



Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Association

44th Annual Meeting of the General Membership

I. Call to Order.

After reviewing the number of meetings and dates of the inception of the Association, the number of Annual Meetings was adjusted to be current. This adjustment has caused the minutes to reflect no 43rd Annual Meeting. The 44th Annual Meeting of the General Membership of the Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Association was held October 4, 2010 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in St. Charles, MO. Pres. Russ Mason called the meeting to order at 1:07 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, Dir. Keith Martin, Dir. Larry Jennings, Dir. DeAnna Harvey, and Dir. Roger Harrison. A Quorum of the Officers and Directors was present.

Pres. Mason called for the agenda to be suspended due to MACAP Chair Conyers needing to leave. The MACAP report was presented with information that the door hangers were almost gone. These were funded by State farm Insurance and additional funding will be sought. The Prosecutor's course had been presented with direct results of cases being tried. A couple who had received an award was introduced. These people came forward with information in a large loss arson.

III. Approval of the Minutes.

The minutes of the 42nd General Membership meeting held September 14, 2009 in Columbia, MO had been sent to each Officer and Director. 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, 2009 with a balance of \$31,308.14, there was total income of \$30,124.51, expenses of \$26,330.51, leaving a balance as of August 31, 2010 of \$35,102.14. This included a certificate of deposit for \$10,000.00 and \$1,176.82 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 \$6,390.71, total expenses of \$3,825.00, the balance as of August 31, 2010 was \$2,565.71.

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. The Association has had some difficulty with the renewals. Many members do not include or mark out their DOB and SSN. These are required each year for the insurance to be in effect. The Board has decided to not include this on future renewals and will make complete roster adjustments to have this information on file. Each member will be responsible to make sure their information is up to date and correct.
- B. Treasurer – Treas. Zieres explained the IRX Form 990 that has been completed and submitted. He mentioned that several agencies and groups in the State of Missouri are on the list and everyone who belongs to other groups should check into this.
- C. Vice President – Vice Pres. Wylie had nothing to report.



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- D. President – Pres. Mason said the Division of Fire Safety has lost all of the HB 230 funding for training. There has been no significant outcry from the fire service about this. He recommended everyone begin a campaign to get this reinstated. Other methods of funding fire service training have been discussed for possible new legislation. One is adding \$1.00 to each traffic ticket to be used for training. Pres. Mason said everyone in the fire investigation field needs to become much more active in the legislative process. It is our responsibility to make sure the Division of Fire Safety remains in service.

VI. Committee Reports.

- A. Training – Dir. Miller said 2,321 investigators have been trained since the inception of the program. There are currently 921 CFIs in the state. There are no investigator courses scheduled until after the Division moves to its new location.
- B. Legislative – Pres. Mason said there are no current issues yet. Dir. Cole said some bills have been sent to the DPS for review but nothing has been returned. Most of these were for verbiage cleaning. The Private Investigator issues are still being discussed. This may come up again for putting this under Division control.
- C. Membership – Sec. Vanderhoof reported that as of September 26, 2010, there are 36 members from 2009, 79 members from 2010, 277 active members, and 10 life members, for a total of 402 members.
- D. Bylaws – Dir. Schoffstall said has been submitted.
- E. MACAP – Dir. Conyers gave his report earlier in the meeting.
- F. Hansen Award – Pres. Mason said he had not received any nominations for any awards.
- 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 the committee had names to be placed in nomination at the appropriate time.
- I. Conference – Vice Pres. Wylie said the first session went very well. He offered his thanks to everyone who helped with the burns. Pres. Mason said Session I had 84 attendees, and Session II has 94 attendees.

VII. Unfinished Business.

Pres. Mason called for any unfinished business to be brought before the membership. Dir. Cole said he was thankful to everyone who has supported the Division over the years. He also said the Division has had several retirements and new hires in the last couple of months. He said the training division is now on facebook and said everyone could become associated with that. He also talked about the Division move to the Jefferson Building in the near future.

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. Treas. Zieres said the Board would be sending everyone a survey that discusses possible changes in the conference schedule. These were briefly discussed and he asked everyone to take the time to respond. Dir. Cole moved to have the Association donate \$500.00 to the MACAP program. This was seconded and the motion passed.



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IX. Election of Officers and Directors

- A. Pres. Mason turned the chair over to Vice Pres. Wylie. Vice Pres. Wylie called for nominations for the office of President. The nominating committee nominated Russ Mason. With no further nominations being received, 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 Secretary. The nominating committee nominated Bruce Vanderhoof. With no further nominations being received, it was moved and seconded to close the nominations and elect by acclamation. The motion carried.
- C. Pres. Mason said there were two positions open on the Board for three year terms. The nominating committee nominated Tim Medlin and Dave Miller. With no further nomination be received, it was moved and seconded to close the nominations and elect by acclamation. The motion carried.

Following the elections, Pres. Mason appointed Dir. Medlin and Dir. Miller to the conference committee.

X. Adjournment.

With no further business to discuss, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Pres. Mason adjourned the 44th Annual Meeting of the General Membership at 1:56 p.m.

JB Vanderhoof

Secretary