

Quarterly Meeting
Utah State Firefighters' Association
Traverse Mountain Outlets - Lehi, Utah
April 9, 2016

The regular meeting of the Utah State Firefighters' Association was held at the Traverse Mountain Outlets meeting rooms in Lehi, Utah on Saturday, April 9, 2016.

Meeting was called to order by President Travis Graff at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Offered by – Eddie Hales

Invocation: Offered by – Perry Skaug

President Travis Graff: Welcome to everyone.

Officers Present:

President - Travis Graff	Chaplain – Jody McDonald (excused)
1st Vice President – Lance Nay	Sergeant-At-Arms – Clint Gaffa (excused)
2nd Vice President – Mike Ahlstrom	Historian/Photographer – Leon Hadley
Secretary - Gina Bell	L & L Committee Chairman - Ryan Mellor (excused)
Treasurer – Rowe L. Harrison	Rep State Fire Prevention Board – Mike Phillips (not present)
Membership Steward – Perry Skaug	Rep UT Fire and Rescue Academy – Hugh Connor (not present)
Trustee - Eldon Farnsworth	Rep UT Standards and Training – Jason Winn (excused)
Trustee - Brady George (excused)	Rep UT Fire Museum - David Hammond (excused)
Trustee - David Gillette	Rep's National Volunteer Fire Council - R. Wendell Robison & Brent K. Marshall
Trustee - Coty Chadburn	2015 Convention Chairman - Stan Robins
Trustee – Eddie Hales	State Fire Marshal – Coy Porter (not present)

Past Officers Present:

Joe Bona - Payson City	Leonard Miller - Price City	Harold Chadwick - Grantsville City
Brent K. Marshall - Grantsville City	Robert Harrison - Spanish Fork City	Stan Robins - Fire Marshal's Office
Lynn Jones - Spanish Fork City	Drew Rasmussen - Fillmore City	Steve Demas - Sandy City
Steve Demas - Sandy City	Stan Robins - State Fire Marshal's Office	

Past Trustees Present:

Brent Marshall - Grantsville City	R. Wendell Robison - Fillmore City	Joe Bona - Payson City
Robert Harrison - Spanish Fork City	Drew Rasmussen - Fillmore City	Harold Chadwick - Grantsville City
Travis Graff - St. George City	Lance Nay - Richfield City	Mike Ahlstrom - Tropic City

Past Secretaries Present:

Past Treasurers Present:

Steve Demas - Sandy City

Past Law & Legislative Committee Chairman Present:

Past Historian/Photographers Present:

Errol Dearden - Fillmore City

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

President Graff discussed the change with minutes from the last meeting being posted on the website. If anyone wants a hard copy, Gina would be happy to mail them to you.

Motion to accept: Leonard Miller
2nd: Wendell Robison

Motion passes.

Report of the Treasurer:

Rowe went over the expenses paid out in the first quarter with the members in attendance. The total expenses paid out was \$73,480.86. The amount was so high because the License Plates Grants were paid in the amount of \$62,000.00. The amount of

deposits totaled \$129,102.00. There is a balance of \$74,351.72.

The flower fund has a balance of \$397.68. This balance is the same as the last quarter. Death Benefits were paid to: Gene R. Dalton, Lee E. Clements and Eddie R. Kershaw. Marker Benefits were paid to: Rex Walters and Frank Holm. He asked the membership if there were any questions. It was asked what the deadline was for the Memorial at Convention. Rowe indicated the deadline has passed.

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>BENEFIT FUND</u>
Balance - 2 nd Quarter - 2014		\$227,097.66
Balance - 3 rd Quarter - 2014		\$228,836.18
Balance - 4 th Quarter - 2014		\$230,547.48
Balance - 1 st Quarter - 2015		
Balance - 2 nd Quarter - 2015		
Balance - 3 rd Quarter - 2015	32,187.42	235,701.33
Balance - 4 th Quarter - 2015		237,463.97
Balance - 1 st Quarter - 2016		239,220.34

Motion to accept Report: Bob Harrison
2nd: Leon Hadley

Motion passes.

Report of the Secretary:

Gina sent letters to Rowe Harrison to request payment for benefit markers for Frank Holm and letters to Rowe to pay death benefits for Gene Dalton, Lee Clements, Eddie Kershaw, George Nielson, James Burr, Clyde Montgomery and Varnel Parkinson. The Board discussed putting a slide show together for roll call at Convention. The request for departments to send pictures to Gina was included in the registration letter that Lehi sent out. To this point, Gina has received pictures from only 2 departments. Gina has been working on the award files for convention. She has printed all the certificates, signed them and will be passing them on President Graff to be signed. There are approximately 210 certificates to be handed out this year. The memorial list has been completed the packets are ready to go out for the delegates. Gina is just confirming the numbers of delegates for department and those will go out this next week. Gina has been passing out old certificates that were passed on to her when she assumed to position. She will continue to work on that task until she has distributed all the certificates.

Motion to accept report: Stan Robins
2nd Leon Hadley

Motion passes.

Report of the Membership Steward:

Perry Skaug requested that if anyone hears of someone passing away from their department to please send him an email. If someone passes away and he doesn't know, the department will receive an invoice with that person's name on it. Lifetime members cards have been shipped out. He has another large group going out because they meet the requirements this year. Another problem that Perry is having is that the checks from the departments aren't coming to him. They are going to Dave Howell and then he has to send them back to Perry. As of April 8th there are 490 lifetime memberships. That will be increasing. Perry has 27 departments who are paid up through 2016. There are 757 paid members. That has changed since yesterday morning as well, with the payment of Salt Lake City and American Fork. There are 22 departments who have paid through 2015. There are 7 departments paid up through 2014 and 3 departments paid up through 2013. All invoices have been sent out.

Motion to accept report: Steve Demas
2nd: Andy McBride

Report of the Law & Legislative Committee: No report.

Report from State Fire Prevention Board: No report.

Report from Standards and Training Council: No report.

Report From National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC):

Brent reported that Wendell and Brent haven't gone back to the NVFC this year but they will head there in May. Brent made the

suggestion that you never let an attorney touch our bylaws. They have been in discussions for the last year on bylaws. The charter for the NVFC is located in the State of Wisconsin. They have spent over \$8,000 on the attorneys for the bylaws, policies and procedures and they have an overwhelming number of conference calls regarding this, with another one before they head back east.

Brent wasn't sure where Wendell was going to talk on the clothing issues, but he would encourage all the departments to go on to the NVFC's website to see about the grants that are available for turnouts and other fire protective equipment, whether it be helmets, boots or gloves and things like that. The SAFER grants are coming up and that's one of the big issues that we will have while we are back in Washington we'll see at the Congressional Fire Service Institute's dinner and it's a remarkable sight. There was only one other time that it was more exciting and that's when there was an Anthrax scare and everyone had to evacuate the building the Dirkston Building. Everyone had to go back through security to get back into the building. Having 500 firemen going through security, with all those brass buttons takes a long time. But there are grants that are coming up and are available so Brent encourages your departments to get on the website. Brent will get the information to Ron Harris to get it on our website. Wendell also discussed the large amount of conference calls that they have had to participate in. The grant that Wendell and Brent just requested information on, they signed a letter that went to all the congressional delegates that are in Utah in regards to the VFA grant and that's a grant that has been \$16 million for fire departments with communities under 10,000. In the past few years that grant has diminished to \$13 million to \$10 million to \$7 million. So now we are struggling with all our congressional representatives to get that back to \$16 million. These departments are operating on very limited budgets and need to get this grant back. Because of the turnouts program, Wendell was able to get turnouts that were donated and he has two letters in hand, one from Cedar Fork and Circleville expressing the appreciation and gratitude for the gear.

Motion to accept report: Leon Hadley
Joe Bona

Motion passed.

Report of the Fire Marshals Office:

None.

Report of the Trustee's:

Eldon Farnsworth indicated that during our meeting we talked about the turnouts and read through those letters that we received. There was a third letter from Kingston, Utah and how grateful they were. Some of those small departments have only \$1,500 a year budgets for the gear and to get full sets of is a pretty amazing thing for them. Then we went through reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Steward. We discussed a couple bylaw changes. The first one would be the Secretary pay being decreased to match the Treasurer and the Membership Steward. The other bylaw change was to the death benefit. We are having an issue with the marker benefit. The bylaws state that it needs to be the logo of our Association. We are finding that while the headstones are being engraved with insignias, they aren't our logo. We are seeing everything from department Maltese crosses to generic scrambles. We discussed the possibility of removing the \$100 marker benefit but increasing the death benefit to \$500. If you have concerns or comments on this bylaw, talk to your board members. We are in the process of putting together wording on how it will go. We are also working on a new pamphlet to hand out, advertising our association and we would hand it out at events like Winter Fire School to try to get new members in our Association. The old one has some old information and we are just trying to update it. In past years, we have held our July meeting over 2 days. This last year we did it in 1 day and it has been proposed that for our upcoming July meeting that we again do it in 1 day by holding the installation meeting first, then the board meeting, followed by the general membership meeting after that. The board will be meeting here in Lehi on the Wednesday before convention to talk about convention to make sure that any last minute things are taken care of. We also had a report from Lehi's Convention Chair, Kevin Beck and it sounds like everything is coming together well. We'll let Kevin tell you all about that. It sounds like they have done a lot of work to prepare and we also want to thank them for hosting this meeting today.

Motion to accept report: Harold Chadwick
Coty Chadburn

Report of the Convention Chairman:

Stan Robins deferred his report to Kevin Beck/Lehi Fire. Kevin welcomed everyone to Lehi and indicated that this is the first time that Lehi has ever hosted convention in their City and they are very excited. The theme this year is "Building on the Best". Wednesday will start off with the golf tournament will be at Talons Cove in Saratoga Springs. The fees are \$49.00 per person which includes golf, cart followed by a luncheon. There will be some holes sponsored by various companies where there will be some giveaways and prizes and Talons Cove has even sponsored a couple holes where you could win a trip to Hawaii for a hole-in-1 or a trip to Augusta on another hole for a hole-in-one. There will also be a Fire Ride (cars can be included) at 2:00 pm on Wednesday that will start and end at Lehi Station 82. It will go up American Fork Canyon, over the Alpine Loop and come down

into Provo Canyon through Lindon, Pleasant Grove and back to Lehi. The cost will be \$30.00 per person. That night there will be registration at the Show Barn at Thanksgiving Point. On Thursday morning there will be registration again with the General Meeting to follow. The Keynote Speaker will be the mental health coach for BYU Athletics. The awards ceremony will be at 1:00 pm at the Show Barn. The Memorial is scheduled at 4:00pm at the Sunrise Chapel at Camp William. Then the parade lineup will be at Lehi High School at 6:00 pm will go down Main Street to Center Street and end at the Wines Park where there will be there will be a Firefighter Muster and a BBQ. The Muster will be a 4-person team and will be \$30.00 per team and there will be 9 different stations set up for the muster. The Past President's Breakfast will be at the Restaurant Building on Friday morning. The Auxiliary will be in the Rose Room. On Friday for training, there will be hands-on training a few blocks south of Thanksgiving Point and will include a Mayday and RIT training requiring turnouts and SCBA. There will also be a classroom training that will be leadership training in the Show Barn. There will lunch at noon in the Show Barn and the banquet will be at 7:00 pm (semi-formal attire) also in the Show Barn. The ladies meetings and luncheon will be in the Garden room and maps will be provided. Their keynote speaker will be speaking on empowering women. Saturday's meeting will be in the Show Barn for the firefighters and the ladies will be back in the Garden Room. A representative from the Burn Unit will be bringing some burn victims and their families to the Ladies meeting to talk about how our donations to the Burn Center have affected their lives. The Exhibit booths will be in the Show Barn on the top tier. Registration fees are \$95.00 per person and all the forms are on the Lehi's Convention website which is: www.lehifireassociation.weebly.wcom/ and there is a link through the State Association's website. Also, all forms have been mailed out to the departments.

President Graff indicated it's exciting to hold convention in a new community, we certainly want to support Lehi and encourage everyone to go back to their departments and encourage their members to come.

Motion to accept report: Joe Bona
2nd - Brent Marshall

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Andy McBride asked to make an announcement, He indicated that he was the Chaplain for the Association when his Dad, Steve McBride was the President. He has talked quite a bit to Eddie Hales over the past few months. He has decided to run for 5-year Trustee. He's been in fire service for 11 years and he's been coming to convention for the past 8 years and he's very excited about it. He just wanted to get his name out there for convention this year. President Graff thanked Andy and with that, if you're not aware as Rowe mentioned that his time is coming to an end. There will be three positions open for election; Photographer/Historian, Treasurer and 5-year Trustee. We are in need of individuals who would be willing and be prepared to run for these offices. We ask the past officers and past presidents to go out and recruit. The position that Rowe holds is probably the most critical position on the Board. It one position we need to make sure is well taken care of. There are a few months left to do some recruiting. We would really like to see several names on the ballots. On that note, we haven't heard of any Cities that might be interested in putting in a bid for 2018. Please talk to your departments to see if they would be interested in hosting convention.

President asked if there was any other business for the good of the Association? Drew Rasmussen suggested that we give Lehi a round of applause and a thank you for hosting the meeting and dinner.

The Quarterly Meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina M. Bell, Secretary

REMINDER: NEXT MEETING WILL BE JULY 9TH AT THE RICHFIELD FIRE STATION (77 East 100 North). Installation of new board members at 12:00 p.m., General meeting at 5:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to gina.bell@slegov.com or 801-580-2336 by July 5th.