

Metro Chiefs Business Meeting
Friday, July 28, 2017
Westin Hotel, Charlotte, NC
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (Executive Session)
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Business Meeting)

Executive Board Members

Otto Drozd III, President
Jon Hannan, Vice President
Teresa Deloach Reed, Secretary
Mike Duyck, Treasurer
John Lane, Board Member
Luther Fincher, Senior Board Member
Don Lombardi, Alternate Board Member
Rhoda Mae Kerr, Immediate Past President

Staff Support Members

Ken LaSala, IAFC Liaison
Russ Sanders, Executive Secretary

Executive Session

In attendance:

Otto Drozd III, President
Teresa Deloach Reed, Secretary
Mike Duyck, Treasurer
John Lane, Board Member
Luther Fincher, Senior Board Member
Don Lombardi, Alternate Board Member
Russ Sanders, Executive Secretary

President Drozd called the executive session to order at 9:30 am.

Succession Planning

Executive Secretary Sanders discussed the unusually high turnover on the Metro Chiefs Board this year. Former Vice President Kemp and Secretary Reed retired earlier this year and current Vice President Hannan is retiring on August 31. Executive Secretary Sanders made the following recommendation to the Metro Chiefs Board to ensure stability in the leadership of the organization:

- President Drozd remain president for another year.

- Treasurer Duyck move up to become vice president.
- Board Member Lane move up to become secretary.
- Alternate Board Member Lombardi move up to become treasurer.
- Immediate Past President Kerr remain in her position for another year.

For the 2018 Metro Chiefs Conference, the following three positions would become open:

- Board Member
- Senior Board Member
- Alternate Board Member

Executive Secretary Sanders reported that Metro Chiefs presidents had served in two or more consecutive terms in the past and that this proposal is in compliance with the organization's bylaws.

The Executive Committee approved this recommendation, which will have been brought up for the membership's consideration during the following membership meeting.

General Business Meeting

Call to Order, Welcome and Invocation

Chief Drozd opened the meeting at 10:10 am. He recognized Vice President Hannan and the Charlotte Fire Department for their hospitality in hosting FRI.

Chief Drozd then recognized Chief Few for the invocation.

Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting in Orange County/Orlando, Florida

President Drozd asked for a motion to approve the meetings from the last Metro Chiefs meeting hosted by Orange County and Orlando, Florida.

A motion was made by Chief Fincher to approve the meeting minutes from the annual meeting. It was seconded by Chief R. David Paulison and agreed to unanimously.

Introduction of Metro Chiefs

President Drozd recognized the past Metro Chiefs presidents and asked the meeting attendees to introduce themselves.

Briefings and Presentations

Richard Price of Pulse Point recognized Treasurer Duyck with the 2017 System of the Year award.

Dr. Denis Onieal, the Acting U.S Fire Administrator, updated the Metro Chiefs on developments at the U.S. Fire Administration. He recognized Chief G. Keith Bryant as the incoming U.S. Fire Administrator. At the National Fire Academy (NFA), the Board of Supervisors will review the NFA curriculum. In addition, NFA's online education system is launching mediated online courses, which are only four weeks long. USFA is holding a stakeholder meeting on the National Fire Incident Reporting System, including the data warehouse and how to improve NFIRS. Dr. Onieal also recognized Chief Tonya Hoover as the new NFA Superintendent.

Mr. Mike Worrell, the Fire Service Advisor of FirstNet, updated the membership on FirstNet developments. On June 19, FirstNet and AT&T released the state plans. Metro Chiefs are encouraged to access and review their state plans through their [state points of contact](#).

Chief Gary Ludwig, a candidate for IAFC 2nd Vice President in 2018, addressed the membership. He discussed his history working for a metro department (Memphis, Tennessee) and his leadership of the IAFC's EMS Section. As IAFC president, he will focus on reducing firefighter heart attacks and strokes.

Chief John Sinclair, the IAFC President, recognized Chief Greg Cade with the IAFC President's Award of Recognition. Chief Cade was instrumental in adding EMS as a base mission of USFA during his tenure as U.S. Fire Administrator. Chief Sinclair also thanked the Metro Chiefs for their support and hospitality, and pledged to maintain the pressure to pass legislation to reauthorize the FIRE and SAFER grant programs.

Chief Tonya Hoover, the NFA Superintendent, updated the membership about developments at NFA. The NFA is updating the curricula for courses in fire investigation, quality management, and EMS management. In addition, NFA is developing classes about the Mobile Integrated Health management and advanced hazardous response. NFA also is hiring a training specialist for mental health, active shooter and cancer education. In addition, NFA is reviewing the Executive Fire Officer program to identify what is required for the EFO in the future. The new EFO program will be launched in 2021. NFA also is developing a Managing Officer program. Chief Hoover also discussed her efforts to reinstitute and restructure the Training Resources and Data Exchange (TRADE) program.

Board & Staff Reports

President's Report

President Drozd reported that he was closing out the 2017 Metro Chiefs conference. The conference proceeds were split between the Metro Chiefs and the host departments (Orange County and Orlando, Florida). Orange County and Orlando will use their share of the proceeds for scholarships for disadvantaged youths to be certified as firefighters.

President Drozd also reported on progress with the NFPA 3000, Standard for Preparedness and Response to Active Shooter and/or Hostile Events. The first meeting was held. The progress is promising, because law enforcement is included in the process.

In addition, President Drozd reported on the IAFC's EMS Reimbursement Task Force. He said that it has been effective in shaping legislation in a way that is acceptable to the various fire service organizations.

President Drozd presented at the CTIF meeting in Austria. He was impressed by the similarities in fire service organizations around the world as they address issues such as cancer and the application of Unmanned Aerial Systems.

President Drozd presented at the IAFC Southeastern Division conference, and discussed the importance of health and safety tracks at conferences. He called for a national curriculum on firefighter health and wellness for firefighter recruits. Florida is proposing language to include in state training curricula.

Finally, President Drozd recognized Chief Fincher's service on the IAFC Board. He announced that Chief Larry Few will replace Chief Fincher on the IAFC Board. President Drozd also recognized Vice President Hannan's service on the Metro Chiefs Board.

Vice President's Report

Vice President Hannan announced the logistics for the Metro Chiefs lunch and dinner. The lunch was hosted by PulsePoint. The dinner was at the Mint Museum and sponsored by Darley, Kidde/FACETS, Motorola, Pierce/Oshkosh, Rescue Air, Scott, and W.L. Gore.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Reed announced that the 109 regular members and 87 Senior members.

Since the Metro Chiefs meeting in April, we added:

Jeff Carman, Contra Costa (CA) County Fire Protection District
Fernando Grey, Aurora (CO) Fire Rescue
Charles Middleton, Savannah (GA) Fire and Emergency Services Department
Bruno LaChance, Montreal Fire Department
Mark Sealy, Mobile (AL) Fire-Rescue Department
Roy Winston, Cincinnati (OH) Fire Department

Invitations were sent to:

Alasdair Hay, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Kyrle Preis III, Baltimore County (MD) Fire Department

Melvin Carter, Richmond (VA) Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services
David Hutcheson, Virginia Beach Fire Department
Darrell Reid, Vancouver (BC) Fire and Rescue Service
James Large, St. Petersburg (FL) Fire Rescue
William Mayo, Winston-Salem (NC) Fire Department

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Duyck reported that, as of July 21, the Metro Chiefs had a carryover balance of \$623,262. So, far, the Metro Chiefs have raised \$22,900 and had expenses of \$36,532. Overall, there has been a change in Net Assets of - \$13,632 for a total balance of \$609,630.

A motion was made by Chief Hannan to approve the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Immediate Past President Kerr and agreed to unanimously.

Treasurer Duyck discussed his work on issues relating to fire data. He also reported that he continued to represent the Metro Chiefs on FirstNet with Chief William Bamattre.

Board Member's Report

Board Member Lane thanked the membership for their support. He continues to represent the Metro Chiefs at the TASC meeting. On April 27, he attended the Metro Chiefs meeting with the IAFF and visited the IAFF's new wellness center. Board Member Lane also attended the Manitoba Chiefs conference. He also traveled to NFPA headquarters to attend the NFPA 3000 meeting. He also will be attending the IAFF Fallen Firefighter ceremony.

Senior Board Member's Report

Senior Board Member Fincher thanked the Metro Chiefs for the privilege and the pleasure of serving them since 1989. He congratulated Chief Few for succeeding him as International Director. Chief Fincher will remain a Senior Board Member of the Metro Chiefs until the next Metro Chiefs meeting in San Antonio.

Alternate Board Member's Report

Alternate Board Member Lombardi thanked the Metro Chiefs membership for their support and thanked Chief Fincher for his leadership. He reported on his work with the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) strategic group, including the passage of legislation (P.L. 114-326) last year to reauthorize the USAR system and attempts to increase funding for USAR teams.

Immediate Past President's Report

Immediate Past President Rhoda Mae Kerr reported that she attended the April meeting with the IAFF and was impressed by their new wellness center. She also was appointed

to the National Infrastructure Advisory Council. Immediate Past President Kerr also attended the inaugural Women Fire Chiefs Council meeting, which is co-chaired by Chief Kara Kalkbrenner from Phoenix, and had four metro chiefs on it.

Executive Secretary's Report

Executive Secretary Sanders reported that the Urban Fire Forum will be held on September 20-22. The program will include the Opioid Crisis, Response to Violent Incidents, Exposure App, Field Decontamination, Vehicle-to-Vehicle Communication, Fire Dynamics Update (UL & FM Global) and more.

He reported that the 2018 Metro Winter Board Meeting will be January 9-11 in Orlando.

As a prelude to the Nominating Committee report at the upcoming Metro Chiefs conference, Executive Secretary Sanders made the following recommendation to the Metro Chiefs Board to ensure stability in the leadership of the organization:

- President Drozd remain president for another year.
- Treasurer Duyck move up to become vice president.
- Board Member Lane move up to become secretary.
- Alternate Board Member Lombardi move up to become treasurer.
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A motion was made by Chief R. David Paulison to accept the recommendations. It was seconded by Chief Dennis Compton and agreed to unanimously.

Executive Secretary Sanders also recognized the phenomenal job of the Orange County and Orlando, Florida, fire departments in setting up system for sponsorships of the Metro Chiefs conference. The conference management team developed a template for sponsorships that Metro Chiefs will be adopting. He also recognized the Charlotte Fire Department's work on the Metro Chiefs' dinner.

Committee/Project Reports

EMS Update

Chief Dennis Compton reported that the Metro Chiefs were successful in integrating EMS response in NFPA 1001, the Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications. He is focusing next on NFPA 1021, the Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications, which is in better shape regarding the field of EMS response.

Chief Compton urged the Metro Chiefs to sign up for the Fire-Service Based EMS Advocates (<http://fireserviceems.com/>). He also reported that the Congressional Fire Services Institute is looking for nominations for the Excellence in Fire Service-based EMS awards. The awards have both career and volunteer categories.

Chief Compton also urged members to attend the Fire Service Occupational Cancer symposium in Phoenix on September 7 and 8. The symposium exceeded target registration, but there is room for more registrants. He also reminded members about the Oklahoma State University's International Fire Service Journal of Leadership and Management. OSU would like to hold a symposium each July that would have no registration fee.

Cancer Initiatives

Chief Ken Block reported on two research foundation projects: 1) a project to study the cleaning and decontamination of PPE, which ends in September 2018 and 2) the 30-year cancer cohort study to examine cancer in the fire and emergency service.

Legislative Update

Mr. LaSala reported on legislation on Capitol Hill. The Senate is considering legislation (S. 829) to reauthorize the FIRE and SAFER grant programs through Fiscal Year 2023 and eliminate the January 2, 2018 sunset date. Also, the House Energy and Commerce Committee reported out legislation (H.R. 931) to establish a voluntary, anonymous national database to examine the prevalence of cancer in firefighters. In addition, Representative Devin Nunes (R-CA) introduced legislation (H.R. 3236) to extend the add-on payments for fire and EMS departments that transport Medicare patients.

Old Business

President Drozd asked for Old Business. There was no old business.

New Business

President Drozd asked for New Business.

Chief Kevin McGee reported that the committee for NFPA 450, Guide for Emergency Medical Services and Systems, will release a guide on Mobile Integrated Health in December for comment.

As chair of the IAFC's Terrorism and Homeland Security Committee, Chief McGee also reported that the FBI offered to provide a class on homeland security issues for the Metro Chiefs at the 2018 conference. The FBI also is asking Metro Chiefs to participate in the Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF). Of the 106 JTTFs around the nation, only 8 have fire service representatives. Chief McGee recommended that more metro

departments contact their JTTFs to get engaged. Chief McGee also asked the Metro chiefs to continue to be engaged in the federal Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Teams, which brings in local first responders to work with intelligence analysts to develop information sharing projects for first responders.

Chief Keith Bryant reported that the committee for NFPA 2400, the Standard for Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems, released a draft for public comment.

Chief Mary Beth Michos reported that Motorola will fund the Fire Service Executive Development Institute for an additional year. She will send out information about the program. Chief Michos asked the Metro Chiefs to submit candidates for the program with special attention to women and minorities.

Chief Stephen Dean reported that NFA is looking for experts in curricula development on firefighter health and wellness issues. He asked interested chiefs to apply.

The next meeting will be the annual Metro Chiefs conference in San Antonio, Texas from May 4 – 10.

Vice President Hannan made a motion to adjourn at 12:11 pm. The motion was seconded by Executive Secretary Sanders and agreed to unanimously.