



Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association

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www.colofirechiefs.org

Legislative Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, November 20, 2009

The organizational meeting of the CSFCA Legislative Committee was held on Friday, November 20, 2009 at 9:00 (following the Metro Denver Fire Chiefs' Association Meeting) at CAFÉ del SOL, 608 Garrison Street in Lakewood. No conference call capability existed for this meeting.

The following members of the Legislative Committee were in attendance: Steve Pischke, Chair; Chris Riley; Doug McBee; Jerry Rhodes; and Paul Cooke (Ex-Officio).

Legislative Committee

Steve Pischke commenced the meeting by identifying the Legislative Committee. Following is the Legislative Committee and contact information.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Steve Pischke, Chair	303-434-3918	spischke@aol.com
Larry Donner	720-289-1740	donnerl@bouldercolorado.gov
Doug McBee	720-641-5690	dmcbee@westmetrofire.org
Daniel Noonan	970-799-2061	noonandj@ci.durango.co.us
Dave Parmley	970-418-8155	dparmley@ldfr.org
Dan Qualman	720-989-2201	dan.qualman@southmetro.org
Jerry Rhodes	303-901-5380	jrhodes@cfpd.org
Christopher Riley	719-248-2683	criley@pueblo.us
Ken Watkins		kenw@ci.grandjct.co.us

Ex-Officio Members

Paul Cooke	303-919-2721	paul@colofirechiefs.org
Roberta Robinette		rmkrobinette@aol.com

Note: Please advise Steve Pischke or Paul Cooke of any changes or corrections to contact information.

Subject Matter Experts

There was discussion concerning identifying and creating a list of Subject Matter Experts (SME's). Following are those that have been identified thus far. Committee members with thoughts on other individuals that should be added to this list please send their names to Steve Pischke or Paul Cooke.

Urban Renewal/Tax Increment Financing (CSFCA Urban Renewal/TIF Working Group)

Dan Qualman	720-989-2201	dan.qualman@southmetro.org
Doug McBee	720-641-5690	dmcbee@westmetrofire.org
Dave Parmley	970-418-8155	dparmley@ldfr.org
Brian Martens	970-381-5269	bmartens@windsor-severancefire.org

"Serving the Chief Fire Officers of Colorado Since 1968"

Wildland Fire Issues: Wildland Fire Section BOD & Other SME's

Jeff Berino	970-418-0968	jberino@ldfr.org
Jimmy Bumgarner	303-880-4725	jbumgarner@larkspurfire.org
Bill Easterling	303-626-1750	billeasterling@geneseefire.org

Fire/Building Code Issues: Fire Marshals Association

Jerry Stricker	303-384-8093	jstricker@cityofgolden.net
Rob Geislinger	303-994-1530	rob.geislinger@southmetro.org

EMS Issues: SEMTEC Representatives

Ralph Vickrey	303-901-0135	rvickrey@cfpd.org
Daniel Noonan	970-799-2061	noonandj@ci.durango.co.us

Waste Tire Issues

Jim Reid	719-575-8400	jimreid@elpasoco.com
Jerry Stricker	303-384-8093	jstricker@cityofgolden.net

Municipal Issues

Larry Donner (CML Rep)	720-289-1740	donnerl@bouldercolorado.gov
Christopher Riley	719-248-2683	criley@pueblo.us

Special Districts

Doug McBee (SDA Rep)	720-641-5690	dmcbee@westmetrofire.org
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Fire Pension Issues

Jon Greer *	303-424-3012	jon.greer@arvadafire.com
Todd Bower (FPPA Bills)	303-880-3107	todd.bower@comcast.net

* Jon Greer is lead on LLS No. 10-0157, Concerning a Volunteer Firefighter Pension Plan (Legislation that was proposed by Dino Ross and accepted by the Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension Reform Commission.

Discussion Concerning Specific Legislative Items

The Committee reviewed some of the legislative issues identified in the memo "Proposed and Potential Legislation for 2010 Session" that was distributed prior to the meeting and is posted on the CSFCA website at: http://www.colofirechiefs.org/10Legislature/2010_Proposed_Legislation.pdf.

Urban Renewal/TIF

- The CSFCA Board has identified this as the priority legislative issue for the 2010 session.
- Both Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Boulder) and Rep. Randy Fischer (D-Fort Collins) have pulled bill titles and are considering legislation in the 2010 session.
- Rep. Hullinghorst may be running a bill on behalf of the "Mayors and Commissioners" Urban Renewal Reform Working Group. Her bill may be limited to greater transparency in the URA approval process, although she is considering a process for including other taxing entities in the process.

- Rep. Fischer proposing is a bill to prohibit the inclusion of agricultural land in a URA, unless one of the following conditions is met:
 - The land is a Brownfield or contaminated with hazardous materials; or
 - All taxing entities affected by the URA agree with the inclusion of the agricultural land; or
 - The agricultural land is at least 2/3rds contiguous with adjoining urban development.
- Rep. Fischer is also considering a provision for resetting the base assessed value of agricultural land included in a URA to the vacant land value, and possibly making this a subject of negotiation between the affected taxing entities.
- Both Rep. Hullinghorst and Rep. Fischer will be looking for CSFCA participation in their respective coalitions in support of their bills.
- The School Finance Committee may be looking at sponsoring a bill that would have an affect the backfill to school districts.
- The CSFCA wishes to participate in a collaborative approach, but will look into the possibility of a bill that would exempt fire district revenue from TIFs.
 - Roberta is going to speak with Rep. Sonnenberg as a potential sponsor for this bill.
 - Chief Parmley will be asked to speak with Rep. Gibbs as a potential bill sponsor
- Neither the Governor (nor his office) has weighed in on this issue.
- The Subject Matter Experts (SME's) on this issue will be the CSFCA URA/TIF Working Group (Chiefs Parmley, McBee, Qualman and Martens).

Residential Sprinkler System Legislation

- The potential for any sprinkler legislation is unknown at this time.
- The FMAC & CO ICC RSS Working Group is still evaluating what legislation (if any) is needed.
- The home builders association could possibly seek legislation prohibiting codes that have RSS requirements.
- We currently have enough information (statistics, etc.) to deal with most negative legislative efforts.
- FMAC will be the SME's for any legislative efforts.

Waste Tire Legislation

- The Transportation Legislation Review Committee (TLRC) will be running a bill to address waste tire issues including fire safety issues.
- CSFCA has been working with the Waste Tire Stakeholders Group to address our concerns (we have been coordinating with Jim Reid, El Paso County; Jerry Stricker, FMAC; and Kevin Klein, DFS on this bill)
- The CSFCA position is that review and approval of fire protection plans is a local matter, with technical assistance from the Division of Fire Safety, upon request.

Collective Bargaining

- It is not known whether or not there will be a collective bargaining bill introduced next year; although there are rumors that there will be.
- The CSFCA and CPFFA have not had any formal dialogue on the issue.

- On related matter – DFS Director Klein should be soon presenting his report on the outcome of the Firefighter Safety Task Force he was appointed to head up after last year’s failed collective bargaining legislation.

Pre Paid Wireless 911 Surcharge

- There may be another legislative effort in 2010 to require Pre Paid Wireless to pay 911 surcharge fees. We have been asked to lend our support for such legislation.
- The suggestion is to support, but in a passive way (lend our name and possible committee testimony).
- Legislative Committee input on this issue is sought.

Other Issues

The Legislative Committee discussed the following additional items:

County Sheriffs Association

There was some discussion regarding working with the Sheriffs Association on issues that come up during the legislative session. It was thought that we have a pretty good relationship with this group. It was also mentioned that we should try and put together a working group with the Sheriffs to deal with last year’s Senate Bill 20 (which should have a further positive impact on our relationship). We will also be meeting with the Sheriffs to discuss the CSFS Indirect Rate Issue.

Orientation to Legislative Process & Capitol Tour

- Executive Director Cooke suggested that we hold a meeting at the Capital for the Legislative Committee and SME’s for the purpose of not only going over some familiarization of the Capital but the legislative process and how best to address meeting/talking with legislative representatives.
- We will be asking that each Committee member make sure that they contact their local legislators so that when you do come to the Capital they know your face.
- We are tentatively looking at the 1st week in January (before the legislative session kicks off).
- Legislative Committee input on this issue is sought.

Legislative Committee Meetings

It was proposed that the Legislative Committee have a regularly scheduled meeting date and time (that can be canceled if there is no need for a meeting)

It was further proposed that this occur in the form of a teleconference and that it occur on Friday afternoons at 1:30 pm each week once the legislative session begins.

We will have at least one additional meeting (in the teleconference format) on Friday, December 18th at 1:30 pm. The teleconference number will be sent out before the meeting by Executive Director Cooke.

Active/Passive Support or Opposition

You will note that the word "passive" was mentioned as a position in supporting (or not) legislation (under legislation notes). We should establish some definition re: the word "passive" as well as "active" and/or other words we may use as it relates to our efforts in the legislative arena this year.

That's it – talk to each of you in "Telephone Land" on the 18th.

Best Wishes to each of you and your families for a Great and Safe Thanksgiving!!

Steve Pischke
Legislative Committee Chair