



# Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association

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## Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association Spring General Membership Meeting

FEMA Region VIII Headquarters  
Lakewood, Colorado  
March 6, 2009

### Educational Session

The educational session was called to order by President Riley at 09:40. President Riley led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone present.

Doug Gore, acting Director for FEMA Region VIII welcomed everyone to the FEMA facilities.

Mr. Doug Wilch from the Insurance Services Office, Fire Suppression Rating Schedule did an informative presentation on items currently under consideration for inclusion in the future Fire Suppression Rating Schedule. The time frame is uncertain as to when the final changes will take effect, but it is unlikely that any changes will be official prior to early 2010. A full draft of items under consideration is available at the [www.isomitigation.com](http://www.isomitigation.com) website.

Chief Brian Martens of the Windsor Severance Fire Protection District did a fantastic presentation on the Windsor Tornado and the challenges faced by the emergency response community.

The Spring Business meeting was called to order by President Riley at 12:20.

Mr. Garry Briese welcomed the group and provided some challenges to the Fire Service on ways to be better prepared for the future:

Perform exercises and drills without communications capabilities and equipment. In large events communications is typically the first part of the infrastructure to be inoperable.

1. How many of our Fire Departments have established key personnel's cell phones as a priority number? Cell phone towers inevitably become overloaded and key personnel must have priority service to cell phone use.
2. On March 24th, FEMA Region VIII will be hosting a workshop on the creation of regional Incident Management Teams. The fire service needs to be involved and champion the creation of these teams.
3. Mr. Briese reminded everyone to be familiar and to utilize the IAFC Labor Management initiatives. Senate Bill 180 and HR413 will create new challenges for Fire Chiefs. He suggested that a workshop on the Labor Management Initiative be jointly sponsored in Colorado by the CSFCA, and the CPFF.

Randy Kuykendall addressed the group thanking everyone for their past and continued support of Senate Bill 2, as well as provided some information on the intent of the bill. The bill would generate 5 million dollars annually in monies that are targeted for rural and frontier EMS Agencies and grant programs. As of today, the bill has passed the Senate with a vote of 23-12. It is now going to the House

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Transportation and Energy committee, the House Finance committee, and then on to Appropriations. Mr. Kuykendall urged everyone to contact their representatives and ask them to support the bill.

#### Presidents Report: Chief Riley

Chief Riley began his report by stating to everyone what a great honor it was serve as the President of the CSFCA.

1. Riley challenged everyone to continue to improve Fire Fighter Safety.
2. He and the CSFCA are committed to help and enhance organizational, personal, and professional development through partnerships, networking, and the members helping members program.
3. Riley expressed his commitment to Strategic Planning and Pueblo Fire Department will be hosting a workshop by Mr. Stephen Gower on the subject.
4. Riley is working on forming a coalition of Departments that are currently accredited to help other agencies desiring to go through the accreditation process.
5. For those of you who completed the Mentoring course you should have received your certificate. If you did not receive this, contact Chief Riley.
6. Riley encouraged everyone to review the documents and information available through the IAFC on the financial challenges that most of us are facing.

#### Vice Presidents Report: Chief Pischke

1. Pischke reported that while they were non-line of duty deaths, the CSFCA has attended two funerals so far this year.
2. Pischke reported that there are currently 34 bills the CSFCA is "actively" involved with and numerous other bills that the Association is watching.
3. Pischke encouraged everyone to be involved in the legislative process and if you are unable to go to the Capital, at least make contacts with your Legislators to encourage their support of the CSFCA positions.
4. Chief Pischke thanked Director Cooke for all of his hard work in the legislative processes.

#### Treasurers Report: Chief Marsh

Chief Marsh presented the financial reports. A motion was made by Parmley to approve the financial reports. Second by Mygatt. Motion carried.

Chief Marsh attended the Joint Public Safety meeting where there was a long discussion on appropriate methods of sharing and releasing sensitive information. More information on the subject will be coming in the future.

President Riley and Treasurer Marsh will be attending the CFSI dinner in Washington D.C.

Minutes from the annual meeting in Breckinridge were distributed. A motion by Vroman was made to approve the minutes. Seconded by Pischke. Motion carried.

#### Executive Director Report: Director Paul Cooke

1. Cooke introduced and welcomed Katie Mendel as the new Administrative Assistant of the CSFCA.
2. Dues notices for membership to the CSFCA have been sent out to all Departments.
3. Salary survey information is due back by March 23rd for the annual salary survey. Cooke encouraged all to submit their information as the more Departments that participate the better the information and data will be for use.
4. The Fire Fighter cancer survey information thus far is available on the CSFCA website.

#### Legislative Report: Director Paul Cooke

Cooke reported on the most important bills at this time and their status.

1. The current number of bills being actively worked on by the CSFCA (and it's staff of 1.25 FTE's) is equal to or surpasses the number of bills of CML or CCI and their staff levels of 6-8 FTE's. Any and all help that we can provide Cooke is greatly appreciated and very much needed.
2. SB01 is on its way to the Governor for signature.

3. Cooke asked all to contact their legislators to support SB02
4. SB13 addresses three major areas; immunity for the transfer of used equipment, protection of fire fighters who are not part of a Governmental entity, and protection of Incident Management Teams.
5. SB20 has made it successfully through the Senate. It is headed to the House next week and all are encouraged to contact their House members for support of this bill.
6. SB85 (Phases out business personal property taxes) is being opposed by CSFCA, CML, CCI, etc. Contact your legislator and convince them to oppose this bill.
7. SB180 has been calendared twice and laid over both times. Cooke explained why thus far CSFCA has not taken a position on this bill. The CSFCA Board of Directors is seeking feedback from members of the Association on if a position should be taken, and if so, what the position should be. A survey has been sent out to the 150 career and combination departments and 43 responses have been received so far. All affected members are encouraged to take this survey. As it currently stands, data received is as follows:
  - a. Members completing the survey thus far are 70% Special District, 30% Municipal.
  - b. 75% are full career departments, 25% are combination departments.
  - c. 60% have IAFF members currently.
  - d. 71% do not have collective bargaining.
  - e. 90% do not have a collective bargaining agreement.
  - f. 73% responding stated that the CSFCA should oppose this legislation.

Director Cooke also reported the following information:

1. The first Wild Land Section organizational meeting will be held March 20th at the CSFCA office. All interested should plan on attending.
2. Cooke is posting conferences, meetings, and other items of interest on the CSFCA website. It can be accessed at [www.colofirechiefs.org/calendar.htm](http://www.colofirechiefs.org/calendar.htm).

Fire Marshals: No report

Training Officers: No report

Fire and Life Safety Educators; Tracey Taylor

1. FLSEC has applied for an AFG grant for \$85,000.00 for the national fire escape program and smoke / CO detectors.
2. The annual conference will be held this April in Winter Park.

Chaplains: No report

Mechanics: No report

Combination Section: Chief Mygatt

The next combination Section meeting will be held in Evans on April 17th. Reach out to your neighboring Chief and encourage them to participate in this section.

Volunteer Section: Director Cooke

The next Volunteer Section meeting is tonight at 19:00 in Evergreen.

Metro Chiefs: Chief Marsh

The next Metro Chiefs Section meeting is the last Friday of March in Lakewood.

Regional Representatives: No report

Leadership Conference Committee: Chief Parmley

There will be a Committee meeting immediately following the General Membership meeting today.

Missouri Valley Division: Chief Bales

1. A meeting was held in Kansas City on February 17th to review the Strategic Plan for the Missouri Valley Division of the IAFC.
2. The Annual Conference is being held in Overland Park, KS July 9th thru the 12th.
3. Colorado Springs will be hosting the Annual Conference in 2010.
4. FRI is in Dallas this year from August 25th thru the 29th.

IAFC Report:

All committee travel has been canceled for the year due to current economic conditions.

Division of Fire Safety: Director Klein

1. The process for accreditation of the certification program for Technical rescue is in progress.
2. The new computer system is a work in progress.
3. The resource mobilization plan is available for review and comment. It is scheduled to be adopted soon.
4. The Division is in the process of hiring a new resource mobilization coordinator.
5. There is a rumor (that likely will become true) that the Division of Fire Safety will be re-locating to the 6th and Kipling complex. This could happen as soon as in May.
6. Kline reminded people that if you are not a Certified Inspector through the Division, you can not sign off on school inspections.
7. Kline provided clarification on SB 181 requiring NIMS training for schools. The requirement of this legislation is that if you are an employee of the school whose name will be in a box on the ICS organizational chart, then training is required. If their name would not be on the chart, then training is not required.
8. The Division is in the process of conducting interviews for a Fire Inspector for the Western Slope.

Old Business: No report

New Business:

Michael McCabe, representing Northeastern Junior College, gave an update on the availability of on-line conferences, meetings, and continuing education. He advised that there will be numerous trainings made available in the future using this technology. He also advised that for their upcoming Fire Fighter Combat Challenge, there would be a \$25.00 fee per team.

The next General Membership meeting will be held June 12th, in Steamboat Springs.

With no further business to come before the General Membership, the meeting was adjourned at 14:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Morgan  
Secretary