

**Quarterly Meeting
Utah State Firefighters' Association
Utah State Firefighters Museum
October 14, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Utah State Firefighters' Association was held at the Utah State Firefighters Museum in Grantsville, Utah on Saturday, October 14, 2017

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Ahlstrom at 12:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation:

President Mike Ahlstrom:

Officers Present:

President - Mike Ahlstrom	Chaplain – Moyle Johnson (excused)
1st Vice President – Eldon Farnsworth	Sergeant-At-Arms – Brandon Baugh (excused)
2nd Vice President – Brady George	Historian/Photographer – Trisha Thomas
Secretary - Gina Bell (excused)	L & L Committee Chairman - Ryan Mellor
Treasurer – Brent Marshall	Rep State Fire Prevention Board – Mike Phillips (not present)
Membership Steward – Perry Skaug	Rep UT Fire and Rescue Academy – Brad Wardle
Trustee - David Gillette	Rep UT Standards and Training – Jason Winn
Trustee - Coty Chadburn (excused)	Rep UT Fire Museum - David Hammond
Trustee - Eddie Hales	Rep's National Volunteer Fire Council - R. Wendell Robison/Brent K. Marshall
Trustee - Andy McBride	2015 Convention Chairman - Lance Nay
Trustee – Austin Knight	State Fire Marshal – Coy Porter

Past Presidents Present/Excused:

R. Wendell Robison - Fillmore City	Drew Rasmussen – Fillmore	Leonard Miller – Price City
Joe Bona – Payson City (excused)	Steven H. Demas -Sandy City	Robert Harrison - Spanish Fork City
J. Merlin Baker (excused)	Ron Harris – Tropic City (excused)	Ryan Mellor - Salt Lake City (excused)
Lynn Jones - Spanish Fork (excused)	Lance Nay – Richfield	Harold Chadwick - Grantsville City
	Brent Marshall - Grantsville	Travis Graff – St. George (excused)

Past Trustees Present/Excused:

R. Wendell Robison - Fillmore City	Ryan Mellor - Salt Lake City	Harold Chadwick - Grantsville City
Joe Bona – Payson City (excused)	Robert Harrison - Spanish For City	Lance Nay - Richfield City
Lynn Jones – Spanish Fork (excused)	Steven H. Demas – Sandy City	Mike Ahlstrom - Tropic City
Brent Marshall - Grantsville City	Brady George – Salt Lake City	Drew Rasmussen - Fillmore City
Ron Harris – Tropic City (excused)		

Past Secretaries Present/Excused:

Past Treasurers Present/Excused:

Rowe Harrison - Tooele City	Steven H. Demas – Sandy City
-----------------------------	------------------------------

Past Law & Legislative Committee Chairman Present:

Past Historian/Photographers Present:

Leon Hadley - Grantsville City	Errol Dearden – Fillmore City
--------------------------------	-------------------------------

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Motion to accept: Wendel Robison
 2nd: Stephen H. Demas

Motion passes.

#

Report of the Treasurer:

Our audit is complete and all the paperwork has been filed with the IRS through our CPA and the finances are all in order. We paid out \$3,000 on death benefits. Eight death certs have come in. If you have members who has death benefit that needs to be paid, please have them send the death certs in to Gina. We paid death benefits to Glen Bolinder (marker), Vernon Lee Jensen, Lloyd Brown, Leland Nelson (\$400.00), Val Hale, Ray Brown, David Horman, We have \$987.68 in the Officers Flower Fund. License plate grant has a balance \$13,184.39. There is one unpaid grant. Brent was going to talk to the Fire Marshal about this as last year there was one grant that was in the same situation. If they haven't submitted their receipts within the year of the grant, they lose the grant. Brent asked Leonard who is on the License Plate Grant to ask them to get their receipts in so they can be paid. The Benefit fund has \$250,055.46 and we are drawing around 3% interest. We had \$3,494.00 in deposits, balance \$41,287.09 in the check book with a total of \$12,407.21 in checks last quarter. A total of \$41,726.92 has been spent in 2017 thus far. There are a few officers that didn't have their pins this morning so the balance for the flower fund should increase.

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>BENEFIT FUND</u>
Balance - 4 th Quarter - 2015		237,463.97
Balance - 1 st Quarter - 2016		239,220.34
Balance - 2 nd Quarter - 2016		242,746.28
Balance - 3 rd Quarter - 2016		242,691.96
Balance - 4 th Quarter - 2016		244,587.81
Balance - 1 st Quarter - 2017		246,396.95
Balance - 2 nd Quarter - 2017		248,210.47
Balance - 3 rd Quarter - 2017		250,055.46

Motion to accept Report: Steven H. Demas
2nd: Leon Hadley

Motion passes.

Report of the Secretary: (read by Perry Skaug)

Sent out letters for death benefits to Brent for Lloyd H. Brown, Jr./Clinton, Ray Calving Brown/Grantsville, Leland Nelson Jr./Hyrum and Val D. Hale/South Ogden. Gina sent an invoice to Darryl Pranger at UFRA for \$5,000.00 for Training at Convention. She brought pamphlets to the meeting so that the Trustees can hand them out if they go visit departments regarding joining the Association. Contacted Alpha Graphics and found out that they were given the certificates and they printed the information on the certificates. Researched where to find the same certificate. Average cost for it is \$1.75 each. The website is vague on whether or not that price includes printing so I have left a message to get the answer on it. Gina is researching the certificates because all of the blank certs that we have say "firemen's" not "firefighters" Gina scheduled a meeting for Mike, Eldon and Brady to meet Brad Wardle at UFRA. Got a list of all fire departments in the State from Coy Porter/State Fire Marshal's Office and provided the list to Trisha Thomas so that she can put together a department/station list. Created a newsletter that will be sent out to all members. Waiting for article from Mike and Dave before I finalize it and send it out as well as to get a couple pictures from Trisha who will be setting me up to have access to the storage file. Eldon indicated that the price of postage and printing the newsletter is costly so we are making every effort to encourage members in providing their email addresses to receive the items.

Motion to accept report: Ryan Mellor
2nd: Lance Nay

Motion passes.

Report of the Membership Steward:

As far as email addresses, Perry indicated he has a pad up at the table that members can provide their name and email addresses to make sure they get the newsletter that Gina has done. We won't be giving your email address out to anyone! Lifetime membership is up to 535 (it has grown quite drastically) and continues to go up and there are a lot of departments who are paying the lifetime membership of their people who have been Association members for a long time. Paid departments for 2016-2017 is up to 62. We have 2,208 members and 298 new members this year. We have a few departments who are behind so if you have questions as to whether your department is up to date or not, come up and see Perry.

#

Mike indicated that Perry has done an amazing job but he has informed us that this will be his last year doing this job. So if you know anyone who would like to help out the association and you think they would do a good job, please pass this info along.

Motion to accept report: Harold Chadwick
2nd: Robert Harrison

Motion passes.

Report of the Law & Legislative Committee

The Fire Caucus luncheon is going to be on February 23rd at the State Capitol. It usually starts at 11:00 am and goes until 1:00 pm. We will send more information out as it becomes available. It looks to be a busy years on the hill. There are 17 bill files opened (the language isn't there yet) but it means that someone is contemplating putting a bill out. There's a three fireworks bills, one for fire code amendments, four for fireworks restrictions, two drone bills, food trucks, school security, volunteer fire department financial reporting amendments. Coy said that last year they passed the bills to try to get the water departments to be more open with their financials (they've been very tight with that), so they passed a bill saying any special service district, not thinking that by saying that, that fire service would be included in that. Rep Watkins out of Carbon County was approached by Price Fire and asked if the volunteer fire districts could be excluded from having to provide financials since they don't really track it like that. Retirement bills but no language yet. Please get your people notified of the caucus so we can get the support up there.

Motion to accept report: Dave Hammond
2nd: Lance Nay

Motion passes.

Report of the Utah Fire & Rescue Academy:

Brad Wardle gave a quick introduction of himself (worked for West Jordan for 25 years, 6 as the Fire Chief) went to California for 5 years to take care of his parents. Started working for UFRA part-time, moved to full time in September 2015 and then was appointed director in August of this year. After meeting with Mike, Eldon and Brady, Brad was surprised to find out that UFRA hasn't had much of a representation in the Association, and while he didn't know why that was, but that they are changing course and he indicated they will now be having an active role with the Association. The Association members were given a commitment by Brad that he and UFRA will be a partner hand-in-hand with the necessary aspects of the Association. He indicated that we will see him, his Assist Director or other members of his staff at our meeting and he welcomed the Association board to their meetings as well as inviting Association members out to Winter Fire School which will be January 19-20, 2018. He indicated that one thing we haven't done will in the fire service is to take care of ourselves regarding firefighters and mental health issues. That has become a big deal these days for all of us. He indicated that they are wanting to work with both Full time and Volunteer Fire Departments with their mental health and taking care of themselves by teaching classes on this subject so that in later years from now, you aren't so messed up that you can't function. He is going to ask Mike to help with the Peer Support program that they are working on which is similar to what the IAFF is doing. Brad indicated that he would love to work with anyone and would be willing to meet.

Mike mentioned that when he, Eldon and Brady met with Brad that it was an amazing meeting and you could feel Brad's excitement and his attitude towards fire and we appreciate that and we are excited for the partnership. Mike indicated that UFRA weren't Association members for many years, but they have now become members and have paid current and we really appreciate that.

Motion to accept report: Ryan Mellor
2nd: Stephen H. Demas

Report of the Standards and Training Council: Jason Winn indicated that the Council hasn't met, so there isn't anything to report since last quarter.

Motion to accept: Andy McBride
2nd: Bob Harrison

Motion passes.

Report of the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC):

#

At a meet for the National Volunteer Council that was an NFPA meeting had an observer who indicated that there were too many gray-headed people in the meeting. After he said his peace, Wendell stood up and said “I’m one of those gray-headed people! Nobody gave me these gray hairs, I earned every one of them. You have to remember something else, when you say that old people are behind the times, that there is a lot of time behind these people”. We then had a great meeting in Nebraska. Out next to their arch that goes over the interstate in Fort Kearney. The fire people in Nebraska have built a fire museum next door. Wendell said he and Brent have toured a lot of fire museums around the states and ours seems to outdo all of them. We have the most dedicated people who went to bat to get us this great museum. At the meeting, we had a session on opioids. The thing that got Wendell is that it wasn’t about pill taking. It was about the exposure of hazardous materials that we come across in our daily activities. Even by a skin contact that you can be infected or contaminated and it’s wide-spread. Our uniforms are manufactured with special chemicals to resist chemical, radiation, nuclear burns, etc. and over time he thinks that some of the materials get leached out of our turnouts and he believes we have become more susceptible to these exposures. PPE is probably one of the best defenses that we have of being able to arrive home healthy and we have procedures to decontaminate and when we have to destroy or throw away, it has really increased the production with the manufacturers of the uniforms and gear. They have determined that for volunteer fire departments, the extension time for their garments goes from about 12 to 15 years, and that they really aren’t liable for that 10 year replacement. We have seen some progress to get this changed but it’s still sitting at 10 years. The other issue is cancer that we are exposed to and a couple states have had their legislators get them cancer programs for their firefighters. Somewhere down the road it’s coming here so that’s some progress. The other is Wildland firefighting and they are using drones that have little ping pong balls that are injected and they have gps so they can lay a line of fire for them and it really caught Wendell’s eye because drones have become such a “no no” in the fire service and I think that some of the larger departments are experimenting with them to get views in areas that you normally couldn’t see. It’s just one of those things that’s always progressing when we are at a standstill. Wendell turned it over to Brent. Brent indicated that in the bylaws committee they are working on international relationships bylaws where there are some communication gaps that are there and they are trying to fill them in. They are trying to create something where these things can be brought together for people to look at. In the NFPA meeting that Brent is involved in, the cancer was the big subject and he believes New York and passed it and Missouri has passed it, also Wyoming it and they way Brent understood it from their representatives is that all the cancers are on the list and it isn’t isolated to a few cancers. There are certain cancers that are becoming more prevalent throughout the fire service and they encouraged all of the volunteer firefighters that you report your occupation as a firefighter if you are diagnosed with cancer. If this were to increase, they fill it would result in greater acceptance from the legislators. The chair of the cancer committee is a cancer survivor along with the co-chair who is also a cancer survivor.

Motion to accept report: Leon Hadley
2nd: Harold Chadwick

Motion passes.

Report of the Fire Marshal’s Office:

Coy Porter indicated that since July they have 4 pre-filed bills on fireworks and probably a 5th one that’s coming. He has been meeting with a variety of different legislators as well as others in regards to the fireworks. There will be some changing of language regarding to the fireworks bills including shortening the number of days. Internally in the office, they have had a couple folks retire or leave the office and have a couple new inspectors/investigators that are still pretty new so they have rearranged some of the folks from the south to the north. This includes covering the new prison where Mike Young will be the representative for the Utah State Fire Marshal’s office. Mike went out to the new prison site to introduce himself. They were in a meeting and he was told the meeting was because they had drilled down 90 feet and still hadn’t hit anything solid and they are starting over. They have an opening right now for a propane/gas inspector. They are working on a lot of different projects right now and have some challenges with the Road Home and the Rio Grande. There a lot of schools going up all over the state and that has kept them very busy.

Motion to accept report: Ryan Mellor
2nd: Ted Black

Motion passes.

Report of the Trustee’s:

David Gillette indicated that we are working on a Utah Jazz appreciation night for the firefighters that Brady George got going for us. We are looking at March 17 & 20 (against Atlanta & Sacramento). There is some incentive for us depending on how many tickets are sold. That will be coming out in the newsletter. We have another college as Columbia Southern University is offering our firefighters and their families a discount. We are also going to be offering a grant for convention as the bylaws allow us to use

a specific amount of money to build the association. The grant help members to attend convention. We are looking at closing the grant the last week of January. The application will be available on our website and through our social media account but please pass the word along.

Motion to accept report: Leon Hadley
2nd – Coy Porter

Motion passes.

Update on the Convention:

Lance and Leonard reported on convention for 2018. Lance indicated that at the first convention he went to in Price, they had belly dancers. We are really excited to go to Price for convention. Leonard indicated that in Richfield they handed out a questionnaire regarding what people would want to do in Price. The golf, ATV, car show, 9-mile canyon tour and the shooting event. They are going to put together a Carbon County Ghost Town tour. They are in the process of putting something together to send out to all the departments in the State to let everyone know what Price is doing and encourage them to participate. The letter should be coming out soon. There are already four departments who have signed up at the Holiday Inn Express. The cost will be reasonable so please come to have a good time. They will have more info at the January meeting.

Motion to accept report: Harold Chadwick
2nd: Dave Hammond

Motion passes.

New Business:

The museum had a birthday last week. 17 years old. Coy reminded everything that a roster has to be maintained in their office for disability. Please keep your roster updated with the Fire Marshal's Office.

The Quarterly Meeting was adjourned.

Memorial followed Quarterly meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina M. Bell, Secretary

REMINDER: NEXT MEETING WILL BE 4:00 P.M. ON JANUARY 13TH IN AMERICAN FORK AT THE SENIOR CENTER LOCATED AT 54 EAST CENTER STREET.