

WISCONSIN FIRE INSPECTORS ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday January 30, 2008

The Plaza Hotel & Suites, Wausau, WI

Call to Order at 1015 hours

Roll Call

President	Tod Doebler	present
1 st Vice President	Ron Omernick	present
2 nd Vice President	Guy Santelli	present
Exec. Sec. Treasurer	Gil Hucek	excused
Recording Secretary	Kevin T. Erdmann	present
Past President	Steve Koback	present
Parliamentarian	Jeff Pollard	excused
Area 1	Vacant	
Area 2	Scott R. Wagner	excused
Area 3	Vacant	
Area 4	Tom Clark	present
Area 5	Gordy Jepsen	present
Area 6	Tom Wendt	present
Area 7	Randy Pinchard	excused
Area 8	Bill Becker	excused
Area 9	Steve Koback	alternate
Area 10	Jon Petroskey	absent
Area 11	Vacant	
Area 12	Josef Eklund	absent
Area 13	Dave Krupich	excused
Area 14	Vacant	
Area 15	Arthur Gil de Lamadrid	excused
Area 16	Mark Hoppenjan	absent
Dept. of Commerce	Joe Hertel	present

Guest:

1. Secretaries Report: Minutes from last board and business meeting were approved.
2. Treasurers Report: Checking \$137.47, Savings \$45,321.74, Total \$45,459.21 The report was given by phone from Gil.
Motion: By Steve Koback to approve treasurers report and seconded by Gordy Jepsen
Motion: Carried. Gil also gave membership 452 last year 552.
Conference totals were income \$40655. Expend \$26245.02 Total income \$14,409.98 These numbers were given later on in the meeting.
3. Conference Committee: Guy Santelli reported on the conference. There was a conference committee meeting of Monday January 28th. The 2007 conference had good reviews. Clowning will not be back at the conference. Right now the 2008 conference is 2 months ahead of schedule. The tank program will be moved out of the conference. Ron Omernick stated that the tank program will move to Wausau for a one year trial. He is hoping for 75 attendees, also Sheldon will have to give approval. There will be a fee and a possible date in September. Lunch will be provided. Possible classes in the morning and an actual inspection in the afternoon. The association will sent out information by e-mail and US mail. A motion was made by Tod to authorize the conference committee to move the tank program out of the conference to September. Second by Steve Koback. Motion carried. Ron Omernick will get started on it. Guy Santelli said that Monday November 3rd and Tuesday November 4th will be two day classes, NFPA 1, JFS and ICC. Wednesday the 5th will be opening ceremonies with a key note and motivational speaker. Every morning there will be a general session and then classes in the afternoon. Break out sessions will be 2 to 3 per day. Attendants will remain in the same room, the speakers will move from room to room. Vendor night will be Wednesday; Thursday at 1100hrs will be the business meeting. The banquet will be on Thursday night. Closing will be on Friday around 1530-1400hrs. Basic fire inspector will return to the conference on Friday and Saturday after the conference. There is a three tier system for fees. 2 day is \$100 members \$135 non-members, 3 day plus vendor night and banquet, \$125 members \$160 non-members, 5 day pre-conference-closing \$150 members \$185 non-members. Extra banquet tickets \$25, vendor night \$10. The spouses program will be on a local level. If a bus is needed for same let Guy know. The conference title is Community fire safety in good hands. Information will go in the Web site ASAP. A conference flyer will go out May 1st. On September 1st the conference form will be at member's homes. Banquet entertainment TBA. Passports will be for the classes this year instead of vendors. There were suggestions from last year for three prizes instead of one. Guy Santelli made a motion for the board to get 1 \$500 and 2 \$200 gift certificates for

final prizes if the passport is filled 100% for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for a total of 9 stamps. Steve Koback seconded. Motion carried. Guy Santelli made a motion the conference committee is requesting a \$30,000 budget the same as last year. Ron Omernick seconded. There was discussion on last year. The Hotel costs were the lowest by \$6000. The conference costs were \$26,400 on a \$30,000 budget. All monies take in amounted to \$42,000. That leaves \$15,600 for training for the conference. The motion carried. There is a conference committee meeting on February 22nd at 1600hrs in Menomonee Falls, anyone is welcome. There was some discussion on conduct at the conference. The board should keep an eye on all members and attendants. Ron Omernick questioned if the tank program should be 1 or 2 days in Wausau. There was some discussion on same. Break 1102-1120hrs. Guy Santelli stated that the Pub. Ed. And JFS portion of the conference is lacking, however the code speakers are good. He then stated that someone from the Southeastern conference contacted him. Guy said that he would like to take 4 conference committee members to the Southeastern Conference to solicit speakers for our conference. Guy stated that registration is \$295 per person, \$1200 for 4 people, Hotel is \$59 per night for 4-5 nights, \$300 for lodging-\$1200 total. Air fares are \$300-\$350 per person. He would be looking at a total of \$4500-\$5000 for 4 persons. \$300 for a rental car. Motion was made by Guy for the board to approve \$4500-\$5000 for 4 persons to attend the Southeastern conference April 20th to the 24th. Seconded by Steve Koback. There was discussion on the trip. Ron Omernick made an amendment to the motion that the cost not exceed \$5000. Steve Koback seconded. There was some discussion. Motion passed. Guy stated that the evaluations of the conference will be changed for 2008. President Doeblner talked about the site selection committee and handed out changes that Jeff Pollard had sent him. There was discussion on the by-law change that was made at the business meeting. Tod made a motion to accept the by-law change 6-A. starting in 2011, and henceforth from that date forward, the host facility shall be fully sprinklered and alarmed. Seconded by Gordy Jepsen. Motion carried. There was discussion on the conference site selection committee. Dates are 2011 October 31-November 4, 2012 October 29-November 2. All hotels gave wrong dates for these years.

4. Old Business:

- A. Conference Scholarship: Conference committee to establish scholarship and how to administer it. The suggestion was made to give it to the awards committee. There was discussion on the subject on how and who to give it to. Should there be one state wide or one for each area.
- B. Area training concerns. There was discussion on topics for the areas.
- C. Historian. Re-contact Gil Hucek for the association age and length of how long the conferences have been held.

Break at 1210 Steve Koback stated that the Wisconsin Fire Inspectors information flyer is being worked on. Question is how many to have printed. 5000 was the thought. He also asked about the Kohn scholarship, is there still matching funds. He also thought that we should keep the name and the association give a \$500 sponsorship. Steve also mentioned the Congressional Fire Institute dinner in Washington DC. The Chief's purchase a table and he would like someone to go to the event. Tod stated that he attended it last year, however not the dinner. He said we need more information on the same.

5. New business:

- A. Business manager, Tod has done research. He checked with the Fire Chief's person. Tod received information from them. Guy stated that as the association grows Gil or whomever might not be able to handle the load. We need to see what this person would do and cost. Tod will check on it more and on what do we want or need a person to do. There was discussion on the issue.
- B. Lobbyist. Area 5 and 6 passed a motion so support this issue. Tod did research. Martin Schreiber and Associates and others. There was a hand out from Martin Schreiber and Associates. The association can register a lobbyist. There was a discussion on a person for the job. Guy suggested George Krudop. Someone should contact him and see if he is interested. There was discussion on the mini max codes. A mini max code would take away local ordinances. This might happen in the next 60 to 90 days. It was suggested that the association get a lobbyist for the mini max code issue. Tod will see if we can get someone for the association. Gordy Jepsen asked if we could raise the membership fees up from \$35 to help pay for lobbyists and others. Gordy will contact Gil and the membership committee. Ron Omernick asked how a raise if fees would affect departments. Discussion on same. The meeting went back to the conference. Discussion on conference registration. Registration was messed up in 2007 and previous years. Recommendation that the conference committee handle registration. Guy stated that he did not want to step on Gil's toes and that the executive board would have a conference call to discuss it. It was suggested that we get a P. O. Box in Menomonee Falls and have Laurie take care of the checks and deposit them. Ron Omernick stated the we check with and make sure Gil Hucek is informed. The spouses program has gone on its own. The will need to buy a banquet and vendor night ticket. There are no fees for the program.
- C. New code adoption. Joe Hertel stated that the new Comm. 14 will go into effect March 1, 2008.
- D. ICC Code hearings. Tod stated that the association needs to become aware and more involved. There is movement towards 1-2 family sprinklered dwellings. There was discussion on same, The association should have a voice in the ICC code process. The

Department of Commerce is getting NFPA 1 books at ½ price and the fire coordinators will be giving the training.

- E. Area Goals: Area 6 Tom Wendt checked the membership list the his area and is trying to increase membership. Tod asked the association for help to achieve that goal. Guy is checking into a 1st class mailing permit for all mailings. Ron Omernick Area 9 cooking under tents, sprinklering all existing buildings and live Christmas trees in churchs. Area 4 Tom Clark is working on pamphlets on the association. Tod asked if the association will have a booth at the Chief's and Firefighters conferences. Joe Hertel stated that he is working on getting all Fire Inspectors state certified. The state might be passing a law for CO detectors in all buildings. He also talked on the possible mini max code.
 - F. Strategic Plan. Tod spoke on the plan he asked for all board members to revisit the goals.
 - G. NFPA conference. Tod stated he would need \$1200 for room and board at the conference. Guy made a motion to allow Tod no more that \$1500 to attend NFPA. Gordy Jepsen seconded motion passed.
6. Web page update. There is no more forum on the site. There were some issues and problems.
 7. Awards committee. Nominations are needed.
 8. Firefighter memorial. Hoping that the information building will go up this year. Guy Santelli made a motion that we release payment to the Firefighter memorial for funds that were collected for the helmet raffle at the fall conference. Ron Omernick seconded. Motion was amended to release all funds both raffle and for a brick to the Firefighters memorial. Motion carried.
 9. Wears and Novelties. Firefighters daughters were very happy with the conference. They sold a lot. A contract was signed and will be on a year to year basis.
 10. Around the table. Area 6 Tom Wendt they are having a meeting on March 12th in Slinger at 1830hrs. Area 5 Gordy Jepsen they will be having a meeting on February 21 at Ahern at 1130hrs. Steve Kobach said that the fire inspector course it going well in Plover. Tod said at the next board meeting Jeff Pollard will train the trainer on the fire inspector class. Motion to adjourn by Gordy Jepsen second by Ron Omernick. Meeting adjourned at 1424.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin T. Erdmann
Recording Secretary