



METROPOLITAN FIRE MARSHAL'S ASSOCIATION AGENDA

DATE: JAN 9TH, 2008

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:
9:03 A.M.

Guest:

Ed Ware	City of St. Louis	Jerry Wessels	City of St. Louis
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Attendees:

Russell Todd	City of Maplewood FD	Gerald Ambrosecchia	West Overland FPD
Paul Mercurio	City of Clayton FD	Eric Ewalt	UL
Tom Presnak	UL	Terry DeGuentz	West County FPD
Steve Gettemeier	Florissant Valley FPD	Mike Henke	Potter Electric
Jeff Edwan	Ferguson FD	Rich Fasching	Fire Tech LLC
Neil Fick	St. Louis County PW	Tony Simpson	St. Louis County PW
Tony Carlson	Tech Electronics	Dale Harbison	MO State Fire Marshal
Wayne Shirk	MO State Fire Marshal	Teresa Cross	Mehlville FPD
Wally Miller	St. Louis Sprinkler Alliance	Ken Schneider	Fitters Local 268
Michael Mahler	Fitters Local 268	M. J. Vance	Centerpoint Technologies
Dan Flynn	Fire Stoppers	Dennis Woods	City of Creve Coeur
Art Oestereich	Creve Coeur FPD	Ron Chac	Laclede Gas Co
Anthony Lancia	AGC of St. Louis	Marc Uises	City of Frontenac FD
Bill Fox	City of Shrewsbury FD	Roger Herin	Monarch FPD
Dave Nichols	Monarch FPD	Jim McKay	Monarch FPD
Denis Drozkowski	Maryland Heights FPD	Dan Meehan	City of Clayton
Jack Schenck	City of Clayton	Jim Cusauell	Ahern Fire Protection
Raecel Gibson	Ahern Fire Protection	Harrison "Bo" Flowers	United Fire Protection

Minutes:

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer reported 1 debit of \$66.12 for a plaque for the Fire Chiefs and 1 deposit of \$180.00 from a seminar for a beginning balance of \$7,109.68 and an ending balance of \$7,230.56 for the month of November. Motion was made by Roger Herin and 2nded to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

New Members: The following were read for new member approval. A motion was made and seconded for approval. Motion carried.

1st Reading: Terry Forkan, Meramec Fire & Safety
Will Penney, St. Louis County Public Works
Neil Fick, St. Louis County Public Works
Bryan Kopp, City of Des Peres
Ken Schneider, Sprinkler Fitters Local 268

2nd Reading: Anthony Lancia, AGC of St. Louis
Anthony Simpson, St. Louis County Public Works

Election of Officers:

The next order of business was the election of officers for 2009. The following were candidates for officers:

President: Paul Mercurio, City of Clayton FD

Vice President: John LaVenture, St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance

Secretary: Roger Herin, Monarch FPD

Treasurer: Marc Ulses, City of Frontenac FD

Bill Fox motioned to elect the officers by acclamation. Motion was seconded for approval. Motion carried.

Communications:

Committee Reports:

Fire Chiefs: John La Venture

There was discussion on better means of communication between police and fire departments and the need to upgrade the St. Louis County system. Paul spoke on the large turnout for the Fire Chiefs Banquet. The fire chiefs are also working on a standard operating procedure for line of duty deaths. Unfortunately, the fire departments in this area had a number of these in 2008. There will be a benefit hockey game for the Backstoppers on January 4, 2009 between police and fire. Former St. Louis Blues Hockey players will be on each team as well.

Chief's Awards Committee: Dennis Drozkowski

No report.

Professional Code Committee: John LaVenture

No report.

Education Committee: Brian Leuthauser

No report.

Fire Prevention Week:

No report.

IAAI: Dave Nichols

No report.

Web Site: Paul Mercurio

Paul indicated there is some difficulty with uploading the 2009 membership applications and the webmaster is working on it. He also indicated checks for new or renewal of memberships will be going to Marc Ulses of Frontenac.

State Fire Marshals: Roger Herin

Next meeting is December 17th in Jefferson City, MO. The organization is working on the 2009 state conference.

MABOI: Greg Breher

No report.

State Chapter: Greg Breher

Steve Gettemeier reported the 7 ICC chapters currently in the state have been meeting to organize a statewide chapter to better represent the state.

ICC: Ed Berkel

No report.

Membership: Russ Todd

No report.

Laclede Gas: Ron Chac

Ron indicated a new law will be coming on line requiring excavators to call Laclede Gas and 911 if they hit or damage a gas line. This may increase calls to departments. Departments should let their dispatchers know this is coming. There are different rules for the time it takes for locates to be spotted. The Missouri ONECALL website has additional information. There was discussion on the procedures to follow if the fire department arrives prior to Laclede. Discussion was had on getting Laclede Gas information to the Fire Marshals.

Logo: John Walk

No report.

Legislative Report: Lou Hecht

No report.

JeffCO FMA: Lloyd Montgomery

No report.

St. Louis Sprinkler Alliance: Wally Miller

Wally spoke and gave thanks for award he received. He indicated more training classes will be forthcoming. He received a call from the Deputy Chief of St. Louis FD regarding sprinkler saves. In all, there were 3 sprinkler saves in the city of St. Louis, 2 sprinkler saves in Wentzville and 1 in O'Fallon. He indicated the organization has contacted the news media but they treat it as a non-story. The Alliance has donated \$500.00 to Backstoppers.

AAGSL: Dan Abert

M. J. Vance stated their organization had held elections and she had been elected President with Brian Mogdan Vice President. Dan is Chairman of the Expo Committee and will continue to organize that event.

PIO: John LaVenture / Scott Barthelmass

No report.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Roger Herin brought up the by-laws committee will be meeting in January and will be considering extensive changes to the by-laws and how they relate to the Fire Chief's organization.

Steve stated the state fire marshals had purchased a laptop computer and recommended this organization consider purchasing a laptop for the secretary and treasurer. A motion to this effect was made by Steve and seconded, motion carried.

After some discussion, Wally stated his organization would donate a laptop computer to this organization. There was then discussion on whether the motion made by Steve should stand and the organization obtain two computers, one for the secretary and one for the treasurer. Dave Nichols motioned to go ahead and pursue purchasing a laptop in addition to the one being donated. Motion was seconded and motion carried. Marc Ulises stated he has a laptop he might be able to use for his duties as treasurer.

Art Oestereich stated the Creve Coeur Fire District approved an ordinance requiring UL certification for alarm systems at new and remodeled locations in the district. If an existing system has four false alarms in one month, that system will then be required to be upgraded and certified by UL. Art indicated he would be willing to share Creve Coeur's model ordinance with other fire departments and districts. It was brought up that UL has sample model ordinances as well.

Bill Fox indicated an existing multi-family building in the city of Shrewsbury which had a fire was now fully sprinklered, with assistance from the fire sprinkler alliance organization.

Steve inquired as to whether the organizations funds were in an interest bearing account. Paul stated they were not. Steve suggested some of the funds could be deposited in interest bearing certificates of deposit. Paul stated the account stays between \$6,000.00-7,000.00 and sometimes a large portion of the account needs to be used for up-front seminar or conference expenses and is then replaced upon receipt of registrations, etc. Bill indicated the organization can have a "review" of the finances but not a full audit. The officers agreed this might be a good idea and will look into it.

Dan with the sprinkler fitters thanked the organization for the work we do in enforcing the fire and building codes and offered any assistance he or his organization might be able to give. Dan spoke of the problem with out-of-town sprinkler fitters and the poor workmanship that might result with their use by a general contractor and the dangers of sprinklers not being installed properly. He asked for information on who to contact in each municipality/district regarding the Authority Having Jurisdiction to pass on to the contractors. Anthony with the AGC agreed and requested the same information.

Roundtable:

None

Good of the Order:

None

Program:

Lunch was sponsored by the Sprinkler Fitters Local 268 and served after the meeting was adjourned.

Announcements:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Russell Todd, CBO
Building Official/Fire Marshal
City of Maplewood