

Quarterly Meeting
Utah State Firefighters' Association
Richfield Fire Station
July 9, 2016

The regular meeting of the Utah State Firefighters' Association was held at the Richfield Fire Station in Richfield, Utah on Saturday, July 9, 2016.

Meeting was called to order by President Lance Nay at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Dave Prisbrey

Invocation: Russ Cowley

President Lance Nay: Lance indicated that before we get into the meeting, we would be passing around a card for the members to sign and he turned the time over to Eddie Hales to explain. Eddie told the attendees that the card was a sympathy for South Salt Lake Fire who just lost a member suicide. He had PTSD and he was a member with South Salt Lake for 16 years. Please keep their department members in your prayers.

Officers Present:

President - Lance Nay	Chaplain – Russ Cowley
1st Vice President – Mike Ahlstrom	Sergeant-At-Arms – Brent Prisbrey
2nd Vice President – Eldon Farnsworth (excused)	Historian/Photographer – Trisha Thomas
Secretary - Gina Bell	L & L Committee Chairman - Ryan Mellor
Treasurer – Brent Marshall	Rep State Fire Prevention Board – Mike Phillips
Membership Steward – Perry Skaug	Rep UT Fire and Rescue Academy – Hugh Connor (not present)
Trustee - Brady George	Rep UT Standards and Training – Jason Winn (excused)
Trustee - David Gillette (excused)	Rep UT Fire Museum - David Hammond (excused)
Trustee - Coty Chadburn	Rep's National Volunteer Fire Council - R. Wendell Robison/Brent K. Marshall
Trustee - Eddie Hales	2015 Convention Chairman - Travis Graff (excused)
Trustee – Andy McBride	State Fire Marshal – Coy Porter (not present)

Past Presidents Present:

David Bentley – Cedar City	Ryan Mellor - Salt Lake City	Harold Chadwick - Grantsville City
Dennis Chidester - Richfield	Brent K. Marshall - Grantsville City	Drew Rasmussen - Fillmore City
R. Wendell Robison - Fillmore City	Robert Harrison - Spanish For City	Lynn Jones - Spanish Fork
J. Merlin Baker - St. George	Dave Howell - Cedar City	Leonard Miller - Price

Past Trustees Present:

Dennis Chidester - Richfield	R. Wendell Robison - Fillmore City	Harold Chadwick - Grantsville City
R. Wendell Robison - Fillmore City	Ryan Mellor - Salt Lake City	Mike Ahlstrom - Tropic City
J. Merlin Baker - St. George	Robert Harrison - Spanish For City	Drew Rasmussen - Fillmore City
Brent Marshall - Grantsville City	Lance Nay - Richfield City	Dave Howell - Cedar City

Past Secretaries Present:

Dave Howell - Cedar City

Past Treasurers Present:

Rowe Harrison - Tooele City

Past Law & Legislative Committee Chairman Present:

Past Historian/Photographers Present:

Leon Hadley - Grantsville City

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Motion to accept: Ryan Mellor
2nd: Wendell Robison

Motion passes.

Report of the Treasurer:

Because Brent was sworn in at the Installation Meeting this morning, Rowe presented his final report. He had Brent pass out his report (face down). He did a test with the members by asking them to identify a picture on the paper. He said it was his report from 8 years ago. He then went over the expenses paid out in the first quarter with the members in attendance. The total expenses paid out was \$26,479.05. The amount of deposits totaled \$20,184.00. There is a balance of \$68,056.67. \$16,000.00 is a grant for license plates and \$35,375.00 are grant monies that have not been claimed yet. The amount that belongs to the Association is \$32,681.67. Rowe went over the investments.

The flower fund has a balance of \$782.68. It has increased largely due to donations that were given at the Past Presidents Breakfast at Convention. Death Benefits were paid to: Marker Benefits were paid to: Rex Walters and Frank Holm. He asked the membership if there were any questions. Rowe still has some stickers and hats, etc.

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>BENEFIT FUND</u>
Balance - 3 rd Quarter - 2014		\$228,836.18
Balance - 4 th Quarter - 2014		\$230,547.48
Balance - 1 st Quarter - 2015		
Balance - 2 nd Quarter - 2015		
Balance - 3 rd Quarter - 2015	32,187.42	235,701.33
Balance - 4 th Quarter - 2015		237,463.97
Balance - 1 st Quarter - 2016		239,220.34
Balance - 2 nd Quarter - 2016		242,746.28

Motion to accept Report: Brady George
2nd: Ryan Mellor

Motion passes.

Report of the Secretary:

Gina Bell received a death benefit request for Vincent Miola - Bingham Canyon. Dave Howell gave Gina one envelope for a request for an additional death benefit. She contacted the son to let him know what was needed from him to process the request. She also received a death benefit request from for Norman Barker - Mapleton. His daughter Carrie turned over all needed documentation so Gina has turned a letter over to Rowe to pay our first flat \$500.00, which is the amount in new change to the bylaws that was passed at Convention. She received one request for his 40-year pin from Edward Anderson-American Fork. She turned over the form to Rowe and he provided the pin to Eddie Hales who will get it to him. At convention, Gina received several boxes of blank certificates from Dave Howell. Today, she received a bag of pins from Dave Howell. Still working on the merging the old certificates and getting them to their departments for distribution. She is still working on the new pamphlet to promote the Association and will be bringing a draft copy to the October board meeting for the board to review. We will be using this pamphlet to hand out to individuals at functions like Winter Fire School.

Motion to accept report: Brent Marshall
2nd: Bob Harrison

Motion passes.

Report of the Membership Steward:

Perry indicated that Dave Howell is still receiving dues checks. He would appreciate everyone getting the word out to the departments that those should be mailed to him and not Dave. At the bottom of the invoices is his mailing address so that everyone knows where the checks should go. He will be sending out a 2nd invoice to those who have not paid. There are 10 departments who are a year behind. Last year at this meeting, we had 346 lifetime members. Now we have 493. He believes that a lot of that is due to the automatic lifetime member at 50 years, but he has been picking up several members who are paying for theirs. Last year we had 32 paid departments. This year we are up to 50. Last year we had 1,184 members who were paid up, this year we are at 1,804. Last year we had 119 new members. Right now we are at 138. We've picked up a few departments that haven't paid for a few years. If you have any departments around you, please talk to them. We would like to get them involved in the Association if they haven't been.

Motion to accept report: Leon Hadley
2nd: Roger Christensen

Report of the Law & Legislative Committee: Ryan indicated that this is a light time of the year for Law and Legislative. We do have some things that they are watching for this upcoming year. There is still a move to try to get rid of Tier 2 and go back to Tier

I for the career guys. There is a window of opportunity to do that and they are working with the PFFU on that. There are some changes to fire code that are coming through the committee and anyone that wants information on those can contact Ryan and he will write them up for them. If anyone has a particular bill that they have a question on, just call Ryan or email him and he will find out the answer and get it back to you. Ryan indicated that with the Trustees approval, he would like to get our name out there pushing these issues that are good for our membership, whether it has to do with safety, retirement, line-of-duty death benefits, etc. If we can show our State's firefighters that there is a benefit to be in this Association, because there are people who will stand up and fight for them that are part of this Association, he believes it could help increase our membership. Ryan feels that if you haven't come to a Convention to see what our Association does for it's members, you wonder what's the benefit to being a member. It seems that the younger firefighters on the job don't know what we do and we need to do something to show that the Association is a great organization to be a part of. Ryan is planning to come up with some issues that we can fight for that benefits both volunteer and career firefighters. If you can think of anything that you think this Association should be fighting for, he encourages the members to let the Board know. You can call Ryan and he will talk to the Board as well. Ryan said that several years ago while he was involved on the hill through the union, he contacted Jay Westergaard regarding a career issue that was coming up on the hill because he couldn't get anyone up there due to shift change. When he got to the Capitol, there were 12 members from Garland Fire and about 6 members from Tremonton that Jay brought up that were standing there in uniform to support a bill career bill that had nothing to do with them and only benefited what Ryan was there fighting for, which was a union issue, because of that, Ryan can point to a bill that volunteer firefighters helped with and tell career firefighters that the presence of those volunteer firefighters on the hill helped that bill pass. This is the message that Ryan wants to get out to all firefighters who aren't members.

Motion to accept: Leonard Miller
2nd Coty Chadburn

Motion passes.

Report from State Fire Prevention Board: Mike Phillips indicated that at the past Prevention Board meeting, they were given an issue to audit the Fire and Rescue Academy's budget. In doing so, they found a short fall of money. Coy Porter indicated that it is state-wide from retirement to Fire Academy and that short fall comes from how the Utah State Tax Commission divides out the money that comes from the insurance companies. In Tuesdays meeting there will be a presentation by Coy and the Utah Fire and Rescue Academy will be presenting their budget, which will not go through because of the short fall. There will be some cuts made there because of that. The Utah State Tax Commission is working with them to try to get back the money that was lost and then try to change how the money is divided up in the future. This affects everyone from retirements, to benefits to the Utah Fire & Rescue Academy.

Motion to accept: Brady George
2nd Ryan Mellor

Motion passes

Report from Standards and Training Council: Gina received a report from Jason Winn. She read the report to the membership. Hugh Connor, Chuck Query, and Brad Wardle of UFRA presented the budget request for the 2017-2018 budget requesting additional ongoing funding of \$52,000.00 to cover cost of living increases. A motion was made and seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Brad is spearheading the UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) project. The history on this is that West Jordan Fire Department contacted UVU Aviation and wanted to engage in a contractual agreement where the aviation department would create a curriculum and model policies and operator training for West Jordan to be the model for the Utah Fire Service in terms of UAS during fire operations. The aviation Dept. had some difficulty getting this thing off the deck, so the Dean contacted Jason and asked him if this was really in our lane at all and Jason told him that it was part of the strategic plan, that we would be doing some exploring in the area of UAS and he said "great, it's now yours". There was a meeting with Jason, Brad, the city manager of West Jordan, the Fire Chief of West Jordan to get a feel for what it was they wanted and needed. Brad indicated that the purpose of the UAS is to increase the situational awareness and to bring further information to the incident commanders on scene. Once they define the parameters for operating these drones, then they will incorporate that into the command training curriculum. It is relatively inexpensive to implement and the benefits of it are going to increase. Things that we don't have right now at our command post, we will have with a UAS. This is not a law enforcement type tool, it's an incident commanders tool, utilized for increased situational awareness.

Brad gave a quick brief on the Company Officer Inspector course. We are nearing the end of the development stages and starting the implementation of testing to see how this thing works. We have had two internal reviews, Chuck, Hugh, Brad, the people from blended learning; Dustin Berlin and Dalene Rowley, who is really the point person on the blended learning side for us. Those reviews and the subsequent comments and direction have been given and are implemented. We have one more review which is on the 24th with the program managers. We will finish that up internally. The next step to that would be our subject matter experts;

Ted, Scott Black and Bob Silverthorne giving the course, to kind of go through and it will be kind of a blend of your subject matter experts but we also want you to look at this from an instructor perspective but also a student perspective to make sure we've captured what we were intending here, which is basically to give an inspection course to those who are perspective Company Officers or Company Officers. It's turning out to be very nicely done as far as the videos and the information that you will see as you go through it. I would hope that based on the subject matter expert review which will be in June that we will start our pilot courses either late June or in July. It's basically 10 modules, but it will be an eight week course. You will be certified not as Inspector but there will be a certificate of completion that the academy will give you.

Motion to accept: Brady George
2nd Ryan Mellor

Motion passes.

Report From National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC):

Wendell indicated that he was given a carbon copy paper discussing the elimination of face shields and replacing them with goggles from a specific company. Wendell was the only person who caught this and he expressed his concerns regarding this consideration in their meeting in Colorado last month. Wendell is happy to report that the goggles will be optional and the change will not take place. Wendell indicated that we were in line to receive 55 sets of display gear from Globe. He then received an email from the President of the National Volunteer Fire Council saying that there are seven departments in West Virginia that have lost everything due to the flooding so Wendell offered to donate the gear (840 lbs of PPE) to help them out to West Virginia. He met with Globe in Colorado a week earlier and they indicated how pleased they were to help out with the gear that they and our Association donated. Wendell handed them two letters they received from West Virginia to the representative from Globe. They indicated that those letters were going to be included in their newspaper. They were more than happy to help out getting the gear shipped. The value of the gear was \$110,000.00. West Virginia provided a credit card number to Wendell to cover the cost of the shipping.

Wendell said he set down the envelope with his department's certificates while at convention and needs new ones made up. Gina indicated that Brady brought the envelope to her and she has it. She will get them mailed to Wendell.

Brent indicated that a National Registration is being created for all firefighters with cancer. They haven't figured out how to gather all the information accurately. Let your doctors know that you are a volunteer firefighter so they can determine which cancers are predominant in firefighters. Since volunteers have other professions, they won't consider you a firefighter if you don't tell them and then they will list you as your full time profession whatever that may be.

Motion to accept report: Leon Hadley
2nd Andy McBride

Motion passed.

Report of the Fire Marshals Office:

None.

Report of the Trustee's:

Brady George welcomed the new board members. He discussed the bylaws that went into effect at Convention. The first one was the changing the death benefit to a flat \$500.00 benefit with no additional amount for addition of a marker. The other was deduction in the Secretary's quarterly payment from \$600.00 to \$300.00, making the Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Steward equal. The Board has discussed possible changes in the bylaws to be considered for next convention. The first one is changing the wording on the what constitutes a member to cover all possibilities for membership that we have. There is opportunity to increase our funds in dues by changing our bylaws slightly in what the requirements are to be a member. There are many organizations outside our state that are already doing this. Brady has been tasked with putting something together to take to the membership at our next Convention. If anyone has suggestions or comments regarding this or any other way that we can increase our financial stability, please contact Brady. The next issue that we are looking at is changing the cost of dues from \$12.00 per year to \$15.00 per year. It was brought to the Board and the Board voted unanimously to put this through to the membership. It's been about 20 years since there has been a dues increase. He indicated that the total impact on our members with a \$3.00 increase would be \$5,400.00 with over 1,800 members in place. So the change is minimal and we need to keep up with the pace of the changing environment that we live in. The membership is dropping off due to younger firefighters not joining our organization. This is putting a financial stress on our Association. There are three ways we can correct that; the first is to increase

the dues, the second is to stop some of the benefits that we are providing our members and the third is increase the number of members we have. Perry has been doing a great job working on catching some of our members up with dues and we've given Perry a little latitude to work with departments in catching up their dues or restarting their memberships over again so we can get them back into the Association. The last item that was discussed in our bylaws is to change the wording regarding convention so it falls on the second weekend of June. Right now the bylaws state that convention will be held on the second Thursday, Friday and Saturday in June. That creates some confusion when the first weekend of June falls on a Friday. By changing this bylaw, that will eliminate that confusion. The Board would like to thank Wendell for redirecting the turnouts to West Virginia. It's great to our Association name out there with a simple gesture that really didn't cost our Association anything. Also, if you haven't signed the card that is going around, please take the time to sign that so we can show our support to South Salt Lake Fire. Weber Fire District recently responded to a call where a man fell off a roof and passed away. The crew went back to finish the roof for the family. We will be creating a letter of thanks to send to that department and letting them know how much we appreciate them representing us so well. We will also get that posted on our Facebook account for other members throughout the State to see. We always welcome comments from our members of his Association.

Merlin Baker asked if we have something currently in our bylaws that allows for corporations and other agencies to become members? Brady indicated that there wasn't anything that he could see. We can give honorary memberships but that doesn't require them to pay dues and it doesn't give them any benefits. Merlin says that we was sure that there was something in the bylaws. Brady will go back and double check on that. Lance asked Merlin to also look to see if he can find where he saw that. Merlin said it was about the time that State Forestry and BLM was considered. Ryan Mellor remembers a lively discussion took place when he was President but he believes that the decision at the time was to not allow it.

Motion to accept report: Harold Chadwick
2nd Leon Hadley

Motion passes.

Report of the Convention Chairman:

Travis asked to be excused for the General Meeting, but Lance indicated that Richfield is in the planning stages. Cards are here and available to be picked up that provide information on hotels that Richfield has blocked.

Motion to accept report: Ryan Mellor
2nd - Brady George

Passed.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

President Nay mentioned a tube that was in the room that had a firework go off it in so just wanted to make sure that we don't take the fireworks for granted. Lance wanted to give a special thank you to the guys from his department and the auxiliary for putting together the dinner that was going to be served. Ryan Mellor echoed Lance's comment thanking Richfield for their hospitality.

The bylaws were brought up and the only thing that was found was wording for honorary memberships. It will still be checked into.

The Quarterly Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina M. Bell, Secretary

REMINDER: NEXT MEETING WILL BE OCTOBER 8TH AT THE UTAH STATE FIRE MUSEUM (2930 UT-112 IN GRANTSVILLE). Installation of new board members at 12:00 p.m., General meeting at 5:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to gina.bell@slcgov.com or 801-580-2336 by October 4th.