

# Queen City Area Fire Chiefs Association

19 May 2005

## Minutes of Meeting

*Start and Attendance:* The meeting was held at Ryan's Restaurant on East Kearney in Springfield. Dinner was at 18:30 with the meeting called to order at 1900 hours

Present: Rick Dennis, Tony Edwards, Bill Arington, Dan Whisler, Jimmy Sebree, Rancy Duffy, Kelly Davis, George Smith, John Griechen and Bev Zieres.

Chief Sebree welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### *Minutes:*

A motion was made by Chief Whisler to approve the minutes from the April meeting, seconded by Chief Dennis, the motion passed.

### *Financial Statement:*

There was no financial report given. The records still have not been received from David Deck.

*IAFC Report* – The conference will be held Aug. 11-13 in Denver. The organization is working on a mentoring survey.

*Missouri Valley Division Report* – The 2005 conference is being held in July in Columbia MO.

*MO Chiefs Report* – MO Chiefs web site is available at [MoFireChiefs.org](http://MoFireChiefs.org). The log-in for members only is your e-mail address.

*Survey to fire departments* – FFAM has taken the responsibility to contact Missouri departments that have not filled out the survey. Region D has the shortest list, but every effort is being made to contact all departments. The survey will be used as a resource for writing grants, especially regional grants.

*LEPC Report* – Greene county is having a haz mat tech class. Haz-Mat Awareness, Nixa Fire, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Logan Rogersville's team is planning an exercise in September at Southern Webster. The tabletop will be in

July.

*WMD/Haz-mat Team Reports* – Troop D teams are disappointed in the contractor with the state. The next meeting is June 22 at 1:30 at LR. Chief Sebree is working on an ICS/IMS overhead team for the region. The working concept is to have all positions 4-5 deep with personnel trained in advanced classes. The team will assist jurisdictions and provide support mechanisms to aid in getting everything in place for a large and/or extended incident. The team will be activated by statewide mutual aid. There will be an application process to get people who are fairly groomed in the IMS system.

*Legislation Issues* – The bill to remove code authority from fire protection districts did not go through except for Jefferson County.

For state-wide mutual aid, unless you opt out, you are in. All emergency services and public works are included.

Chiefs should become familiar with the workman's comp overhaul that was designed to stop fraud.

The thousand dollar tax credit for volunteer fire fighters who can prove membership is still under discussion.

*Training items:*

George Smith reported no official word on house bill money at this time. He recommends that any department that wants to do classes funded with house bill money get the request in as soon as possible as those classes are apportioned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Summer Fire School enrollments are about average, although four classes were cancelled due to low enrollments in those sections.

Nixa Fire, VFIS course on increasing safety awareness, June 8. Free to VFIS customers, small fee for non-customers.

Haz-mat money is gone until October.

*Old Business* – Chief Whisler reported on his white paper meeting with the police and ambulance agencies. He reported that they came up with several things that will help with lengthened response times. Both ambulance services reported that they would like to see unified dispatch for both services. They hope to involve the Greene County

Medical Society to evolve into one company. St. Johns and city fire are using tiered response for medicals with supervisors, ALS and BLS. One issue for the ambulance companies is over 100 transports a month of psychiatric patients. They also supported fire-based EMS.

A by-laws change for Article 5 Section 4 was presented and voted on next month. Add to the existing sentence, "When a quorum is not met the meeting may still take place, however no formal votes may be conducted." The motion to pass the bylaw was made by Chief Dennis and seconded by Chief Whisler. The motion passed.

#### New Business:

The QCAFCA will have a section on the Nixa Fire web site. Officers, by-laws and minutes will be included. The address is [Nixafire.org](http://Nixafire.org).

Chief Whisler went to Emmitsburg to rate grants. He was impressed by the rating system and said that he would be willing to assist departments who need help with writing grants. The most important sections of the grant include: program details, budget, cost/benefit, financial need, operational outcomes. Two key elements are 100 percent compliance (if you have 20 personnel, ask for 20 air packs) and training. He pointed out that it is not bad to say you don't have training in place, you should ask for the training as part of the grant and they will approve it.

SAFER grant information is out. It is important to be sure you can finance the match. The grant covers a reducing percentage of the costs of personnel over four years and the department must keep the program in place for one full year after the grant ends.

Nixa will have an all-hazard safety trailer in November that they obtained through a grant. Any department can schedule and borrow the trailer. In addition to the safety training, the trailer will also convert to a command center.

Other area departments that have web sites are Springfield Fire as a link from the city web site, Willard at [WillardFire.com](http://WillardFire.com), and Southern Webster at [Firewatch911.com](http://Firewatch911.com).

The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the other two regional chief groups probably in Monett. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. on June

16. State Fire Marshal Randy Cole will be at the meeting.

*Adjournment*

The meeting adjourned at 17:55 hours.

Minutes submitted by Beverly Zieres