



Utah State Firefighters' Association General Meeting
Traverse Mountain – Lehi
January 13, 2024

Present:

President Eddie Hales	Trustee Ryan Mellor
1 st Vice President Andy McBride	Trustee Kevin Beck
2 nd Vice President Austin Knight	Trustee Steve Hales
Secretary Gina Bell	Trustee Chris Shubert
Treasurer Brent Marshall	Area Steward Harold Chadwick
Membership Steward Sam Larson	Area Steward & Chaplain Mark Hales
Trustee Roger Christensen	Sergeant-At-Arms Sam Ashman (late)
L&L Committee Rep Coy Porter	Utah State Fire Board Rep Coty Chadburn
NVFC Rep Lance Nay	Ut Fire & Rescue Academy Rep Marc McElreath
State Fire Marshal Ted Black	

Excused:

Area Steward Mike Ahlstrom	Perry Skaug
Area Steward Paul Evertsen	Dave Chugg
Museum Chair David Hammond	

No Pledge – Sam was late so the Pledge was skipped.

Prayer – Chaplain Mark Hales

Minutes from last meeting. Approved

Roll Call by Secretary Gina Bell

Treasurer Report

Brent handed out his report. The year-end financial report for 2023 shows us at a checking account balance of \$61,150.06. For the Fall Quarter Brent wrote checks totaling \$10,710.00. The checkbook had a beginning balance of \$97,875.27. There was a total of \$6,540.00 in deposits made. Brent paid two death benefits. The license plate grant account had a starting balance of \$37,813.95. On December 1st we received the grant money in the amount of \$250,000.00 so there is currently \$287,813.95 in the License Plate Grant checking account. The flower fund had a beginning balance of \$1,496.06 with a deposit of \$39.00. No checks were written and the new balance is \$1,535.06.

Motion: Ted Black/2nd Harold Chadwick, Passed.

Secretary Report:

Gina indicated that she has purchased the Mac Air Book along with an external hard drive to store all the old Association files and a USB cord since the Mac Book is the thin version without a USB. Gina also has received one nomination for Firefighters of the Year and she forwarded that to the Board for review. She gave Brent two new death benefit's to be

processed. They are for Gene Coleman and Rodney Busk. Gina sent a opportunity to get some great training at Brady George's new department (Meridian Fire) over to Tya to add our Social Media as well as to Ron Harris for the website. She sent over an invoice to Brent that Ron Harris emailed her. This invoice is to keep our website up and running. She is also working on getting us a current Jotform account for our website forms.

Motion to accept report: Ted Black/2nd by Ryan Mellor. Passed.

Membership Steward Report

Sam indicated that we are up to about 704 lifetime members as of the last meeting and there are about 6 departments that are more than 2 years delinquent. Mark Hales asked Sam for a list of past due departments so they can reach out to them. Sam went over the list.

Motion: Don/2nd Roger Christensen (Don's last name)

L&L Report – Coy Porter

See the attached list of bills. We are waiting for Senator Parker to sign several. Parking is going to be difficult. Carpool to the Caucus. Hall of Governors. Next year it will be in the Rotunda. Eddie: Thanks to Coy for sitting on this committee representing our Association. He is at every meeting.

Motion: Ryan Mellor/2nd Sam Larson. Passed.

Utah State Fire Board: - Coty Chadburn (zoom)

Met last week. Scott Spencer gave an update regarding Certification Council. Reciprocity for Live Fire – sticking to the Utah version. There will be site visits this year, not affiliated to the academy. Chris Trevino and Dave Youngberg are now 3-year. 900 students for WFA – ARFF mobile prop – Ted Black found funds to help. New testing and research that's going to be coming up. FFCU donated \$25,000. Fire Marshal's Don Hinkley. Scott Adams will be receiving a life-time achievement award.

Motion: Lance/Chris Shubert

UFRA Report – Marc McElreath-

Winter Fire School is coming up next week. 900 registered. ARFF Training prop in procurement process right now. UFRA will be offering classes on ARFF Will be teaching within the next 12-14 months. Excuse Brad – he is in Orlando. Regarding the cancer screening program, there is a meeting on January 17th that will have all the stakeholders come together. There are two doctors along with the PFFU representative Jack Tidrow who will be in attendance and the meeting is being held down at Winter Fire School. The committee is asking for 1.5 million dollars from Gail Miller Foundation. The money would go through Utah State Fire Chiefs since they are 501c3. They are working on a document on how that money will be distributed. The Galleri test is the blood that will show approximately 50 types of cancer.

Motion: Sam Larson/2nd Don Rich

NVFC- Brent Marshall and Lance Nay

Cancer testing is a big deal with NVFC. There will be some virtual training. One of the committee members (Brian McQueen – NY) is a cancer survivor and helped write the purple report. Female firefighter cancer screening has been the talk of the meetings (cancer in reproductive organs). You can volunteer to give blood and urine samples for the testing that's taking place. Tya is adding this info to our Facebook. All the Fire Departments are trying to get Safer grants, but the government hasn't released any money. They are holding some workshops on how to go after these grants. Tya is

also adding that to the Facebook account. NVFC is pushing for grants to be released. Grants are going to open January 29th and will close March 8th. You can go onto the NVFC website and fill out info to set a baseline for the cancer. The Spring meeting will be in April in Washington DC. In February, Brent will be going to Orlando, Florida for an NFPA Review Board meeting.

Lance – Clarification from Bryce Canyon meeting. Joining the NVFC – mentioned it's harder and harder to get volunteers anymore. Some volunteers become professional firefighters – didn't mean to insinuate that professional firefighters are taking volunteer firefighters away from their departments.

The firefighter documentary that was shown at Sundance is available to pay and use for groups that you might be addressing about being a firefighter. Brent serves on an NFPA committee and will be going to Orlando for an upcoming meeting. Brent is working with Brad Wardle on a Train-the-Trainer course that will be in March (NVFC)

Motion to accept: Harold Chadwick/2nd Mark Hales

Utah Fire Marshal Report – Ted Black

Everything that he had to report has been discussed.

Senior Trustee Report – Roger Christensen

We had a good trustee meeting today. We have changes to the Mission Statement and Bylaws. Gina brought copies of those changes for the Trustees to review. These will be presented and voted on at Convention. We approved \$250 to maintain our website as well as \$2,000 to go to the Joint Council for the Fire Caucus. We also approved up to \$4,000 for taffy. Greg Rudd from Wells Fargo came to our meeting. He advised we move some of our checking money into a Money market account. We can get access to funds within 2 days if needed. Trustees voted to keep \$50,000.

Motion to approve: Sam Larson/2nd Coy Porter. Passed.

Report of Convention

Andy – Moving along with getting everything ready to go. The ladies keynote speaker had to cancel. They have some other ideas of who to get. We are working on issues with the Association website to connect to registration. You can go directly to Garlandfd.com and it will let you register. You can pay on the website or select pay at convention. Add activities is right before the go to pay.

If you do want to register online, contact Andy directly and he will help you get registered. Hampton Inn has been an issue with the amount they said they would honor. Andy is going to have Mike reach out to get this fixed. If you have a vendor that wants to be a sponsor, contact Andy McBride or Steve Hales directly to sign up.

Motion to accept: Don Rich/2nd Sam Ashman. Passed.

Old Business:

Resolutions – Gina handed out the recommended resolutions that the Trustees are putting forth to be voted on at Convention. Gina will have these added to the website. Eddie read the resolutions and asked if there were any questions.

New Business:

None

Nominations:

Nominations for offices that are open:

President – No other nominations at this time.

1st Vice President – Austin Knight is the only nomination

2nd Vice President – Roger Christensen is the only nomination

5-Year Trustee – Are there any nominations for 5 year trustee? (3 times) closed.

Treasurer – Are there any nominations? Eddie submitted the name of Don Rich/American Fork Retired Member. Don is also Retired from the Dept of Homeland Security and has a Naval background

City 2025 Convention – No nominations

Nominations have been closed until April meeting.

Harold asks what happens if we go through April with no nominations for 5-year trustee? (Eddie said we would open it up at convention)

Eddie mentioned that just because you may not have rooms in your City, you still could host convention in another City. You would just be responsible for putting it together. The Association has taken away the burden of not breaking even on the cost.

Any other new business?

Please make sure to be at the next meeting to get a new picture taken for the convention book if you are on the board or the ladies aux.

Next meeting will be April 13th in Brigham City.

Thank you to Kevin Beck and Lehi Fire for hosting this meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Ted Black/2nd Ryan Mellor.

Present: President Eddie Hales
1st Vice President Andy McBride
2nd Vice Preesident Austin Knight
Secretary Gina Bell
Treasurer Brent Marshall
Membership Steward Sam Larson
Trustee Roger Christensen

Trustee Ryan Mellor
Trustee Kevin Beck
Trustee Steve Hales
Trustee Chris Shubert
Area Steward Harold Chadwick
Area Steward Mark Hales

Absent: Area Steward Mike Ahlstrom
Area Steward Paul Evertsen

Went around the room and gave update on what is happening in each board member's life.

The regular order of business was suspended to let Greg Rudd/Wells Fargo gave a report of the Association's financial status. He handed out a Performance Report and a full Portfolio Report. There are two accounts: a PIM (holds the large bulk of our money for investing) and a Money Market Account that is for cash access. The Money Market is making us about 5.2% return. Greg recommended that we move some of the money from the checking account into the financial account. Money can be made available and put back into the checking account in the matter of a few days if we need it. Interest earned on a checking account is so minimal that we should keep such a large amount in that account. Returned to regular order of business.

Eddie asked for a motion on the previous minutes.

Motion: Ryan Mellor/2nd Kevin Beck
Passed

Treasurer Report:

It was suggested at the License Plate Grant meeting that the organizations like PFFU, etc. get an additional \$5,000.00. Brent asked if the per diem money could be increased to match the government per diem rate because \$40.00 isn't enough to cover meals at places like Washington DC. The GSA website has a list of all major cities that could be followed.

Motion Ryan Mellor/2nd Kevin Beck
Passed

We discussed Greg Rudd's recommendation and it was decided to keep \$50,000.00 in checking and move the balance over to the Wells Fargo account. Brent handed out his report. The year-end financial report for 2023 shows us at a checking account balance of \$61,150.06. For the Fall Quarter Brent wrote checks totaling \$10,710.00. The checkbook had a beginning balance of \$97,875.27. There was a total of \$6,540.00 in deposits made. Brent paid two death benefits. The license plate grant account had a starting balance of \$37,813.95. On December 1st we received the grant money in the amount of \$250,000.00 so there is currently \$287,813.95 in the License Plate Grant checking account. The flower fund had a beginning balance of \$1,496.06 with a deposit of \$39.00. No checks were written and the new balance is \$1,535.06.

Motion: Ryan Mellor/2nd Roger Christensen
Passed

NVFC Report:

Brent and Lance went back east to the meeting. Brent said there is a big push on cancer of female firefighters to participate in a study so they are asking for volunteers who would be willing to provide a blood and urine test on the volunteer side. This month is Firefighter Cancer Awareness month. Brent indicated that the safer grants haven't been approved yet. Also, there is information on the NVFC's website for grant writing assistance. They are launching two new web pages for virtual training and Recite Me. The spring meeting in April will be in Washington DC. In February Brent will be going to Orlando, Florida for a FEMA Review Board.

Membership Steward Report:

Sam indicated that we are up to about 704 lifetime members as of the last meeting and there are about 6 departments that are more than 2 years delinquent. Mark Hales asked Sam for a list of past due departments so they can reach out to them. Sam went over the list.

Secretary Report:

Gina indicated that she has purchased the Mac Air Book along with an external hard drive to store all the old Association files and a USB cord since the Mac Book is the thin version without USB. She still needs to get the software on the computer and is working with Sam as he has extra licenses from the purchase he made. She will be sending the Mac with Sam to take in to get help to get that added and she will have someone from her department pick it back up from him at Winter Fire School to bring back to her. Gina also has received one nomination for Firefighters of the Year and she forwarded that to the Board for review. Eddie indicated that he recommended that the Tooele Chief put in a nomination for everyone involved in the Semi-Truck incident that took place. He asked Chris Shubert if he could remind the chief to get that nomination in to us. Gina gave Brent two new death benefit's to be processed. They are for Gene Coleman and Rodney Busk. Gina sent an opportunity to get some great training at Brady George's new department (Meridian Fire) over to Tya to add our Social Media as well as to Ron Harris for the website. Gina sent over an invoice to Brent that Ron Harris emailed her. This invoice is to keep our website up and running.

Motion to pay: Ryan Mellor/2nd Chris Shubert
Passed.

Gina presented the three types of Jot Form accounts. She has sent in a message to Jot Form to find out what documentation would be needed to get the non-profit discount. We aren't technically set up as a non-profit even though we function as a non-profit. A motion was made to subscribe to the Silver version.

Motion: Steve Hales/2nd Ryan Mellor
Passes.

Eddie indicated that we have Booth #43 for Winter Fire School. A motion was made to cover travel costs of Steve Hale for mileage and room. Also, to pay \$48.00 to UFRA to cover Steve and Sam's meal.

Motion: Ryan Mellor/2nd Kevin Beck
Passed

Eddie asked for an update from the Membership Stewards. Mark indicated that he attended the Carbon County Chiefs Meeting and Chief Dave Johnson talked like he wants to get back into the Association. Reminded him that it might be a good idea to send a couple people to convention. Harold is planning to attend the State Chief's meeting. Clint Smith is the Chair. Discussed talking about members that are disgruntled and what it would take to get them back. North Tooele signed up with 17.

Brent reported on the NVFC. He indicated that there will be Wildland Train-the-Trainer at UFRA.

Ryan mentioned that he feels it's good to have someone from Salt Lake City to talk about how our relationship between career and volunteer departments is unlike any other States.

Tya mentioned that there were a couple things sent from Gina that she added to social media and she has two highlights completed. She plans to do the next one on Austin.

Convention Report: Andy indicated that the committee is meeting tomorrow night. They lost their keynote speaker for the Ladies. The website is up and working but no one has signed up yet. You can get to it through garlandfd.com. You can pay online or indicate that you will pay at convention. There are links for several hotels on the website as well as the activities that you can sign up to participate in. It was asked if there was a vendor form available. Andy will get that.

New Business:

Motion made to pay up to \$4,000.00 for taffy to hand out up on the hill.

Motion: Ryan Mellor/2nd Roger Christensen

Passes

It was mentioned that they really need presentation at the Caucus from firefighters especially from outside of Salt Lake County.

The Joint Council has asked for the \$2,000.00 for the Fire Caucus luncheon.

Motion: Kevin Beck/2nd Roger Christensen

Passes.

Andy asked if we were going to want to order more hats, polos and stickers to sell at Convention. It was decided to triple the hat order as they seem to be very popular.

Eddie asked Gina to put together two resolutions to present to our members at the General Meeting. The first one is to change the wording on the death benefit to include that providing a published obituary or a death certificate is sufficient, and the second resolution is to update our current Mission Statement to be more appropriate for us.

Motion to adjourn 3:45 pm

Our next meeting will be Saturday, April 13th at 4:00pm. Brigham City Fire Station.

