

Nevada Fire Chiefs Association

Roundtable Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 9, 2007 – 12:30 pm

Location: Las Vegas Convention Center
North Hall, Room N252
Las Vegas, Nevada

Board Members Present: Al Gillespie; Marty Scheuerman; Jay Wittwer; Jim Madden; Eugene Campbell; Gary Neilson; Ross Rivera; Ken Riddle

Welcome: Chief Al Gillespie, President of the NFCA welcomed everyone to everyone to the Roundtable meeting, recognized and thanked the Executive Board members for their participation. President Gillespie then introduced and thanked Jeff Berend, from FireRescue magazine, the host for the FireRescue conference. Mr. Berend provided a brief update on the conference, including the attendance numbers, with approximately 2,500 total attendees and 240 from Nevada. He thanked the NFCA members for attending.

President Gillespie then introduced Dave Adams from Emergency Reporting, a NFCA vender member, who provided an overview of the services his company provides and the discounts available to NFCA members. Then John Giatropoulos from Fairway Chevrolet was introduced and provided an overview of the member benefit program that his company is providing to Nevada fire service personnel. Chief Gillespie thanked both of them for their support of the NFCA.

President Gillespie then introduced Chief Jon Klassen, Clark County Fire Department, to provide an overview of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's (NFFF) Local Assistance State Team (LAST) program. This is an outreach program sponsored by the NFFF that provides support and resources to local fire department that have had a firefighter line of duty death. The Team only responds when requested and consists of 5 – 8 members; a chief officer, behavioral specialist, deceased firefighter family member, Chaplain, and an Honor Guard representative. The NFCA will assist in establishing this program statewide and Chief Klassen has agreed to coordinate this effort. Chief Klassen also asked those present to contact him if they have an interest in participating with the development of this program for the state.

Approval of Minutes – June 21, 2007: President Gillespie asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2007 Roundtable meeting. A motion and second was made and the minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: Chief Jay Wittwer, Secretary/Treasurer for NFCA, provided an overview of the funds that NFCA has. The NFCA has 3 bank accounts; one for SAFER grant funds, with a balance of \$8,888.27; the NFCA main checking account balance is \$1,183.10; and the NFCA savings account balance is \$4077.13. The total fund balance in the NFCA bank accounts is \$14,148.50.

Board Member Reports:

- **President:** President Gillespie deferred his report and will report on specific agenda items.
- **First Vice President:** Chief Marty Scheuerman reported that he will report on specific agenda items later in the meeting.
- **Second Vice President:** Chief Steve Smith was not available.
- **Secretary/Treasurer:** Chief Wittwer had nothing additional to report at this time.
- **Northwest Representative:** Chief Gary Neilson had nothing to report at this time.

- **Southern Representative:** Chief Eugene Campbell reported on the reorganization of the Southern Nevada Fire Chiefs Association and overall goals of SNFCA.
- **Northeastern Representative:** Chief Ross Rivera reported that the Northeastern Fire Chiefs Association provided a meeting notice after the meeting was already held so he was unable to attend.
- **Western Fire Chief Association Representative:** Chief Jim Madden reported on the WFCFA efforts on enhancing public safety communications, including a proposal for a nationwide public safety cell phone network. He also reported on the progress the WFCFA with the NFPA has had with introducing and passing legislation regarding fire safe cigarettes in several states. RJ Reynolds will only produce fire safe cigarettes in the future. Chief Madden also provided copies of the WFCFA annual report, information on the Fire Service Bookstore, the National Fire Service Library, and the Daily Dispatch also sponsored by the WFCFA. Chief Gillespie thanked Chief Madden and also encouraged the NFCA members to use the Fire Service Bookstore.
- **Executive Director:** Ken Riddle reported on the updated NFCA website and encouraged members to visit the new site. There are plans to expand the website with resource documents and information valuable to the Nevada fire service. He also provided an update on the NFCA 2006 SAFER grant for the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters which included the establishment of an Advisory Board. The goal for the first year is to recruit 15 volunteer firefighters in Clark, Washoe, Pershing, and White Pine Counties. A phone number has been set up, 1-800-FIRE-LINE, through the Nevada State Firefighters Association and the National Volunteer Fire Council for potential volunteers to call and obtain information regarding becoming a volunteer firefighter in their community. The grant provides funds for advertising and marketing materials that will be available in the next 60 days. In April 2008 four additional counties will be identified. Ken also reported on the efforts to establish a members benefit program for the NFCA, two presentations were heard today (Emergency Reporting and Fairway Chevrolet) and there are other programs in development. Lastly, he reported on the need to generate additional revenue for the NFCA outside of member dues. President Gillespie added that the NFCA is here to support the members and the Nevada fire service and encouraged everyone to seek the assistance of the NFCA when they have a need.

State Reports:

- **Nevada State Fire Marshal:** Assistant Fire Marshal Chad Hastings informed the membership that Chief Wright was attending training and not able to be here today. He then updated the members on the upcoming development of draft amendments for the Nevada Administrative Codes (NAC) related to fire protection. Public meeting notifications will be sent out in the next few weeks. The NSFMO will be introducing the 2006 International Fire Code and Building Code as a minimum standard for the state. The NSFMO will also be looking at fire extinguishers, fire sprinkler systems, and fire control panels throughout the state and if they appear to be in good working condition they will tag them in order to let the fire protection industry know that the NSFMO is watching. Captain Hasting also spoke about the future regarding the FMO budget and performance measurements, as well as new positions that will be filled. President Gillespie suggested that the NFCA and other fire service agencies send letters to the Governor supporting the NSFMO and maintaining the current budget. Ken Riddle commented on his recent visit to the SFMO and thanked Captain Hasting taking the time to meet him and provide a tour of the facility.
- **Northern Nevada Fire Chiefs Association:** Chief Mike Brown, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, reported that Chief Lemke, Past President of NNFCA has retired and that Chief Stacy Giomi, Carson City Fire Department, is the current President and he is the Vice President. The NNFCA has been actively involved in the State Mutual Aid Plan and utilized it several times this past year. In

addition, several issues regarding cost sharing between local and federal jurisdictions has been discussed and they have formed a task force with participation from both Nevada and California.

- **Southern Nevada Fire Chiefs Association:** Chief Campbell reported previously on the SNFCA.
- **Nevada State Firefighters Association:** President of the NSFA, Steve McClintock and NSFA Executive Director, Mike Heidimann reported on the great working relation with NFCA; the 1-800-FIRE-LINE that will be up and running in the next week in support of the SAFER grant; the upcoming NSFA annual conference scheduled for June 18 – 21, 2008 in Fallon, NV; line of duty death procedures, as well as interest in participating in the development of the LAST program presented earlier; the support of NSFA in the FireRescue conference by providing stipends to their members; the PSOB program update; and, the continued efforts in the legislature to address the age requirements for volunteer firefighters and workers compensation coverage issue. The NSFA's next meeting is in January in Winnemucca, NV. Chief Gillespie announced that the NFCA will be holding elections for officers at the NFSA annual conference in June.
- **Professional Firefighters of Nevada:** No report, President Gillespie commented on the working relationship between the PFFN, NSFA, and the NFCA and felt that the relationship will continue for the benefit of the Nevada fire service.
- **Fire Prevention of Nevada:** Deputy Fire Marshal Bob Fash, Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, announced that Jeff Donahue, President of FPAN has retired and that Fire Inspector Reggie McCollins is now the President. DFM Fash also reported on FPAN's activities and asked for the support of the fire chiefs regarding FPAN's programs.

Permanent Committee Reports: President Gillespie asked for interested members that have a desire to serve on NFCA committees let the Executive Board know. The NFCA asked for interested members a few months ago and received several names of members who were interested in serving on NFCA committees. The list is attached to these minutes.

- **Audit:** No report.
- **Constitution & By-Laws:** No report.
- **Credentials:** No report
- **Fire Code:** DFM Fash reported on code adoption activities at the national and local levels. He provided an overview of the ICC process and upcoming code development meetings.
- **Legislative:** No report.
- **Membership:** No report.
- **Nominations:** No report.
- **Resolutions:** No report.
- **Retired Fire Chiefs:** No report.
- **WFCA Representatives:** Report by Chief Madden previously provided.
- **EMS Committee:** EMS Coordinator Troy Tuke, Clark County Fire Department, representing Chief Russ Cameron, current committee chair, had no report and asked for specific questions of the members, there were none.
- **Education:** No report.
- **Volunteer:** No report.

Old Business:

- **Nevada State Mutual Aid Plan:** Kelli Baratti, State Fire Mutual Aid Coordinator, Nevada Division of Forestry, provided a power point presentation that included an overview of the State Mutual Aid Plan, the past year's mutual aid activities, deployments, changes and accomplishments. She reminded

everyone that the NFCA initiated the plan that was signed by Governor Miller in 1994. In 2003 and recently (2007) Nevada resources have been deployed to California. The Regional Coordinators for the plan are: Region I – Chief Bruce VanCleemput; Region II – Chief Tom Turk; and Region III – Chief Bill Kourim. Changes from 2003 to 2006 include the implementation of a Duty Officer to coordinate mutual aid requests. The power point presentation is on the NFCA website.

- **NFCA Strategic Plan:** Copies of the NFCA draft Strategic Plan was provided to the members present. First Vice President Marty Scheuerman reported that a draft has been developed and an action plan with responsible parties identified. There was a Strategic Planning meeting held in September to identify the responsible parties and lead responsibility. The plan will be finalized in June 2008 with a complete action plan. He then reviewed the specifics of the plan and the action items. The draft Strategic Plan will be placed on the NFCA website for all members to review and provide input. Chief Scheuerman encouraged NFCA members to participate and asked for those interested in specific area to notify the Executive Board members. President Gillespie reiterated the need for NFCA members to become involved with the Strategic Plan in order to accomplish the activities listed in the plan.

New Business:

- **NFCA Committee Appointments:** President Gillespie reviewed the appointment of volunteers for NFCA committees and asked any member interested to contact any of the members of the Executive Board.

Good for the Order & Adjournment: No other business was brought up and the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.