

Metro Business Meeting #2
May 8, 2018
Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio

Call to Order & Announcements

President Drozd called the meeting to order at 3:14 pm.

Elections

Immediate Past President Kerr recognized the following candidates for up to five minutes to make a presentation to the membership.

- John Butler – Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services
- Joseph Fernandez – Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue & Emergency Service
- Robert Rocha – Corpus Christi Fire Department
- Edward “Loy” Senter, Jr. - Chesterfield County Fire & EMS
- Eric Tade – Denver Fire Department
- Roderick Williams – Orlando Fire Department

Presentations for 2021 Conference Venue

Immediate Past President Kerr introduced Chief Gina Sweat, who made a presentation advocating for the city of Memphis (TN) to host the 2021 Metro Chiefs Conference.

Voting

President Drozd directed the Elections Committee to distribute, collect and count the ballots for the vote for Board Member and Alternate Board Member.

Committee Reports

SAFECOM

Treasurer Duyck and Chief William Bamattre updated the membership on public safety communications issues. Chief Bamattre highlighted the fact that the SAFECOM website (www.dhs.gov/safecom) is an excellent resource for finding resources; learning about identity, credentialing and access management; and communications units. The SAFECOM website also has model RFPs and SOPs to help ensure interoperability. He recommended linking the SAFECOM website to the Metro Chiefs website.

Treasurer Duyck updated the membership about FirstNet. FirstNet is now reaching out to fire and police chiefs, mayors and other officials as it builds out its network. He also highlighted that SAFECOM has fact sheets to help public safety officers explain to elected officials about the continued need to fund land-mobile radio systems.

Fire-Based EMS

Chief Dennis Compton updated the membership about efforts to include performance-based EMS standards in NFPA standards. The Metro Chiefs have joined the IAFF, IAFC, and IFSTA in this effort. The new version of NFPA 1001: Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications includes EMS criteria.

The task group is focused now on NFPA 1021: Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications. The NFPA 1021 meeting in Savannah (GA) went well. The task group proposed 13 comments to include EMS criteria, and 12 were accepted. The only rejected comment concerned a section of NFPA 1021 to be examined at a later date. The revisions to the NFPA 1021 standard are now in the public comment period.

Chief Compton also expressed concern with the EMS 2050 Agenda document. The draft document has errors, such as not accurately reflecting the role of fire-based EMS and inaccurate historical references. He asked the membership to submit comments to www.emsagenda2050.org that request that the document acknowledge that the fire service provides EMS.

Chief Compton also asked the membership to go to www.fireserviceems.com and join Fire-Service-EMS Advocates.

New Business

President Drozd recognized Chief David Downey to make a motion regarding NFPA 1851: Standard on Selection, Care and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.

- The Metro Chiefs to support a Tentative Interim Agreement (TIA) on NFPA 1851 to request a revision that the 10-year life span for PPE be measured from first-use versus manufacture date and for the Technical Committee (TC) to justify the 10-year life span requirement. Further, that the TC provide a methodology that would allow individual departments to extend the useful life of the structural fire fighting ensemble in one year increments.

The motion was seconded by Chief Bryson.

After discussion, Chief Bryson made a motion to table the pending motion until the next day, Chief Bryson's motion to table was seconded by Chief John Alston and passed unanimously.

Election Results

The Chair of the committee reported that Chief Robert Rocha and Chief Eric Tate received the most votes in the election. As the top vote-getter, Chief Rocha chose to be the Board Member. Chief Tate was announced as the Alternate Board Member. Chief Drozd swore in Chief Tate to the Alternate Board Member position.

Adjourn

President Drozd adjourned the meeting at 4:35 pm.