Cousin/Wlosinski). Motion Passed
Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary Rick VanHorn