



Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Association

42nd Annual Meeting of the General Membership

I. Call to Order.

The 42nd Annual Meeting of the General Membership of the Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Association was held September 14, 2009 at the Stoney Creek Inn, Columbia, MO. Pres. Russ Mason called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. Roll Call of the Officers and Board of Directors.

Sec. Vanderhoof called the roll of the Officers and Board of Directors. Present were Pres. Russ Mason, Vice Pres. Rob Wylie, Sec. Bruce Vanderhoof, Treas. Bill Zieres, State Fire marshal Randy Cole, MACAP Chair Chuck Conyers, Dir. Tim Medlin, Dir. Dave Miller, Dir. Bill Schoffstall, and Dir. Larry Jennings. A Quorum of the Officers and Directors was present.

III. Approval of the Minutes.

The minutes of the 41st General Membership meeting held September 15, 2008 were sent to each Officer and Director. The minutes were also added to the Association web page. Pres. Mason called for any changes, additions, or revisions. Being none, it was moved and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion passed.

IV. Financial Report.

Treas. Zieres reported beginning September 1, 2008 with a balance of \$23,195.50, there was total income of \$32,247.51, expenses of \$24,134.87, leaving a balance as of August 31, 2009 of \$31,308.14. This included a certificate of deposit for \$10,000.00 and \$1,233.47 from a Juvenile Fire-Setter grant from the National Association of State Fire Marshals.

Treas. Zieres also reported the Arson Reward Fund beginning January 30, 2006 with a balance of \$1,000.00, having a total income of \$5,390.71, total expenses of \$3,325.00, the balance as of August 31, 2008 was \$3,065.71.

Pres. Mason called for any questions. Being none, it was moved and seconded to approve the financial report. The motion passed.

V. Reports of the Officers.

A. Secretary – Sec. Vanderhoof reported the insurance policy carried for the membership by the Association is in effect. It is very important that each member provide the necessary SSN and other information required for the policy. If this isn't provided annually, the member will not be covered. Please check this every year and make sure it is correct.

B. Treasurer – Treas. Zieres had nothing further to report.



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- C. Vice President – Vice Pres. Wylie had nothing to report.
- D. President – Pres. Mason said the Association is in good shape. Our membership is holding solid, but we are not growing. He stressed the importance of the membership and requested all members to be active and provide input to the Board. Pres. Mason also asked all members to be active in the legislative process by contacting their senators and representatives about issues facing the fire service. He also asked everyone to be aware of any bills affecting the Division of Fire Safety and the Department of Public Safety.

VI. Committee Reports.

- A. Training – Dir. Miller said there are currently 902 certified fire investigators in the state. An investigator course is scheduled for later in September in Eureka and a course in November in Jefferson City. After the first of the year, courses will be held in Jefferson City and Independence.
- B. Legislative – Dir. Cole stated that being involved with the legislative process is very important. Passed last session and signed by the Governor were bills increasing the statute of limitations on arson, changes in the state-wide mutual aid statutes, and the sale of fire-safe cigarettes. Proposed bills already being considered include changes in the blasting requirements, fireworks changes, amusement ride changes, and fees for 9-1-1 calls on cell phones.
- C. Membership – Sec. Vanderhoof reported there are 70 members from 2009, 370 active members, and 10 life members, for a total of 350 members. There have been approximately ten new members from the conference.
- D. Bylaws – Dir. Schoffstall said there has been no activity of the committee.
- E. MACAP – Dir. Conyers said one reward had been given in the past year. The program has received funding from donations and is doing well. State Farm Insurance paid for another printing of the door hangers to be used to fire departments. He also said the first prosecutor course was presented with great comments and results. Additional courses will be delivered throughout the year.
- F. Hansen Award – Pres. Mason said no nominations were received. Treas. Zieres then gave a history of the award and its significance to the Association.



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- G. Audit – Vice Pres. Wylie said the committee had reviewed the financial books of the Association and all was found in order.
- H. Nominating – Dir. Jennings said names would be placed in nomination at the proper time.
- I. Conference – Vice Pres. Wylie said the first session went very well with great results. The numbers of attendees were good for the state of the economy. He also asked everyone in attendance to express their opinion on a three site rotation over the two-site held in the past.

VII. Unfinished Business.

Pres. Mason called for any unfinished business to be brought before the membership. Dir. Cole mentioned the problems being encountered with the private fire investigator licensing. As funding has not yet been established and the Governor has not appointed a board, this program may be a dead issue.

VIII. New Business

Pres. Mason called for any new business needing to be brought before the membership. There was none from the Board or the membership.

IX. Election of Officers and Directors

- A. Pres. Mason called for nominations for the office of Vice President. The nominating committee nominated Rob Wylie. It was moved and seconded to close the nominations and elect by acclamation. The motion carried.
- B. Pres. Mason called for nominations for the office of Treasurer. The nominating committee nominated Bill Zieres. It was moved and seconded to close the nominations and elect by acclamation. The motion carried.
- C. Pres. Mason said there were three positions open on the Board for three year terms. The nominating committee nominated Bill Schoffstall, Roger Harrison, and DeAnna Davis. It was moved and seconded to close the nominations and elect by acclamation. The motion carried.

X. Adjournment.

With no further business to discuss, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Pres. Mason adjourned the 42nd Annual Meeting of the General Membership at 1:47 p.m.

JB Vanderhoof, Secretary