



# Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association

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## Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, January 8, 2010

### DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the CSFCA Board of Directors was held on Friday, January 8, 2010 at the CSFCA offices, 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

#### Attendance:

Present via remote teleconference: Bob Pistor, Aaron Eveatt, Andrew Marsh

Present: Chris Riley, Steve Pischke, Bruce Mygatt, Dave Parmley, Mike Morgan, Doug McBee, Kevin Klein, Jamey Bumgarner, Dan Qualman, Rob Geislinger, Paul Cooke

Meeting called to order by Vice President Steve Pischke at 9:37 a.m.

- 1) Review of Minutes/Action on Approval
  - a) 10/2/09 – amend to add Katie’s name, motion to approve, motion carried.
  - b) 11/13/09 – amend to add Katie’s name, motion to approve, motion carried.
- 2) Financial Report/Action on Approval of Financial Report
  - Adopted budget at annual meeting; has been updated to reflect info from financials through 12/31/09.
  - Didn’t generate as much in corporate sponsorships last year, due to lack of time to work on it.
  - Projected bringing in \$299,000, brought in \$277,000.
  - Report doesn’t reflect Keystone bill, which didn’t come in until after 12/31/09.
  - Fire Leadership Challenge:
    - Keystone bill – hotel was \$133,154 (compared to \$102,000 in 2008); over \$26,000 was from surcharges. Cooke takes responsibility in terms of having signed contract (as directed by BOD); didn’t anticipate the surcharges. Mullison has been looking at bill and there seems to be no rhyme or reason for the difference in surcharges. We have 30 days to dispute bill. Mullison thinks we should have an explanation of what drives these surcharges, and find out how to mitigate them in future. Need to discuss w/ Keystone.
    - Cooke wants to have executive session after this meeting to talk about; wants authorization to pay bill minus surcharges. Pischke thinks we should meet today, as well as meet as a committee. Cooke doesn’t want to wait until next board meeting to get approval to pay.
    - Income was up from 2008, participants were about same. Brought in more vendors.
    - Expenses were \$125,000 in 08, net revenue was \$33,000. 2009 expenses are \$152,000, net revenue is \$13,000; still have some bills that need to be paid. If we pay all surcharges, will only generate around \$10,000.

**“Serving the Chief Fire Officers of Colorado Since 1968”**

- FLC committee discussed making changes in future at Keystone, if we're staying there. Expense is much more than past. It will take work and understanding of how Keystone functions, we'll need to work with them. Goal for 2010.
- Mygatt commented that there are always unknowns when dealing with a new organization, shouldn't feel bad about it, normal business.
- McBee commented about last minute registrations – anomaly? Last and this year this has happened. Several people registered after they found out they didn't get scholarship.
- Pischke has gotten tremendous feedback from vendors.
- McBee wants to talk SDA about their experience with Keystone. They have a lot higher attendance.
- Motion to approve expenditure of up to \$122,000 to pay Keystone, amended to discuss with Keystone and SDA, motion carried.
- Geislinger – contributions from FMAC and CSFCA to fallen firefighters? In restricted funds.
- Motion to approve budget, motion carried.

### 3) President's Report

- Accreditation - quarterly meetings at each dept., kick off in Pueblo; discuss how to assist other depts. going thru accreditation process; invite those going through and thinking about it. Have something on CSFCA website – accreditation coalition.
- 19 CFOD's = Riley will try to make contact with current and those interested. Bumgarner is one letter from submitting. Morganthaler been working with Bumgarner. McBee submitting at end of month.
- Kelvin Cochran – looking positive to have as keynote at 2010 conference. Riley will confirm asap.
- Police Chief Dan Oates – want to partner with us and sheriffs and state patrol. Trying to get off ground.
- Riley wants to get out to all groups this year; will work with Cooke.
- Mentor program – he and McBee met with center for public safety excellence, goal between now and June is to finalize mentor manual, they want ready for Chicago FRI. CO is lead state in this program. Want another volunteer to help out. Monthly or bimonthly phone conf. with 6-7 other chiefs, 4 chapters to manual, possibly come up with one more chapter. Want to present to SEPSE board.
- CSFS letter discussion – how should we approach as organization? We've received response from Homann – disappointed in lack of responsibility of their part. Next move? Meeting with Rich, Riley, Pischke, and Cooke in near future. Pischke - rather than shooting written "darts" back and forth, should try to meet with and find common ground. Wildland community struggling with. Parmley – two issues: took issue to "tone" of our letter. Apologized about not notifying Parmley. Best to sit down face to face. Take up issue of indirect rate. Rich has history of interpreting things differently depending on who he's talking to. Letter made clear what our expectations are for future. Riley didn't receive apology from him. If they're going to attach our name to something, need to make sure we are involved. Riley wants to be as prepared as possible. Homann's take is that nothing substantially changed, so no harm – he was just doing his job. We've stirred up sheriffs, as well, according to CSFS – in fact sheriffs got us involved. Meeting should have state forester present (Jahnke). We should consider involving sheriffs in meeting. Bumgarner - fire depts. don't like 23% cost and will try to do anything to change. CSFS has stated they don't have to do this; we want to be careful if we end up finding another contractor to do this. CSU took in about \$7 million from this (Cooke did rough estimate). It's hurting fire service. CSU/CSFS insists it puts money out there 2-3 years before they get reimbursed. Hard to believe they go that long. Fact that they didn't follow procedures is principal – we know that plan isn't changing much. In past, CSFS was authority on wildland fire, in recent past, fire service has stepped up; they're experiencing some identity issues. The plan doesn't recognize any other cooperators. Morgan doesn't think we should respond any more in writing. Challenge of dealing with bureaucracy of CSU. Parmley proposes meeting with them first, then bringing in sheriffs if necessary. Two issues – plan, indirect rate. In past, parties involved in plan changes – this year didn't bring in anyone. For 23%, should we deal directly with CSU?

#### 4) Executive Director's Report

- CSFCA/CSOC meeting re: CSFS indirect cost assessment (issues brief) – Cooke tried to be balanced to a fault in document. In meeting, they discussed CSFS answering to dean of CSU, and CSU answers to President of Warner College of Natural Resources. Since they're not an Executive Branch agency, they don't have to do certain things. Two separate plans, two mobilization plans – they're untouchable, don't have to answer to anyone. Could go to legislation to change. Under Gov. Owens, he wanted to create CSFS as an Executive Branch agency. Didn't happen; what's being recommended is a parallel track. Meet with CSU, include state forester, include Homann, have decision maker from CSU to discuss issues. Used to be that when you called for help from state, they didn't apply 23%. As soon as Hubbard left, this started up. Parallel course is to meet with governor's policy office. Department of Natural Resources was at table in past policy discussions. Also can talk to legislators who are interested in wildland fire. Fire functions of CSFS should be Executive Branch responsibility. Signator to federal agreement should be Executive Branch agency, as well as those doing billing. Can we get a legislator on our side when we meet with policy office? Will be just stakeholders (us, sheriffs, CCI). We don't want to do anything legislatively without governor's backing. Sheriffs wanted explicit language in AOP; if not in there, didn't want to sign. Homann said AOP isn't place to deal with indirect cost. Another agreement addresses this. Could be discussion between sheriffs and CSFS. Recommendations on pages 8 & 9; sheriffs and police chiefs meeting today. We want to be careful with how far we go with this. Cooke not as concerned about how thin the ice is – CSFS wants a single agency billing system. Could adopt recommendations in concept, work with wildland section. Have conf call next week with CSOC, schedule meetings with CSFS and CSU, involving other interested parties (Morgan, Bumgarner, Riley, Parmley, Cooke). Motion to adopt conceptually, motion carried.
- Legislative Issues – Pischke – Legislative Committee met at Capitol last Wed. to take a tour, discuss procedures. If anyone else wants to do same, let Cooke or Pischke know. Bills have been submitted, will be sending out something in next few days. Legislative Committee does need board approval. Weekly phone meetings will begin next Fri. at 1:30 pm (1/15); will include subject matter experts. Marsh will attend tour of Capitol for CML members next Thurs. (Sam Mammet?). New director of SDA, former director is lobbyist – have meeting next week. (Cooke) Fire District Fee bill – Cooke sent out. When we discussed with legislator (Gerou) our issues w/ bill, she took care of. CO search & rescue board asking for fire districts to be limited in what they assess fees for (only charge for ambulance, EMS, and search & rescue for motor vehicle accidents). Our point is that the bill doesn't do anything – we amended and have their agreement in writing. Issue between foothills and alpine rescue. Need to watch bill to make sure it doesn't change.

#### 5) New Business

- Medical Marijuana – McBee. An issue more of us will start seeing. Need to look at as overview and take a position at some point. McBee talked to their attorney – school districts are already dealing with (teachers, bus drivers, other employees); liability issues. Cooke talked to Dino Ross, our attorney, who was quick to point out that amendment 20 doesn't require an employer to accommodate an employee with a medical marijuana "prescription". Other states have rejected claims by employees. Marijuana use is still illegal federally, which overrides state law. Needs to be evaluated on case by case basis. Not a prescription, just a recommendation. No established levels for drug tests in terms of what's considered "impaired". Marijuana stays in system for up to weeks. Issue with combination and volunteers. We're not going to know when someone has prescription – doesn't become issue until there's an incident – which could become a huge liability issue. We don't know about what personnel is taking. Random drug testing may become predominant. Could have Ross draft a policy for everyone to take back to their depts.
- USAR - \$ allocated for year, tight, working groups are scheduled, haven't established chief; position in DC open. Cautiously waiting to see what happens. Shouldn't change dynamic in how they operate. Pueblo becoming part of team.

- Resource Mob. – Qualman, Pischke, McBee, Klein – meeting on 1/27 at DFS. A lot of changes at IAFC – need list so we know who to contact (IMAS). Put in for some funding, haven't heard back from. Riley will get new contact list.

#### 6) Old Business

- SAFER grant – Cooke – first brought up to fund firefighter tuition assistance program. Met with CSFFA because they were going to apply for grant as well – they want to revitalize organization and do recruitment retention. We decided not to compete with. Klein talked to them about our piece – we thought it would be in state's interest to not have competing grants. CSFFA agreed to include our piece in their grant. Klein heard from CSFFA that they in fact didn't include us. Now, we need to decide to do a larger state wide SAFER grant - \$1 – 1.5 million, which would include someone in charge of program, handle vouchers – all for volunteers. If we're successful, could bring in additional resources to org. Conflict is competing with CSFFA – their membership is down to about 40 depts. For our combo and volunteer depts., any help would be good. What would fund position once grant is gone? 4-year grant – unless it becomes so popular that it becomes sustainable by depts. paying into it, would have to rely on grants to sustain. Bales – have had success with their recruiter – they had to pick up salary and benefits starting in year 5. They've traveled around to other areas to discuss their success with the grant. We're applying under different part of SAFER grant – no salary obligation for this. Worth exploring. CSFFA wants volunteer program to be successful. Can only be one group doing it. CSFCA has to run it; DFS will help out with tuition and cert. vouchers, give access to systems. CSFFA has already put together a PSA, building budget around it. Motion to submit grant – motion carried.
- Joint Public Safety day – need to put together committee from CACP, CSFCA, sheriffs. Riley will chair. Recommend 7/28 or 8/7. We'd like 8/7.
- FLC wrap up/2010 planning – Parmley – meeting next Friday at 10:00 am. Wrap up 2009, discuss final Keystone bill. Will look at getting RFP's out for speakers. Look at teleconferencing options. Look at overall org. of committee – anyone interested in getting involved, anyone leaving, incorporating IMT system.
- MSEC Wage & Benefit Survey Review – Cooke in contact with MSEC people, if it's just a few small changes, they could still get out by mid January. Marsh was under impression that there are more than a few small changes. Go ahead and get survey out as is this year; make changes for next year. Get back on schedule of getting survey out in January, have final by March. Need help with getting people to submit their information. Working group will look at this year – chiefs and HR personnel. Would be helpful if those who have HR people who are experienced could assist those who haven't done it.
- Firefighter Safety Working Group Report/Fire Dept Safety Cert – Governor appointed group that Klein and Riley and Cooke are part of. Klein talked with policy folks, memo to governor stating nothing has changed. SDA and CML – make sure we get standards covered at conference. Certification for safety officers – have committee together to work on. Accredited incident safety officer and other? Riley asked about 911 dispatching issue – Klein said it's our program, they could do cert. program for if we want. Could contact APCO. Individual dispatching agencies do EMD, but not required. Would it be helpful for us to send something out to our membership for their information? Get CO to adopt a standard cert. process.
- Strategic Plan Update – Pischke – no update. Would like to do same way as under Qualman and have committee work on. Need input from sections. Could attach to one of our quarterly meetings – create draft as group, then take it out to other areas. At March meeting could announce, then work on at June meeting. Pischke will work on with Riley and Cooke.
- Appt. of individual as Alternate Rep. to SAHAC – Cooke – Qualman is primary, need volunteer; possibly DeJong or Lauria.
- BOD meeting schedule – see agenda. July meeting in Co. Springs – the 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. Nov. meeting – do after Metro Chiefs.

- Gen. Membership meeting schedule – March is confirmed at West Metro – Courage to be Safe by Ruoff and Milan, tour facility, DFS credentialing. June meeting – Rifle is hosting Chief Laske on June 19, is offering to have meeting there on June 18. Could have volunteer section meeting on night of 18<sup>th</sup>. Sep – in Loveland.
- FLSEC Conference - request for \$500 donation from CSFCA – motion to donate \$, motion carried.
- Missouri Valley grant program – could apply for our conference (\$2500).
- Need more corporate sponsorship; send out membership renewals.

#### 7) Division/Region/Section

- FMAC – international fire code prep class starting today, 35 people, lower than normal, CO chapter of FMAC institute coming up - \$75 for one day; offering technical class this summer for fire marshals pursuing fire marshal program – required for building code officials. Geislinger’s last meeting representing FMAC; Dave Lowry from Boulder Fire will be Pres., Jackie Pike will be secretary.
- FLSEC – submitted annual report; conference coming up.
- RSS legislation – waiting to see if they’ll put together a committee for; don’t have a sponsor.
- Combo Chiefs – planning group together, will have schedule out by Feb., add personnel and legal group meetings in alternate months and open to everyone. 1<sup>st</sup> meeting 2/19.
- Dino Ross – anything we could give him as token of our appreciation? He does a lot for our org. and individual sections. Recognize at March gen. meeting? Or annual meeting.
- Metro Chiefs – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting 1/29, new officers taking positions – Lombardi - Pres, Pattarozzi - VP, Staley –Sec/Treas., Bodane – Member At large.
- Wildland fire – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting 2/4, Janelle Ray presentation on ff pay for volunteers. Great meeting with sheriff’s assoc. re: indirect costs; plan to move forward with. E board meeting next Tuesday here.
- South – 1/26 hosting free workshop in Pueblo with city manager from Evans - Gettysburg Leadership workshop. MMRS two-pronged exercise between south and south central regions, 2/4 tabletop exercise in Co. Springs, then full-fledged exercise 3/16. First time that Pueblo County is interacting with south central region for something like this.
- Southeast – new volunteer fire agency legally organized, became active 1/1/10, town of Cheraw.
- Fire protection district forming at trailer park in Pueblo County – Hanover FPD main fire response.
- Missouri Valley – board meeting March 4 in KC. Not a lot done since conference. Fire rescue group purchase organization had meeting this am. MES on board with. Campaign – KC candidate, need to get Riley’s campaign going.
- DFS – significant things going on in state regarding governor. Things we anticipated for 2011 are wait and see. Some overlap into 2011 as new Gov. gets cabinet together. Move office on 1/19. Consolidation with dept. of labor and school construction program has started – not doing any reorganization right away. Will reorganize, just matter of how. Starting to do audits of how we do certification programs. First is Westminster – randomly selected. Purpose is partly to make sure DFS is doing their job, as well as make sure individual depts. are doing right thing. Enforcement of program. Going through accreditation visit in a few weeks for FSAC accreditation.
- Metro State bachelor’s degree – Cooke got link to survey from Metro State – will send to Marsh, before sending out.
- Trip to Washington – Riley, Marsh for congressional meetings. Need to start making plans (April 28 and 29). Bring up in Feb. meeting

Adjourned at 1:16 pm

Next meeting 2/5/2010 at SMFR.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Mendel.