

**Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association
Board of Directors Meeting
January 4, 2008**

- I. Members Present** – Qualman, Forsman, Marsh, Montoya, Cooke, Bales, Mygatt, Eveatt, Behrens, Ury, Pistor, Taylor, Chapman, Morgan, Gieslinger, Riley, Jones, Mullin, Rhodes
- a. **Others Present:** Angell, Berino, Pischke, Vale, Strouble, Wingert
- II. CSFS Proposed Standard Equipment Rates**
- a. Updated version of report and recommendations – Jan. 3, 2008
 - i. Memo went to departments statewide on 12-14.
 - ii. Discussion of methodology the set rates.
 - iii. Findings by Paul Cooke
 - 1. Forest Service has not been consistently accepting rates provided by departments on CRR forms
 - 2. No standardized rates or equipment lists from State to State
 - 3. There was not sufficient time provided to conduct a thorough analysis of the rate structure
 - 4. The methodology for setting the 2006 CRF was flawed
 - a. there was no provision for detailing indirect costs
 - b. did not consider other cost variables.
 - 5. Concept of a standard rate is not objectionable – it can speed up the reimbursement process.
 - 6. CSU Indirect cost assessment of 23% is excessive.
 - 7. Forest Service is opposed to local departments making a profit on the deployment.
- b. Recommendations of Board to the Forest Service
 - i. Postpone the implementation until there is more input.
 - ii. Allow negotiation between local governments and Forest Service to set rates.
 - iii. Not enough data to set a base rate of reimbursement.
 - iv. If Forest Service want to go forward – adopt base rates in our study and allow local negotiation of rates.
 - v. Establish multi-jurisdictional committee to examine rate structure.
 - vi. Adopt NIMS Standards for Typing Standards
 - vii. Cooperators should have the ability to recover full costs
 - viii. Establish daily minimum hours
 - ix. Examine CSU method of setting indirect cost rates.
- c. Comments by Don Angell
 - i. State of Wyoming just approved 15% rate increase – this was not considered by Colorado when the rates were set.
 - ii. The cost basis for urban versus rural areas is very different.
 - iii. Many states require a minimum 14 hour guarantee
 - iv. CSU indirect costs – fully burdened (23%) versus pass through rate – 6%.
 - v. All other states in the region use the pass through rate of 7 -8%

- vi. Cost established without sound basis. Equipment you can purchase will not meet NFPA standards.
- vii. Good job by Paul Cooke in doing the assessment.
- d. Other Comments
 - i. Rate structure should be All Risk based.
 - 1. This may result in the cost recovery process into a different agency.
 - 2. CRF agreements only cover Wildland equipment
 - 3. ROSS would become the governing document
 - ii. Chuck Vale – Routt County pays cooperators from time zero
 - 1. Cooperators worked to set negotiated rate for equipment
 - 2. Ury – El Paso county charges insurance companies the standard rates for firefighting outside of jurisdictions.
 - 3. Billing for Haz Mat follows standard rates
- e. Larry Berens
 - i. Private contractors have a lot of power in other states – they can bid lower rates.
 - ii. We need more time to work on system.
- f. Jeff Berino
 - i. Purchase costs for equipment varies widely from department to department
 - ii. Minimum daily guarantee of 8 hours may not cover costs to districts
- g. Discussion of State Chiefs official response
 - i. Background material
 - ii. Not enough time to evaluate proposal
 - iii. Recommend that Forest Service postpone implementation of the new rate structure
 - iv. We support the concept of Standard Rates but we want the Forest Service to adopt the rates in our table that is attached.
 - v. Allow local units to negotiate with the on-scene commander for rates.
 - vi. Minimum guarantee of 12 hours per day.
 - vii. Establish committee to set rate structure for subsequent years.
 - viii. Adhere to NIMS typing standards except minimum staffing of 3 except for Type 7 engines.
 - ix. Re-examine the indirect cost assessment rate charged by CSU. This may be done to accommodate cash flow issues.
 - x. Recommendation to amend letter to adopt All Risk language. **Adopted**
 - xi. Standardized rates do not comply with GASB 34 Accounting Standards. The Forest Service may not have statutory authority to set standardized rates.
 - xii. We need to copy the State Sheriffs on this issue. **Adopted**
 - xiii. Only cooperators are subject to the standardized rates.
 - xiv. County Commissioners must also be made aware of the rate issues – they sign off on the Annual Operating Plan. **Adopted**
 - xv. **Motion to approve memo Qualman/2nd Riley – APPROVED.**
 - xvi. Wingert volunteered to serve on committee

III. Review of Minutes

- a. November 2, 2007 – **Amended south region is form Type 3 not Type 2 IMT. Motion to Approve Riley – 2nd Pischke APPROVED**
- IV. Review of Financial Reports – NONE READY AT THIS TIME** – Bank Balances Provided. Financial reports to be distributed to Board by Email and reviewed with Treasurer Marsh.
- V. President’s Report**
 - a. Briefing paper for JBC enclosed in packet. JBC allowed chiefs plenty of time and asked good questions.
 - b. State All Hazards Advisory Committee – they want an official and an alternate delegate. Montoya will serve as alternate.
 - c. Credentialing committee – Mike Gavin Poudre Fire Authority appointed by Board Motion by Qualman/2nd by Marsh - **APPROVED**
 - i. Comments – Pischke – Metro Chiefs are involved as a test group due to DNC and FRI conference.
- VI. Executive Director’s Report**
 - a. Implemented Travel Program – it’s on the Web site.
 - b. All other issues are legislative
- VII. Legislative Issues – Convenes on January 8th.**
 - a. **HB 06-1158 Implementation (School Safety Inspections)**
 - i. **Rob Gieslinger FMAC**
 - 1. An additional bill has been drafted to clarify issues that were not resolved.
 - 2. Bill has fairly broad consensus across groups.
 - 3. Kevin Klein’s additions were not accepted.
 - 4. Department of Labor is in disfavor at this time – there may be a recommendation to move the program.
 - b. **Fire Safe Cigarette Legislation**
 - i. Roberta Robinette is working to set-up meeting with interested parties.
 - c. **Trauma Care Preservation Coalition**
 - i. Meeting next week to evaluate their proposed bill.
 - d. **House bill to allow districts to provide group health insurance for volunteers.** Proposed sponsor is Rob Witwer.
 - i. Allows districts to pool insurance
 - ii. Exemption for volunteers to participate.
 - iii. Cost of benefit counts against 20% cap.
 - iv. Does this include CERT members and rescue teams – not known
 - v. Consensus to support concept.
 - e. **Other Issues**
 - i. There may be changes in emergency management at the State level.
 - ii. The details are still unknown.
 - iii. Fairmount Fire is proposing bill to provide liability protection to IMTs.
 - iv. Firefighters are sponsoring collectively bargaining bill. This will be modeled on the Federal Law. It will be discussed at the CML meeting on January 11th.
 - v. Bill for volunteer firefighter tax rebates.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Leadership Conference Report – Pischke nothing to report at this time.
- b. State Fire Marshal White Paper – delayed due to CSFS Rate issue
- c. Division of DFS Certification Database – addressed in President’s briefing to JBC

IX. New Business

- a. Write and develop Annual Report – need input from regions and sections by January 18th. Draft by next board meeting.
- b. CFSI Dinner and workshops in April– Forsman will attend – we have budget to send 2 more people. Marsh and Cooke will attend.
- c. Programs for General Membership Meetings
 - i. Cooke would like to pull together a committee to develop programs for general membership meetings and to explore concept of a mini-conference in June.
 - ii. Mentoring Program – Chris Riley
 - 1. Link to CFOD program
 - 2. Mentor would be CFOD and protégé could then work toward CFOD.
 - 3. Announce at March Meeting with 8 hour Train-the-Trainer Program in April or May. There will be a fee for the program trainer expenses and materials.
 - 4. Program could be run in the Denver Area and we may be to get corporate sponsorship. Paul Cooke will follow-up
 - 5. General support for program.

X. Division, Section, and Regional Reports

- a. Fire Safety Educators – Tracey Taylor
 - i. New Board Elected
 - ii. Injury Prevention Conference in April 23 – 25 at Beaver Run
 - iii. They would like the Chiefs to support the conference and the awards programs.
- b. FMAC
 - i. Fire Code Prep Class begins next Thursday and Friday in Westminster. Paper and pencil test at end program
 - ii. New Board of Directors – Gieslinger will be new President.
 - iii. IAAI will be here in March with certification test at the end of the conference
- c. Combination Section – Mygatt – Doing planning sessions in January. Next meeting is February 15th.
- d. Metro Chiefs – Pischke
 - i. New elections – Pischke President – Marsh VP
 - ii. Next meeting will be January 25th at Dixons.
 - 1. DNC will be topic of the next meeting
 - 2. Educational forum on Heart Imaging.
- e. South Region – Chris Riley
 - i. Pueblo CC is starting its new Fire Science Program.
 - ii. Working on Public Safety Regional Training Facility
 - iii. January 29 – 31 on Air Management Survival in Pueblo.
 - iv. Pueblo City Fire is moving towards accreditation.

XI. Other Business

- a. Bills to be paid
 - i. Logo wear - \$857.97 and \$727.42
 - ii. Salary for Paul and Roberta
 - iii. **Motion to Approve Marsh/2nd Ury APPROVED**
- b. Need to purchase hardware and software.

XII. Next Meetings

- a. Board of Directors – February 1st at South Metro
- b. General Membership – March 14, 2008. At South Metro

These meeting minutes were adopted by the Board of Directors at the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2008.