

Legislative Federation Meeting Saturday, August 20, 2005

President Mike Whitzel called the meeting to order at 9:00. Robert Timko gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Officers:

President, Mike Whitzel, 1st Vice President, Robin Johnson, 2nd Vice President, Mike Liles, Financial Secretary, Joe Schmitt, Recording Secretary, Penny Biter, Treasurer, Pierre Klein was not in attendance. Directors in attendance: 3 Year Directors: John Johnson and Ernie Rojahn, Ron Hereda was not in attendance due to illness; 2 Year Directors: Tom Savage, Dave Anderson, and Vaughn Seigworth; 1 Year Directors: Jim Mullane and Chester Seleski; Honorary Directors: Fred McCutcheon.

Copies of the minutes were handed out. Dave Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes; Steve Shenk seconded it. **Motion Carried.**

Officers Reports:

Mike Liles reported that he has been working on the by-laws and there were some recommendations from the Board of Directors meeting that he will be looking into.

Board of Directors Meeting:

At the recommendation of the Board of Directors a motion was made by Fred McCutcheon and seconded by Robin Johnson to send Robert Timko as the delegate for the Legislative Federation to the NVFC and to send a letter to the Firemen's State Association and to the Keystone Chiefs asking them if they would like to support the delegate for the Federation and contribute to the cost. Question on the motion: Should this organization support both a delegate and an alternate? If the other two organizations want to do that then they can come back to the Federation with a proposal and it will be considered. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Tom Savage made a motion to pay for the Presidents hotel room; Robin Johnson seconded it. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Dave Anderson and Tom Savage talked to the hotel management and asked to be relieved of the contract for 2006. The next meeting notice will be placed in the PA Fireman magazine and everyone will receive a notice in the mail with the place and date of the meeting. It will also be put up on the Legislative Federation Web-site. The web site is firelegfedpa.org.

A thank you letter and an Invoice for dues were passed around for review. It was suggested to make up a certificate. Dave Anderson made a motion to approve the letter and invoice with the changes; Robin Johnson seconded it. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

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A motion was made by Tom Savage and seconded by Joe Deeney that the Financial Secretary and Treasurer provide copies of their reports to the secretary along with a list of checks paid. Secretary is to attach these copies to the minutes of the meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

It was reported that Ivan Meeker had been in the hospital, but is home now and doing fine. Earl Moser had also been in the hospital and is at home at the present time. A card will be sent to both of them.

A motion was made by Fred McCutcheon and seconded by Dale Myers to renew the contract with the Institute for two years. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Guest Speaker:

Mike Whitzel introduced guest speaker Ulrich Mauser of Provident Agency. Ulrich does the financial planning for the Legislative Federation. Ulrich gave a full report to the Recording Secretary and a synopsis to all in attendance of the investments of the Federation. After Ulrich's report there was a period of questions and answers. Ulrich will make some recommendations in writing to diversify some of the funds for the Federation. Tom Savage made a motion to give the Budget and Management Committee authority to take action on recommendations made by Ulrich; Dale Myers seconded it.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Reports from Delegates:

Robert Timko, NVFC. Bob handed out a flyer that can be used to calculate a fire departments cost savings to the community. Some other points Bob talked about were the Federal Grants, the Fire Corp Program, and the Safer Grant.

Tom Savage, PFESI: Tom has been in touch with State Legislators and has pressed the point that if they don't start to take some action on some fire related legislation then action will be taken by the fire service. Tom gave updates on SR60 and HR148. He told the group that EMS is making changes. Tom encouraged organizations with EMS get involved in the process of the Act 45 rewrite and where EMS should reside.

The Institute's Annual Dinner is Monday November 21 and the theme is "**EVERYONE GOES HOME IN PENNSYLVANIA**".

The new color printer, which was donated by the Federation, is now at the Institute office. Tom thanked the Federation for the donation of the printer.

Tom was asked about sending form letters to the Legislators. Tom explained that the best way to effectively communicate with your elected official was by personal contact, preferably a face-to-face meeting. However, if that isn't possible, a phone call or personal

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letter is the next best way. However, since we keep hearing that the legislators are not hearing from their fire and EMS constituents, a form letter or petition is better than no communication. Someone has to open the letter and handle it in the office and it will at least get the attention of the Legislator.

Elections:

Chairman of the nominations and election committee Dale Myers reported that there were no opposing nominations for the elections. Dale Myers made a motion to submit the nomination forms and have the Secretary cast the ballot; it was seconded by Fred McCutcheon. **Motion Carried Unanimously.** A copy of the new officers is attached.

Budget:

Since Ivan could not attend the meeting Dave Anderson substituted as the chairman of the Budget and Management Committee. At a couple of meetings it has been brought up and discussed to pay \$20 toward the cost of the hotel for members who attend the meeting. Dave Anderson read the figures for the budget with the option of the \$20 for the hotel rooms and without that option. Fred McCutcheon made a motion to pay the \$20 for the rooms; Dale Myers seconded it. Question: Is the \$20 for anyone or just members. The motion was for members only. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

An increase of \$500 for Bob Timko was put into the budget. Fred McCutcheon made a motion to pass the budget with the changes; it was seconded by Dale Myers. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Old Business:

The color printer is at the Institute office.

Ernie reported that "The Walk of Honor" campaign is moving along. The Federation has paid for their brick and several others are on board.

Robin Johnson gave a brief report on the magnetic ribbons. He is going to get information on making it a Maltese cross.

Tom Savage gave a brief report on the administrative services that the Institute provides to the Federation.

New Business:

Mike asked that people help with the Expo's. He would like to see people who live in the area help with them so people do not have to travel all over the state.

The January meeting, which is held in conjunction with the Firemen's State Association, was discussed. A letter will be sent to the State Association stating that the Legislative Federation will not be participating in that meeting.

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Joe Deeney made a motion to pay \$1000 for the table at PFESI's Annual Dinner; Robin Johnson seconded it. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Mike Whitzel would like to have a meeting with the officers and directors who are planning on attending the PFESI dinner on Sunday afternoon, November 20.

Fred McCutcheon made a motion to purchase five seats at the Congressional Dinner through the State Association and to pay for 2 rooms at a hotel in the area for 2 nights; Dale Myers seconded it. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Jim Mullane made a motion to pay the bills; Dave Anderson seconded it. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

The Officers were sworn in.

Joe Deeney made a motion to authorize the officers to pay bills and conduct business between the meetings; it was seconded by Tom Savage. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report:

The report was reviewed. There was a question on the investments. It will be up to the management committee to decide what to do with them.

Good of the Order:

Dave Anderson reported that Bill Jenaway received the CD for the SR60 presentation. He will review it and copies will be made.

Committees will stand as they are for now.

Dale Myers made a motion to adjourn; Robin Johnson seconded it. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted

Penny Biter