

ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES September 3, 2009

Teleconference call-in number is 907-459-6769.

I. Call to order – President Doug Schrage called the meeting to order at 0900.

II. Roll Call

Officers

President, Doug Schrage (present)	Anchorage Fire Department
1 st Vice President, Jeff Tucker (present)	North Star Volunteer Fire Department
2 nd Vice President, Michelle Weston (present)	Anchorage Fire Department
Sec/Treasurer, Sue Sanborn (present)	North Star Volunteer Fire Department
Seat A / 07-10, Jack Smith (present)	North Slope Borough Fire Department
Seat B / 07-10, James Baisden (present)	Nikiski Fire Department
Seat C / 08-11, Rocky Ansell (excused)	Alaska Division of Forestry
Seat D / 08-11, Mark Barker (excused)	
Seat E / 06-09, Eric Mohrmann	Capital City Fire & Rescue
Past President, Warren Cummings (present)	Fairbanks Fire Department

Roll Call Members: Betty Svensson, Chris Mokrcek, Dave Miller, Eddie Athey, Dave Squires, Mitch Flynn, Dave Tyler, Gordon Descutner, Kelly Nicoletto, Jodie Hettrick, Mark Beals, Jason Elson, Steve Crouch, Trent Burnett

III. Approval of Agenda – No changes or additions to agenda.

IV. Reading and Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Jeff Tucker to approve minutes of August 6, 2009, second by Warren Cummings. Motion carries.

V. Reports of Officers & Standing Committees

Treasurer Report – Sue Sanborn

Balance Operating Account: July 18, 2009	\$19,012.08
Balance Operating Account: August 20, 2009	\$23,085.79
Deposits: \$4,991.66	
Withdrawals: \$450.22 – 3 months web site management fee – iFocus Consulting	

Balance Gaming Account, July 22, 2009	\$ 5,259.36
Balance Gaming Account, August 22, 2009	\$ 5,259.36

Membership Report

06/07 Active Members (116)
07/08 Active Members (102)
08/09 Active Members (89)

06/07 Active Life Members (51)
07/08 Active Life Members (58)

08/09 Active Life/Honorary Members (65)

06/07 Sustaining Members (8)

07/08 Sustaining Members (3)

08/09 Sustaining Member (5)

06/07 Associates (5)

07/08 Associates (5)

08/09 Associates (4)

Totals: 06/07 -180 total membership 07/08 - 168 total membership 08/09 – 163 total membership to date

(See membership roster on web site: www.alaskafirechiefs.org)

President's report

Doug Schrage - See ASFA/AFCA Fall Conference

1st Vice President's report

Jeff Tucker / ALMR & AML – Nothing new to report

on ALMR cost share. AML summer legislative meeting in Palmer. Added into draft policy statement a large section for support of EMS priorities. Doug Schrage wanted to commend Jeff's influence on the policy statements on behalf of AFCA. Jeff Tucker advised this was started by Dave Tyler.

2nd Vice President's report

Michelle Weston / Government Relations – Hearing

positive signs we will have a Capital Budget this year. Will be circulating a flyer around to send out to the legislators. Lauren Marshall at Providence and Regional hospitals has been donating CPR training through local fire departments. More information to follow.

Seat A

Jack Smith / Fundraising – Nothing to report.

Seat B

James Baisden/ Membership & Recruiting – Nothing

new to report at this time. 153 total members. This time last year we were at 168. 115 members attended week-long Leadership Conference training. Good turnout – thanks for the support.

Seat C

Rocky Ansell / Health and Safety

Seat D

Mark Barker / Fire Standards Council

Seat E

Eric Mohrmann / Information Officer

Past President's report

Warren Cummings / Grants – Chief Cummings advised

there hasn't been much activity since last report posted on internet. Awards for SAFER and last year's AFG – added about 10 million to each one, but none affected Alaska. WFCFA – IFC is making a big change where they will go to a CEO instead of manager so he can talk for the Association on a moment's notice instead of bringing the president from wherever he is. With this change the CEO for the IFC will be able to speak on behalf of IFC. New program: Firefighters Against Drunk Drivers and Safe Place for Youths in Fire Stations. New change in ISO – scheduled to give a presentation in Anchorage at the Fire Chiefs Conference. Also talked to them about bringing a presentation to Alaska if new ISO is adopted; setting up IFC office on west coast. SAFER has doubled and staffing has become the priority in grants. IFCA have come to the conclusion that one voice in the fire service is not going to work. Big push for Federal Legislation – IRS and volunteers. IRS is starting to make taxation on volunteers on having to report income and going over into pay workers comp when volunteers are laid off. Sprinkler tax credit – now takes 39 years to write off if you install a sprinkler system in your business – trying to change to 5 years. GPO – if you need turnouts in the future – check with GPO – publically awarded contract. If you purchase off GPO contracts, AFCA will receive funding from orders placed. Continue placing your book orders at the WFC bookstore. If you can find it cheaper, WFC Book Store will match that price. Proceeds from book store sales benefit AFCA. ISO contact phone number 856-985-5600 X350 – Contact person is Hugh "Skip" Gibson. Dave Tyler talked about ISO grading in the Kenai Peninsula. Appears it varies with which ISO grader you get. Apparent it is not being graded 'equally' across the state. General discussion followed. Skip Gibson will be at the Fall Conference in Anchorage. President Schrage advised, added into the

conference schedule, there is a presentation from Hugh “Skip” Gibson immediately following the opening ceremonies on Wednesday at 11:00 in the Convention Center. President Schrage wanted to remind everyone Chief Curry is representing the AFCA on the GPO steering group. Any thoughts on GPO please send to Edie Curry or Warren Cummings. Warren advised representative from GPO will be at the conference. 1-800 BOARD UP is a syndication of salvage companies across the US, who, upon request of any fire department, will respond to fire scene, flooding scene, etc, and assist with boarding up the roof, pumping water out of basement, etc., and will only charge owner/resident what insurance companies won’t cover. No charge to fire departments.

VI. Special Reports

- a. Fallen Firefighter Memorial – Doug Schrage spoke on behalf of Mark Barker. It is apparent we will not have the memorial moved by September. Brick sales will be available at the Conference. Did approve several new names to be added to the memorial. Looking at having dedication of the memorial in the spring.
- b. ASFA/AFCA Fall Conference 2009 – Doug Schrage advised he did email out for planning purposes our schedule and emphasize the importance of attending the Chief’s meeting. Tuesday evening, 22nd, will be the Board of Directors meeting at the Marriott Hotel. This meeting is primarily for the Board members to prepare for the General Membership meeting that is scheduled later in the week. Wednesday, following opening ceremonies, is the ISO presentation at 11:00 a.m. in the Convention Center. Thursday – noon to 1:00, is the joint AFCA/IFCA membership meeting at the Marriott Hotel. Thursday from 6 to 10 p.m. is the AFCA General Membership meeting at Marriott Hotel. Friday, September 25th from noon to 1:00 p.m. is the Planning Committees meeting. Friday evening, is the second annual bowling night at the Bowling Center. Sue Sanborn, (who admits she cannot bowl) will be there to show off her new bowling ball. Banquet will be held at Convention Center. Obviously, membership registrations are not rolling in as quickly as we had hoped. This will be the first conference where the Governor of Alaska will be doing Opening Remarks – great statement indicating the influence our Association has with the legislators. Bridget Bushue representing the AFCA association on IAFC. Travel discounts and other details will be sent via reminder emails and news about the conference. 5K run on Saturday morning – non-competitive run for all who want to participate.

VII. New Business

- Nominations/Committee - Rocky Ansell is receiving nominations for elections for 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice president seats.
- Seed Money – 2010 Fall Conference - \$5,000 - Eddie Athey requested seed money in the amount of \$5,000 for the 2010 Fall Conference in Seward, second by Jeff Tucker. Motion carries. Warren Cummings suggested \$2,500 from gaming account and \$2,500 from general fund. Looking at the balances of the accounts – legitimate expense for gaming to give seed money to conference as it does deal with training – not a good idea to deplete entire gaming funds. Phoenix Chapter in the Eastern Kenai Peninsula \$2,500 from gaming, \$2,500 from general fund.
- Share expenses of on-line Fall Conference registration – Eddie Athey stated essentially as we started planning for the Conference we liked the CVENT registration program for conferences yet to come, as this is one component of conference planning that would not have to be reinvented. Approaching both associations in agreeing that CVENT be the registration program be used in conferences to come and the cost be split between the associations. Jeff Tucker thought it was going to be rolled into the conference budget each year; paid for by the conference host and reimbursed by both associations. General discussion followed.
- AFCA logo shirts will be available to purchase at the Fall Conference.

VIII. Old Business

- Southside Bingo – No news to report at this time. It has been a real roller-coaster. President Schrage advised, with the support of the Board, he moved our gaming permit business from Peninsula Charities to Southside Bingo, which is now operating as Big Daddy's Pull Tabs. Down side is income is down until new operation gets on its feet.

IX. **Good of the Order** – Dave Hull received a grant to purchase a remote control fire engine for his fire prevention education program. One of the arguments is expenditure of the money is frivolous because the schools should be doing this and not the fire departments. Is it safe to say fire prevention should be done by the fire department and not the schools? Jodie Hettrick advised the schools/teachers do not have the expertise to teach fire prevention in the schools and agree it should be the responsibility of the fire departments. Jason Elson discussed the partnership created for the schools and community. Fire prevention is and should be a collaborative effort between the fire department, schools and community. Warren Cummings moved that AFCA let the Ketchikan government body know if they do not want to support the \$800 that the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association support and give them 5% match of \$800, second by Jason Elson. The motion was withdrawn with the understanding that President Schrage would relate to the Ketchikan governing body that the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association supports accepting Fire Prevention Grant and relate to them the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association is willing to address the 5% match at their annual membership meeting in Anchorage if there is a need to provide the \$800 to make this grant happen. General discussion followed. Fire Marshal, AFCA and ASFA will send letters of support to Dave Hull.

X. Jeff Akins from Eielson was in a serious motor cycle accident. President Schrage went to visit him at the hospital in Anchorage. Outlook is encouraging. Please keep him in your thoughts.

XI. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Next meeting will be Thursday, September 24, 2009 – 6:30 p.m. at the ASFA/AFCA Fall Conference in Anchorage.

Minutes taken by Susan Sanborn, Secretary/Treasurer