

NEBRASKA STATE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
129th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
1ST GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION - AM
OCTOBER 21, 2011

FREMONT CLARION INN, FREMONT, NEBRASKA
HOSTED BY NICKERSON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The First General Business Session of the 129th NSVFA Annual Conference was held on October 21, 2011, at the Fremont Clarion Inn, Fremont, Nebraska, with the Nickerson Volunteer Fire Department hosting the event.

President, Joel Cerny, Linwood VFD, called the assembly to order at 8:00am. Ralston VFD Honor Guard presented the flags. NSVFA Chaplain, Todd Burpo, Imperial, provided the invocation, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Nickerson Fire Chief, Rick Tucker welcomed the assembly. Credential officials were Don Kuhr, Blair; Ron Chada, North Platte; Craig Bristol, North Platte; and Don Nelson, Fremont. Also present were: 1st Vice President, Dave Heywood, Snyder VFD; 2nd Vice President, Cleon Schwede, Battle Creek VFD; Secretary-Treasurer, William "Bill" Lundy-York VFD; Legal Advisor, James M. Egr-David City; Lobbyist, Gerald Stilmock-Syracuse; and District Directors, Warren Bertrang-Valentine VFD; Dave Bertram-North Platte VFD; and Pat Moore-Dakota City VFD. District Director, George Teixeira, Syracuse, was unable to attend the conference.

President, Joel Cerny, responded with thank yous to the Nickerson Fire Department for their dedicated work in hosting the conference and the Nebraska Firefighters Museum and Education Center and Memorial Garden and Ogallala Fire Department for hosting the Nebraska Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service the September 10th. President Cerny then declared the Annual Conference open for business.

President Cerny called Secretary/Treasurer, William "Bill" Lundy, to the podium. Roll call of attending departments was taken by Secretary-Treasurer, Lundy-York with 45 departments answering roll call.

Joel Cerny, President, reviewed the schedule for the remainder of the conference including committee reports, nominations, delegate meetings and voting and banquet.

Crosby Grindle, Northwest Regional Director of the National Fire Protection Association was introduced and addressed the assembly. He visited briefly about what his training class would address at 1:00pm and offered that www.evsaftytraining.org regarding NFPA's Electric Vehicle project and including training for response to electric and hybrid electric vehicles is a good training site for departments to use.

Susie Flynn, California Casualty informed the assembly that California Casualty auto and home insurance is provided specifically for emergency personnel and educators and that it is a benefit of NSVFA membership. California Casualty has been a family owned company since 1914 and will give the insured credit for the number of years they have been with a previous company. The insurance does provide up to \$500 coverage for turn out gear in vehicles, coverage on a vandalized vehicle or a vehicle that is a victim of a hit and run while on scene. A Fallen Hero Benefit is included that will cover the family's insurance for the year of death and the year following. Susie pointed out that persons completing the application provided at conference will be entered in a give away for a Harley Davidson. In addition, if a member obtains a quote today, they will be entered for a \$50 visa card drawing.

The minutes of the 2010 Annual Conference were passed out. Eric Rasmussen, Southeast Rural, made a motion seconded by Bob Boshart, Milford, to suspend with the reading of the 2010 Annual Conference minutes and to approve as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

Business of the Association:

Secretary/Treasurer, Bill Lundy, addressed the State of the Association with a PowerPoint presentation that included:

1. NSVFA Mission Statement, Tag Line, and Web Site
2. Membership Growth showing 6,981 registered members as of October 13, 2011, and detailed by District as:
 - a. District # 1 533
 - b. District # 2 2,006
 - c. District # 3 1,273
 - d. District # 4 3,156
 - e. Associate Members 13
 - f. (Also noted was 721 Non-Member Subscriptions to the Nebraska Firefighter newspaper)
3. Membership Renewal Schedule
 - a. July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 = Current Membership term
 - b. July 1 to September 1 = Grace period for enrollment that is in effect for continuation of The Nebraska Firefighter newspaper and the \$4,000 accidental death and dismemberment insurance benefits. If members' dues are not renewed by September 1, the benefits of the newspaper and insurance will not continue until memberships are renewed.
 - c. The Nebraska Firefighter newspaper annual subscription begins with the October issue and ends with the September issue.
 - d. "New" members paid by September 1 will receive the October NE FF issue as their initial issue of the newspaper.
 - e. October 1 = Second membership deadline to renew in order to vote at Annual Conference.
 - f. December 31 = Third membership deadline to qualify for a fire school member discount class fee for the following year's fire school.
 - g. It is best to enroll new members to your department as soon as possible in the NSVFA to qualify them for the insurance and other benefits including the newspaper – do not wait until Fire School.
4. Benefits of Membership
 - a. Annual Conference
 - b. ATIRACredit Platinum Mastercard
 - c. Columbia Southern University Partnership
 - d. Committees
 - e. Communications--NE Firefighter Publication, Email, Constant Contact, Verbal
 - f. Enterprise Rental Discounts
 - g. Insurances -- American Income Life Accidental Death/Dismemberment, California Casualty Auto/Home Ins., Provident LODD Insurance
 - h. Liaison with Nebraska Fire Chief's Association
 - i. Legal Counsel
 - j. Legislation/Lobbying
 - k. National Representation
 - l. Nebraska Firefighter News Publication
 - m. Nebraska Firefighter Museum and Education Center / Memorial Garden
 - n. Professional Development (Fire School and Fire Chief's Seminars)
 - o. Recognition (Individual and Department Awards at Fire School) (NSVFA 25-50 year Membership Awards)
 - p. Scholarships (\$750 and \$500 scholarships available through NSVFA and Nebraska Fire Chief's Association respectively)
 - q. State Agency Cooperation

5. Benefit Report

- a. ATIRACredit Master Card: In 2009, the NSVFA partnered with ATIRACredit and the NSVFA portfolio now has 57 accounts. Departments are encouraged to obtain a Credit card with ATIRA master card as well as encourage members and family members to use the cards.
- b. American Income Life: American Income Life continues to partner with the Association to bring to each member complimentary, \$4,000 accidental death and dismemberment coverage as a benefit of membership. The NSVFA knows of eight families who have received these benefits since 2005. Three claims were recently submitted.
- c. The Nebraska Firefighter newspaper is now four years old and considered a valuable source of information for Nebraska firefighters. Articles are presenting in a professional manner and are well read. Please continue to support the "Firefighter" with department articles, photos and events.
- d. Provident LODD Insurance: The LODD \$1,500 Line of Duty Death benefit is available. To date, fortunately, there has not been a payment since initiation in March of 2009.
- e. The California Casualty Auto and Home Insurance became effective October 1, 2010, and is available to all members.
- f. NPAIT and Columbia Southern University as well as an agreement with Enterprise Rent a Car continue to benefit members of association.

8. E Board Accomplishments:

- a. October 30, 2010: Four NSVFA Executive Board members attended the Iowa States Networking Meeting in Johnston, Iowa.
- b. November 8, 2010: Three Gold Corporate Sponsors had committed support to the NSVFA: Ball Insurance, Center for Preparedness Education and Danko.
- c. November 10, 2010: The Recruitment & Retention Committee assisted by the NSVFA E Board established a plan to complete the Safer Grant by promoting TV PSAs on TV stations throughout the State of Nebraska.
- d. January 18, 2011: The NSVFA, partnering with the NSVFAA, hosted the fifth annual Senators' Appreciation Breakfast at the State Capitol, Lincoln. This very successful event was attended by 25 senators, Lt. Governor Rick Sheehy, numerous emergency service organizations, the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Nebraska Forest Service. 34 NSVFA members and 9 State Auxiliary assisted.
- e. January 29, 2011: A legislative stance meeting was conducted by the NSVFA and NE Fire Chief's E Boards at the Schuyler Fire Station. The meeting included both associations' EMS and Legislative Committees.
- f. February and March, 2011: The NSVFA E Board represented the NSVFA at the Les Lukert Winter Conference and NEMSA Spring Conference.
- g. April 3 – April 8, 2011: Three NSVFA representatives attended the National Volunteer Fire Council spring meeting and Annual Congressional Fire Institute Conference.
- h. May 20-22, 2011: The 74th Annual Nebraska State Fire School was attended by 1,174 students representing 246 departments. More information will be provided in the Fire School Committee report.
- i. July 9, 2011: A Pre-Conference meeting held in Fremont was attended by NSVFA Officers as well as Nickerson VFD Co-Chairpersons, Dan and Rick Tucker & other Nickerson volunteers. Also attending were Central NE Firefighters Assn. members (Conf host- 2012), Wymore FD volunteers and Nebraska City FD volunteers who are potential future hosts.
- j. July 30, 2011: The NSVFA E Board voted to renew the Nebraska Firefighter contract with Blaze Publications after a request for quotes was published and bids received.
- k. August 27, 2011: A Legislative Planning Meeting for the upcoming Legislative session was held at Clarkson with 14 persons in attendance representing the NSVFA and Nebraska Fire Chiefs Association, their Legislative and EMS Committees, Lobbyist and Legal Counsel.
- l. August 30, 2011: Constant Contact is one year old and has 467 active contacts (members). Help us add to the information flow by signing up on the NSVFA web home page and be included in email lists to receive important announcements of General Interest, Legislative and Training and Events.
- m. September 10, 2011, The NSVFA E Board was represented at the Nebraska Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service located at the Nebraska Firefighters Museum and Education Center Memorial Garden at Kearney Nebraska. The NSVFA is a sponsor of the Memorial Service.
- n. September 13, 2011: Proclamation signings for Campus Fire Safety Month, (September, 2011); Fallen Firefighter Recognition Day (September 10, 2011) and Fire Prevention Week (October 9-15, 2011) by Governor Dave Heineman were attended by NSVFA E Board and NSVFA Fire Prevention Committee representatives.
- o. September 28 – Oct 1, 2011: NVFC Reprs., Norman Hoeft and John Bomar attended the NVFC fall meeting in New York. Legal Counsel, Jim Egr attended the State Benefits Summit, Sept 24-28, 2011, co-located with the NVFC meeting.

- p. September, 2011: The NSVFA E Board and Improvement Committee conducted a survey of the membership using Constant Contact.
- q. September 23, 2011: The NSVFA E Board signed a contract for services with the UNO to estimate the value of services and contribution of volunteer firefighters to Nebraska and its communities by analyzing different sources of information. This information will be used to educate Nebraska senators to improve promotion of legislation.
- r. October, 2011: California Casualty Auto and Home Insurance member benefit is one year old having been introduced at the 2011 Annual Conference. California Casualty recently paid the NSVFA a \$3,000 royalty fee.

Bill Lundy concluded the State of the Association address requesting support from the assembly for the January 17, 2012, Senator's Appreciation Breakfast which is the sixth breakfast scheduled by the NSVFA. Details will be published at a later date.

Legislative Issues and Committee Report

President Joel Cerny introduced Jim Egr, NSVFA Legal Counsel and Gerald Stilmock, NSVFA Lobbyist who provided the Legislative Report in the absence of Legislative Committee Chairperson, Tom Hamernik. At the end of the report, Jerry Stilmock announced the members of the 2010-2011 NSVFA Legislative Committee who were Tom Hamernik, Micheal Dwyer, Eric Rasmussen, John Sing, and Chuck Vyhnalek and thanked the committee for their help and participation.

The following PowerPoint was presented with additional details provided by Messrs Stilmock and Egr:

1. 2011 Legislation of Interest to Members:

- a. LB 106, County Option Sales Tax Act: – This bill was passed with fire and rescue included which at one time had been removed. This is another tool that counties can use if no more levy is available.
- b. LB 121, Repeal Reporting Requirement of Number of Volunteers: This bill repeals the requirement of political subdivisions to annually report the number of volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel to the State Fire Marshal as well as repealing the requirement of political subdivisions to notify the SFM within 30 days after adopting a service award benefit program.
 - We are not sure how this will affect future government decisions because as government gets bigger, historical information is beneficial. The NSVFA has just signed a contract with UNO, in consultation with the NSVFA, to estimate the value of the services and the contribution of volunteer firefighters to Nebraska communities and the State of Nebraska by studying numerous resources of information. It is hoped this study will help Nebraska senators better understand the volunteer status in Nebraska.
- c. LB 248, Burn Permits and Expand Definition of Plan for Conducting Prescribed Burn: Approved by Governor Heineman May 17, 2011. Jim Egr indicated that he had received a number of calls regarding burn permits and because it has been so dry, departments are taking a stance that there will be no burning. Prescribed Burn Permits use to include only rangeland but has been expanded to CRP land. CRP ground policies dictate that this ground be burned or lightly disked and seeded which is causing questions. There are certain parts of the state that have done an excellent job of educating people about prescribed burns including that those holding a burn permit must notify the Fire Chief before starting a burn. A grant has been received to use for training.
- d. LB 260, Adopt the Concussion Awareness Act: This bill will be enabled July 1, 2012. NSVFA will continue to bring out portions of this to educate our members. The EMS Committee will keep departments informed of updates and expectations of this bill in respect to Fire Departments. Handouts of education awareness about this subject matter will have to be provided to parents. Coaches will be required to have a student examined if they suspect a concussion has occurred.
- e. LB 374, Budget Bill: This bill reduces MFO funding from the historical amount of \$3,650,000 to \$3,029,500 in each of the next two fiscal years, a reduction of 17 percent. NSVFA's approach will be to talk to the governor in the fall of 2012 asking that if the economy turns around, to consider reinstatement of previously deleted MFO funds.
- f. LB 441, Restore Levy Authority to Fire Districts: This was NSVFA sponsored legislation and will be a priority of the NSVFA this next legislative session. It was stated by one of the senators that this bill looks like a tax increase and will never fly. NSVFA now has current information to give to the Legislative Committee members. We try to educate the Senators that if there is no tax levy authority that the fire departments cannot operate. The bill appears to affect 6 out of 93 counties which is not a huge number to the legislature and one of the hurdles faced by this bill. Jim Egr urged attendees to attend their city and village board meetings, to hear what is happening. Departments need to educate local governments what the cost will be to the community if they don't have volunteers. Don't hide the good things your department does for the city.

g. LB 469, Prohibit Sale/Distribution of Novelty Lighters:

In explaining this bill to the State Committee, the Committee indicated that “government doesn’t need to be that big”. This bill went to the Judiciary Committee because it had a criminal attachment and in the committee’s thoughts, this bill did not rate as high a priority as others they were involved in.

This bill will remain priority Legislation for the NSVFA this next session. Some suggestions made to assist with the progress of this bill at the Legislative Planning Meeting were:

- Draft a letter for volunteers to send to the Legislature/Senators
- Educate fire investigators to look for the “toy” lighters that may cause a fire.
- Since most of the Committee members are from Omaha & Lincoln, work with the professional firefighters to become more proactive in regards to this bill.

h. LB 546, Remove Residential Sprinklers From 2009 International Residential Code: Approved by Governor Heineman April 14, 2011. On May 26, 2011, portions of LB437 were amended into LB546 by AM348. This will fall on the towns when they adopt their own building codes.

Aggressive Programs in place to enhance the NSVFA Legislative Program

- Continue pushing forward on the tax levy and novelty lighter legislation.
- Questionnaire to senatorial candidates.
- Attend October 27, 2011, DHHS hearing regarding proposed changes to regulations related to EMS.
- Senator Lathrop and the NSVFA have one year to work on continuation of the Mental Mental legislation before its sunset. In particular, a plan needs to be developed to track claims relevant to this bill. Lobbyist Stilmock is meeting with others about this and more information will follow.
- January 17, 2012, Sixth Annual Senators Breakfast - Watch for information.
- 2012 Legislative Stance Meetings to be scheduled later in legislative session.
- Numerous hearings were attended in 2011 by NSVFA, Fire Chief E Boards and members, Lobbyist and Legal Counsel and this needs to continue in 2012.
- Letters written, teleconferences scheduled, lobbying of Senators regarding legislation important to fire and EMS. Legislative alerts emailed to department contacts.
- Complimentary Nebraska Firefighter newspapers provided to all Senators, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General.

4. How Can You Help? Be proactive – not reactive -- How?

- Attend town meetings with your Senators
- Contact your Senator by phone or in writing – Plan to attend Senators Appreciation Breakfast
- Attend hearings on behalf of the NSVFA
- Invite your Senator to department functions
- Toot your department’s horn – your departments are serving others – help others to support your departments.

IN CONCLUSION: Lobbyist Stilmock spoke about Workers Compensation Coverage for municipalities for volunteers. Some communities are covering volunteers with one policy and some are using two, one from the community and one from the Fire District. Some volunteer departments are being pushed to higher costs and Jerry asked participants to notify him if you are having issues with workers compensation.

Mr. Stilmock reminded participants that eight senators are term limiting out and encouraged members to stay involved in the election process. Jerry will be sending out a questionnaire to candidates for the NSVFA to find out their knowledge about Fire/EMS departments.

Jim Egr reported that at the Benefits Conference, it was reported that entities are tracking the PSOB benefit as there are areas of change occurring with this benefit. Jim will be reporting more about this in future newspaper articles.

Committee Reports: Please reference pages 11-17 for committee reports provided at this morning’s General Session and successive sessions throughout the General Business Sessions of the Association.

OFFICER and 2013 CONFERENCE HOST NOMINATIONS:

2011-2012 N.S.V.F.A. nominations for all elected positions and the 2013 Host Department were called for by President, Joel Cerny. Following three calls for nominations for each position, motions were accepted to cease nominations. Nominations and motions are recorded in the paragraphs below:

<N.S.V.F.A. President Nominations>

Rhonda Cerny, Linwood, nominated Dave Heywood, Snyder Fire Department.
Don Nelson, Fremont, made a motion seconded by Bob Boshart, Milford that nominations cease.
The motion passed unanimously.

<N.S.V.F.A. First Vice-President Nominations>

Michael Fleer, Battle Creek, nominated Cleon Schwede, Battler Creek Fire Department.
John Bomar, Madison, made a motion, seconded by Bob Tichota, Blair, that nominations cease.
The motion passed unanimously.

<N.S.V.F.A. Second Vice-President Nominations>

Ralph Quick, North Platte, and the Mid Plains Mutual Aid District, nominated Dave Bertram, North Platte Fire Department.
Don Nelson, Fremont, made a motion, seconded by Jay Templar, Gering that nominations cease.
The motion passed unanimously.

<N.S.V.F.A Secretary/Treasurer Nominations>

Eric Rasmussen, Southeast Rural, nominated William "Bill" Lundy, York Fire Department.
Ron Chada, North Platte, made a motion seconded by Randy Barnes, York that nominations cease. The motion passed unanimously.

<N.S.V.F.A. Director # 1>

No nominations per election of 2010 Annual Conference when Warren Bertrang, Valentine VFD, was elected for a two year term.

<N.S.V.F.A. Director # 2>

Jim Gustin, Dakota City, nominated Pat Moore, Dakota City Fire Department.
Rhonda Meyer, Blair, made a motion seconded by Dave Parsons, Schuyler that nominations cease.
The motion passed unanimously.

<N.S.V.F.A. Director # 3>

No nominations per election of 2010 Annual Conference when Dave Bertram, North Platte VFD, was elected for a two year term. Per Article Six, Section 4 of the Constitution and By-Laws, the Board of Directors shall have the authority to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors should Mr. Bertram be elected 2nd Vice President at the 2011 Conference.

<N.S.V.F.A. Director # 4>

Current by-laws state Past President, Joel Cerny, Linwood Fire Department be placed on the ballot. There were no other nominations. Ron Chada, North Platte, made a motion seconded by John Virgl, Wahoo that nominations cease. The motion passed unanimously.

<N.S.V.F.A. – N.V.F.C. Director>

Layne Pyzer, North Platte, nominated Norman Hoeft, David City Fire Department. Sarah Isaac, Kearney, made a motion seconded by Doug Matulka, David City, that nominations cease. The motion passed unanimously.

<2013 N.S.V.F.A. Annual Conference Host Department Nominations>

Mark Meints, Wymore, nominated Wymore Fire Department as host for the 2013 NSVFA Annual Conference. John Bomar, Madison, made a motion seconded by Randy Janicek, Columbus that nominations cease. The motion passed unanimously.

**Election Committee Report
Committee Chairperson: Layne Pyzer**

Election Committee Chairperson, Layne Pyzer invited the assembly to vote, Saturday, October 22, 2011, between the hours of 8:00am and 11:00am. Voters will be required to show their registrations in order to vote. Members are listed in the data base being used to review membership so membership cards will not be needed if you don't have them but it will help to speed the process if you can show your membership card. The polls will be held in Conference Room # 102, at the Fremont Clarion Inn.

President, Joel Cerny recessed the assembly at 11:18am reminding attendees to attend the Fire House of Delegates and EMS House of Delegates meetings at 1:00pm and that the General Session would reconvene at 3:00pm.

NEBRASKA STATE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
129th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
1ST GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION CONTINUED – 3:00 PM
OCTOBER 21, 2011

President, Joel Cerny, reconvened the 1st General Business Session at 3:02pm. An announcement was made that the museum auction would be held immediately following the banquet and that items for the auction could be left with Lindsay Schuntz, Director.

Gregg Ericksen invited everyone to attend the 2012 Annual Conference, October 18-21, 2012, in Kearney. The Conference Headquarters will be the Holiday Inn, Kearney, who will be taking reservations 50 weeks prior to the conference which will be approximately mid-November. Please specify that you are attending the NSVFA Conference to receive the \$84.95 special motel room rate.

FIRE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

President, Joel Cerny, called upon 1st Vice President, Dave Heywood, to provide a report from the Fire House of Delegates: 1st Vice President Heywood reported that the following motions were made at the Fire House of Delegates.

Pat Gould, Chadron, made a motion seconded by Rod Buethe, Gretna that the association set a basic level educational minimum of 40 hours that individuals must acquire and have documented in their first year as a firefighter on a department.

South Sioux City made a motion seconded by Dean Ulrich, Wakefield, that the Fire House of Delegates be moved before the General Assembly at future Annual Conferences.

NSVFA President Cerny indicated the motions from the Fire House of Delegates would be acted on at general session, Saturday, October 22, 2011.

EMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES

President, Joel Cerny, called upon 2nd Vice President, Cleon Schwede, to provide a report from the EMS House of Delegates. 2nd Vice President Schwede reported that the following items were discussed at the EMS House of Delegates:

1. Scott and Carrie Crawford, Scribner, made a presentation on the feasibility of paramedicine in Nebraska.
2. Kendell Brichacek reviewed several EMS happenings at the State level.
3. The EMS house also passed a motion to move the House before the General Assembly in future years. John Bomar explained that it had been changed to support committee meetings. This motion will also be acted on at the general session, Saturday, October 22, 2011.

The preceding statements conclude the reports from the 2011 Fire and EMS House of Delegates.

John Falgione provided reports from the State Fire Marshal office. SFMTD happenings for this next year were explained. Chuck Hoffman also reported on this at the Nebraska Fire Chiefs meeting. The SFM office has transitioned fairly seamlessly and John welcomes anyone's feedback. SFM John Falgione concluded that his agency has a good working relationship with the NSVFA, one which they want to continue and will work with the Association as much as they can and thanked the Association for all the support especially with the legislation. Lastly, John indicated the SFM has no authority over the pipeline.

President Cerny expressed the Association's appreciation for John attending Annual Conference and providing updates.

SFMTD Manager, Chuck Hoffman addressed the session about a 12 session, 36 hour course that will include Haz Mat Awareness that the SFMTD will have available soon. The course will not replace the FFI segment in place now nor will it be allowed to be substituted for any of the FFI education. It will include 12 topics that are critical to the beginning firefighter. The 12 topics are set and the first five, 3 hour sessions are finished and the Training Division is working on the last modules. The courses will be available on the SFMTD web site as an entire package including the skills and power point package. A department can access the package and provide it to their department on their own. You can teach it yourself or you can choose to have the SFMTD teach it for you. If the SFMTD teaches it, they will maintain the records and will issue to the department a certificate listing the individuals who completed the 12 topics. If a department teaches the sessions on their own, the department will keep the records. The Training Department would hope if a department uses the 12 sessions, they will not detract from it but add to it. Currently, the Training Department has asked 3 or 4 departments to run a pilot on the course so that they know it will be a creditable course to be presented. It is hopeful the 12 sessions will be available on the SFMTD web site by spring, 2012.

Lastly, Manager Hoffman indicated the TD is also expanding the certification classes that are offered in the State of Nebraska.

Following the SFM and TD reports, Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Lundy, showed the assembly how to join Constant Contact and also reviewed a few of the recent survey questions and answers and explained the E Board hopes to use the Constant Contact survey tool once or twice a year to survey the membership so please join Constant Contact.

Announcements followed and included that the Memorial service begins at 4:00pm today, Friday, October 21, 2011, and the assembly was reminded that the polls open at 8am and close at 11am, Saturday, October 22, 2011.

Joel Cerny, President, adjourned the 1st General Session at 3:45 pm. The 2nd General Session begins at 10:00am, Saturday, October 21, 2011, at the Fremont Clarion Inn.

Respectfully Submitted:
William L. Lundy
Secretary/Treasurer

NEBRASKA STATE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
129th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
2nd GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION
OCTOBER 22, 2011

President, Joel Cerny, Linwood VFD, called the assembly to order at 10:00am. Credential officials were Don Kuhr, Blair; Ron Chada, North Platte; Craig Bristol, North Platte; and Don Nelson, Fremont. Also present were: 1st Vice President, Dave Heywood, Snyder VFD; 2nd Vice President, Cleon Schwede, Battle Creek VFD; Secretary-Treasurer, William "Bill" Lundy-York VFD; Legal Advisor, James M. Egr-David City; Lobbyist, Gerald Stilmock-Syracuse; and District Directors, Warren Bertrang-Valentine VFD; Dave Bertram-North Platte VFD; and Pat Moore-Dakota City VFD. District Director, George Teixeira, Syracuse, was unable to attend the conference.

NSVFA Chaplain, Todd Burpo, Imperial, provided the invocation.

FIRE and EMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES MOTIONS:

President, Joel Cerny, called upon 1st Vice President, Dave Heywood, to review the motions made at the Fire House of Delegates. Motions from the Fire House of Delegates included:

At the Fire House of Delegates, Pat Gould, Chadron, had made a motion seconded by Rod Buethe, Gretna that the association set a basic level educational minimum of 40 hours that individuals must acquire and have documented in their first year as a firefighter on a department. At this general business session, Rempe, Superior, made the same motion seconded by Pat Gould, Chadron. The motion passed with a vote of 93 Yes, 1 Nay.

The second motion made at the Fire House of Delegates was made by South Sioux City and seconded by Dean Ulrich, Wakefield, that the Fire House of Delegates be moved before the General Assembly on Friday morning's agenda at future Annual Conferences. Mike Hoeft, North Platte, made the same motion seconded by Norman Hoeft, David City, with the addition that the two motions from the Fire House and EMS House of Delegates be voted on together to move the two houses at future Annual Conferences before the General Assembly on Friday morning's agenda.

The motion passed unanimously.

President, Joel Cerny, called upon 2nd Vice President, Cleon Schwede, to review motions from the EMS House of Delegates.

It was reported that a motion had been made at the EMS House of Delegates by Dakota City and seconded by Dodge that the EMS House of Delegates go on record to not support mandatory 48 hour reporting in an effort to help Kendell Brichacek when she testifies at the October 27 DHHS hearing. At this general business session, John Bomar, Madison made the same motion seconded by Dakota City.

The motion passed unanimously.

A second motion had been made at the EMS House of Delegates by No Platte seconded by Battle Creek to have the House of Delegates moved before the General Assembly at future Annual Conferences. This motion had already been combined with the Fire House of Delegates motion of the same intent (Page 8 and 10) and passed unanimously.

President, Joel Cerny, asked Rob Loper from Provident Insurance to address attendees. Rob asked people to visit with him about any questions they have on current policies with their departments or the Association's LODD policy. Provident Insurance has partnered with AFLAC to create a cancer policy for volunteer firefighters. It is strictly a benefit for the members, spouses and children with different benefit levels for each. A member chooses the benefit amount. The insurance contains a reoccurrence benefit and additional occurrence benefit, a \$50 health screening benefit per calendar year and another option of heart and stroke coverage.

President Joel Cerny asked Lindsay Schuntz to the podium to visit about the museum. Lindsay presented a power point regarding the Nebraska Firefighters Hall of Fame three inaugural inductees including Mr. Donald L. Smeal, Dr. O.C. Kreymborg, & Mr. Larry L. Wiles who were honored on April 2, 2011, the focal points of the museum, displays, and children's play apparatus. Lindsay showed several photos of antique apparatus. Since visiting last time, the museum has been named one of the top 12 small museums of 2010 in Nebraska. Lindsay showed activities of the Jr. Firefighters Fun Day, one of the numerous special days celebrated at the museum. Lindsay told about name engravings and clothing available to departments and members and invited everyone to participate in the auction after the banquet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Computer and Equipment Committee

There was no report from the Computer and Equipment Committee.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee Report

Introduced by President Cerny was Jim Horn, Chairperson, who then introduced the other members of this committee, Don Kuhl and Cecil Hinrichs. Jim Horn reviewed the seven proposed by-law changes to be voted upon at this conference.

Article Six – Board of Directors -- Proposed By-Law Change # 1

- *SECTION 2: Currently Reads:*

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of this organization and four (4) District Directors. Said District Directors shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive two (2) year terms on the Board of Directors in such Board of Directors capacity. Two District Directors shall be elected each year with District Directors 1 and 3 elected in alternate years from District Directors 2 and 4. Alternating terms of election will assist with maintaining continued experience and capability to transfer acquired knowledge between the four District Director positions. (Amended 10/16/04 and 10/18/08)

- *Proposed Change:*

ADD THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ABOVE.

District Directors shall represent the district of which their department is located, not of their residence.

Article Seven – Fiscal Responsibilities -- Proposed By-Law Change # 2

- Add New SECTION 4:
New SECTION 4
All disbursement of funds for the continuation of NSVFA business are to be signed by two (2) of the four officers (President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President or Secretary/Treasurer).
Passage of the above will authorize the reviser of the by-laws to also adjust Article Nine to reflect the above change.

Article Nine – Duties of Officers -- Proposed By-Law Change # 3

- SECTION 1. PRESIDENT:
Add New Item J:
Item J: The President at the end of his/her term may elect to serve a one year term on the Board of Directors as an “At Large Member”. Should the President, at the end of his/her term, desire to run for another elected office of this Association, in choosing to do so, will waive the one year term as an “At Large Member”.

Comments:

Jim Horn announced that the recommendation from the Committee is not to vote for this Proposed By-Law Change # 3 as the Committee and E Board now realize it is not as clear as it should be. Ron Chada, North Platte, indicated they understand the intent. The problem they have is whether the At Large Member would be allowed to vote and if that happens, the voting rights should be taken away from the Secretary. President, Joel Cerny, commented that “In most years this would not come into play. It may be looked at next year after we look at what this position’s duties and responsibilities should be.”

Article Twelve – Elections --Proposed By-Law Change # 4

- SECTION 1. *Currently Reads:*
The election of Officers shall be done at the annual conference of the organization separately by ballot. District Director positions shall meet the same qualifications as per all candidates for office. However, their elected positions will be determined by the voting members within their own districts, which follow county lines (see district map). Only the immediate Past President’s name will be placed on the ballot for their respective district, without nomination. All other names being considered for District Director shall be nominated by the general membership, including those within the Past President’s District.....
- *Proposed Change:* DELETE WORDING UNDERLINED BELOW.
The election of Officers shall be done at the annual conference of the organization separately by ballot. District Director positions shall meet the same qualifications as per all candidates for office. However, their elected positions will be determined by the voting members within their own districts, which follow county lines (see district map). Only the immediate Past President’s name will be placed on the ballot for their respective district, without nomination. All other Names being considered for District Director shall be nominated by the general membership, including those within the Past President’s District. <Remaining Article Twelve – Elections, Section 1 remains unchanged.>

Comments:

Jim Horn indicates this just basically puts the President on the same level as anyone else.

Article Twelve – Elections -- Proposed By-Law Change # 5

- SECTION 2.
Currently Reads:
To qualify as an elector to vote for elective Officers, amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws of this organization, or to vote on any matter before this organization, one must be a member in good standing of this organization as provided in Article FOUR SECTIONS 1, 2, 3, and 4 of these Bylaws. (Amended 10/19/02)
- *Proposed Change:*
ADD THE FOLLOWING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ABOVE.
and shall have paid the registration fee for the Annual Conference.

Comments:

President Cerny: At last year’s conference there was a concern about who has the right to vote and the legal advisor read the by-laws and stated that the by-laws stipulate that members must pay the registration fee for the Annual Conference to vote.

Article Fifteen – Annual Conference -- Proposed By-Law Change # 6

- **SECTION 1: *Currently Reads:***
Any member of this organization in good standing, EXCEPT guest members, and who has registered for the annual conference of this organization shall be entitled to a voice vote at the annual conference of this organization.
- ***Proposed Change:* REMOVE WORDS UNDERLINED BELOW:**
Any member of this organization in good standing, EXCEPT guest members, and who has registered for the annual conference of this organization shall be entitled to a voice vote at the annual conference of this organization.

Article Sixteen – Registration Costs -- Proposed By-Law Change # 7

- **SECTION 1 and 2. *Currently Reads:***
SECTION 1. There is hereby created a registration fee for the Annual Conference of this organization for those who are Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the FIRE HOUSE OF DELEGATES or EMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES, which shall be different from those registering for just attending the Annual Conference of this organization and voting at elections. This registration fee for Delegates shall be set by the Board of Directors of this organization.
- **SECTION 2.** There is hereby created a registration fee for the Annual Conference of this organization for those attending said conference who are NOT Delegates or Alternate Delegates to the FIRE HOUSE OF DELEGATES or EMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES, and are attending for the Annual Conference's activities, which includes the Annual Conference itself, and for voting at elections. This registration fee for Annual Conference attendees not Delegates or Alternate Delegates shall be set by the Board of Directors of this organization.
- ***Proposed Change:***
Delete Sections 1 and 2 in their entirety and insert new Section 1 to read:
The registration fees for the Annual Conference shall be set by the Board of Directors.

A number of comments were received regarding the proposed By-Law changes:

1. Ron Chada, North Platte, addressed the attendees and thanked the committee for what they did. He then presented a PowerPoint file addressing, in his view, what it would cost a department to host a meeting if they had to register all their members just to vote.
2. In addition, Joel Cerny read a history of the voting results vs. registered annual conference participants which showed that in the past seven conferences, the highest number of votes cast had always been less than the number of persons registered at Annual Conference.
3. It was also pointed out that there is nothing in the by-laws that a host department has to register every member of their department when they host a conference.
4. The question was also asked that to vote at Annual Conference, shouldn't members take part in the meeting process and hear the issues and the candidates.
5. Jim Egr, Legal Counsel, invited members to bring back proposed by-law changes for the good of the Association.

Election Committee Report

Presenter: Layne Pyzer, North Platte, Committee Chairperson

Mr. Pyzer had presented the Election Committee report after nominations (page 7) but once again, encouraged all to provide their vote beginning at 8:00am and ending at 11:00am, Saturday, October 22, 2011, in the Clarion Inn Conference Room # 102.

EMS Committee Report

Presenter: Kendell Brichacek, Linwood, Chairperson

EMS Committee Chair, Kendell Brichacek, introduced the EMS Committee members, Sue Jacobus, Clint Rasmussen, Bob Rose and Brian Schlote. Chairperson, Brichacek reported on the activities of the EMS Committee for the 2010-2011 term:

Activities:

1. Supported the membership with articles in the Nebraska Firefighter.
2. Discussed legislative items with the Legislative Committee and the NSVFA E Board.
3. Attended the Senators Appreciation Breakfast.
4. The Committee has items on the web page and will be updating them soon.
5. The Committee attended State EMS Board meetings.
6. Meetings have been held with Dean Cole regarding a Paramedic Program.
7. The Committee assisted with EMS classes at Fire School and Kendell asked attendees to provide class ideas for the 2012 Fire School.
8. The Committee continues to strengthen relationships with other organizations such as NEMSA.
9. Will testify October 27, 2011, on the EMS rules and regulations. Kendell emphasized and encouraged departments to respond to this hearing particularly in regards to the 48 hour reporting procedure.
10. Kendell also discussed mechanical CPR for the First Responder.

Fire School Committee Report

Presented by Director, Eldon Moser, Yutan

Eldon Moser introduced the Fire School Committee and Eric Rasmussen, Assistant to the Committee. Mr. Moser thanked the SFM and SFMTD, Nebraska Forest Service and Eric Rasmussen for all they do for and during Fire School. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Moser discussed the following:

Analysis of numbers for the 2011 Fire School:

- Registration Records in Data Base.....1,730
- Students.....1,174
- Fire Departments Registered.....246
- Non-NSVFA Members.....210
- Instructors.....136
- Vendors Booths (134) with Vendor Participants of.....255
- Support Staff.....40
- Students completing 9 or more hours.....1,136
- Students canceling attendance from Fire School.....102

Fonner Park/Heartland Events Center Lease:

- New Rental Contract is for 2011 – 2016
- Rental Fee - \$4,000 with a possible increase based on the change of the Consumer Price Index each successive year.
- Rental fees include use of the new State Fair buildings which were a huge benefit this year.
- 2012 Dates = May 18 thru May 20

Fire School Committee Challenges:

- Students are still unhappy with noon lunches which cost \$19,130.91 in 2011.
- Finding Departments/Cities willing to donate equipment, trucks.
- Recruiting volunteer help.
- Students registering for fire school has not increased
(2008 – 1,253) (2009 – 1,247) (2010 – 1,242) (2011 – 1,174)
- Locating new, innovative classes and maintaining returning classes based on funds/SFMTD budget and instructors available.
- State budget cuts will affect Fire Marshal Training Division funding to support training at Fire School. SFMTD had suggested a two stage proposal to the FS Committee
 - Year 2011 - Stage 1: Proposed the Fire School support lodging of full time and part time and assistant instructor staff – approximately \$11,000. This support would allow the SFMTD to put approximately 760 hours of instruction back into the field.
 - Actual SFM Training Division Support paid was \$7,370.00 which was for part-time staff only.
 - Year 2012 - Stage 2: Because of SFMTD budget cuts, the SFMTD can only support 3 classes without support from NSVFA FS funds. To hold all classes, the SFMTD has asked for an approximate \$29,157.00 to support part time and assistant costs including lodging, meals/mileage and salaries. Issues of consequence resulting from such actions are being researched. (Tax, workman's comp and insurance)

75th Anniversary of Fire School - MAY 18-19-20, 2012

- Committee is currently seeking a special speaker.
- Committee is investigating a special pin, coin or patch to commemorate the anniversary.
- Your Assistance Is Needed –Volunteer to be part of a 75th Anniversary Committee to develop special programs for this anniversary.
 - Suggestions include photo corner or power point of old photos.
Old photos are also needed for collage on 75th anniversary edition of Fire School book.
 - A 75th Anniversary Quilt of old photos
 - “Old Timers” corner (chairs and tables for visitation)
 - Publishing a book of stories
 - Raffle
 - Vendor Appreciation Evening Meal

Eldon ended the Fire School presentation restating his request for volunteers to assist with the 75th or for ideas for the 75th or for any fire school.

Fire Prevention Committee Report

Presenter: Rhonda Cerny, Linwood, Chairperson

Fire Prevention Committee Chairperson, Rhonda Cerny, introduced the Fire Prevention Committee members, Ben Van Pelt, Bob Tichota and Jenie Maloney and reported on the activities of the Fire Prevention Committee for the 2010-2011 term:

1. Rhonda asked how many departments include an hour of fire prevention in forty hours of training and emphasized the importance of doing this.
2. Rhonda emphasized the 365 days of the year of fire prevention and urged departments to use the web to find good fire prevention education techniques.

3. The committee had calls this year requesting assistance for children programs. <http://dep.disney.go.com/search.html?q=&cat=0,21,0> has fire prevention children videos titled “Wild About Safety With Timon & Pumbaa: Safety Smart At Home”, “Wild About Safety with Timon & Pumbaa: About Fire!” and “Donald's Fire Safety Hits”.

In conclusion, Rhonda asked for volunteers to fill a vacancy on the Fire Prevention Committee.

Improvement Committee Report

Presenter: Tony Bestwick, York, Committee Chairperson

Mr. Bestwick introduced committee members, Chuck Hoffman, Monte Zierke and John Morford who promoted a survey through Constant Contact. Tony explained that the survey had just closed the day before the conference and although the committee had done a short review of the survey, they would like to study it further and report to the membership through the Nebraska Firefighter. (Bill Lundy, Secretary-Treasurer had briefly showed a few of the survey questions in the First General Business Session to acquaint the membership of the importance of joining Constant Contact to be involved in the business of the Association.)

Legislative Committee Report

Presenters: Lobbyist, Gerald Stilmock and Legal Counsel, Jim Egr

(Please reference Pages 4-5 of this report)

LODD/Memorial Committee Report

Presenter: Sarah Isaac, Kearney, Committee Chairperson

Sarah introduced the second member of the LODD/Memorial Committee, Kevin Placzek, Alda Fire Department who was not in attendance.

Sarah indicated that the Nebraska Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service held September 10 at the Nebraska Firefighters Museum was very successful. The committee is looking forward to working with Wymore who will host the service next year, 2012, in Wymore and is seeking applicants to host the service at the Museum in Kearney in 2013. It was announced that next year's Memorial Service is scheduled to be held September 8 (Wymore).

Recruitment and Retention Committee Report

Presenter: Shane Cuttlers, Raymond, Committee Chairperson

Shane Cuttlers, chairperson, began his presentation providing comments about completion of the 2006 SAFER grant through Recruitment Public Service Announcements run on statewide TV stations in a November, December, 2010, and January, 2011, timeframe. Other activities of the committee are listed on page 20:

1. Currently, the committee is working on a Recruitment and Retention class for Fire School.
2. Committee members and the E Board have met and signed a contract with the Redden Group to complete and manage a recruitment & retention grant. One item that will be looked at through this grant is an education promotion. Although it is unsure what this will look like, Shane used an example from the Idaho Association grant and explained Idaho's \$5,000 scholarship and the requirements for application and retention of the scholarship.

In conclusion, Shane asked departments to provide any recruitment and retention ideas to him or the other committee members; Kyle Ienn, Mark Meints, Brian Daake or E Board mentor, Dave Heywood.

Scholarship Committee Report
Presenters: Jay Templar, Gering, Chairperson

Jay Templar, Chair, introduced the Scholarship Committee, Randall Groetken, Mike Hoeft, Doug Matulka and Clint Nelson. Jay reported there were no applicants for the NSVFA and Nebraska Fire Chief Association scholarships this year. The committee is meeting today to discuss the scholarship and processes.

In conclusion, departments were asked to keep everyone informed about the available scholarships and to consider donations to the scholarship funds.

Special Recognition Committee Report
Presenter: Marlene Bomar, Madison, Chairperson

Special Recognition Committee Chairperson, Marlene Bomar, introduced the committee members, Randy Barnes, Toby Tobiasson, Dale Holbein, J.D. Reeder and Daryl Vance and reported on the activities of the Committee for the 2010-2011 term:

At the October, 2010, Annual Conference, the committee judged the Award letters for the Ladies Auxiliary and assisted in presenting the 25 and 50 year service awards. These two activities will be completed again at this Annual Conference.

April 16, 2011, the committee met at the Lexington Fire and Rescue Station to judge the Firemanship and Heroism Award letters. These awards were then presented at Fire School.

At the Nebraska State Fire School, Colton Hagemann of Mead, Nebraska, was presented the Browning Memorial Award and Michaela Woehler's family (2010 Browning Memorial Award recipient) presented a plaque to be displayed every year at Fire School which has every Browning Memorial Award recipients' name on it.

In conclusion, Marlene asked all departments to begin thinking about submitting names from their departments for the Firemanship Award to be presented at Fire School as a way to recognize a member of the department for an outstanding job.

Marlene also mentioned that there have been no nominations received to date for the Browning Memorial Award. If a department has a family that you think would be interested in having their child nominated, please submit a letter to Marlene soon.

This concludes the presentation of the Committee Reports.

President Cerny made announcements regarding the remaining schedule of the conference.

Eldon Moser, Yutan, mentioned a need to promote fire prevention to TV stations through the month of October.

John Virgl, Wahoo, asked about the license plate issue. Bill Lundy responded with the following: In April, 2009, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB 110 providing for specialty plates. At that time, the NSVFA had tried to get a bill sponsored for only Firefighter plates but the end result was that at the same time other numerous groups were also asking for specialty plates of their own resulting in the passing of one bill to cover all which was LB 110. This bill then had some inclusions in it which were prohibitive to the initial goals of the NSVFA to get a “firefighter/EMS license plate”. Because of this, the NSVFA E Board decided not to participate in the Specialty License Plate. Unfortunately, the legislative bill that was ultimately passed did not meet the needs of the NSVFA as anticipated.

1. An organization is required to amass 500 applications and prepay \$70.00 each for the license plates. Only then will the State print plates.
2. The NSVFA had hoped that the fees paid for the plates from NSVFA members would be designated to the State Fire Marshal's department for support of training. When so many groups became involved in the legislative bill wanting their own plates, the law passed designated 85 percent of the fees to the State Highway Trust Fund with the rest designated to the State Department of Motor Vehicles for processing.
3. Anyone can obtain a special license plate (anyone could put the firefighter/EMS plate on their vehicle)
4. Only numbers are allowed on the plates – no personalized messages.

When the attending membership was asked if they wanted to still pursue a firefighter/EMS license plate with these provisions, the response was negative. Bill Lundy did offer that this can be a question on the next Constant Contact survey.

There being no further business, Eric Rasmussen, Southeast Rural, made a motion seconded by Mike Fenimore, Superior, to adjourn the conference at 11:41am. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:
William L. Lundy, Secretary/Treasurer

2011 OFFICIAL BALLOTS

<Officer Ballots>

CANDIDATES:	OFFICER POSITION	VOTES CAST:
Dave Heywood Snyder VFD	PRESIDENT	131
Cleon Schwede Battle Creek VFD	1 ST VICE PRESIDENT	131
Dave Bertram North Platte VFD	2 ND VICE PRESIDENT	130
William Lundy York VFD	SECRETARY TREASURER	127
NO ELECTION Serving 2 Year Term	DISTRICT # 1 DIRECTOR	---
Pat Moore Dakota City VFD	DISTRICT # 2 DIRECTOR	57
To be Appointed by E- Board due to Dave Bertram's election to 2 nd V-Pres.	DISTRICT # 3 DIRECTOR	---
Joel Cerny Linwood VFD	DISTRICT # 4 DIRECTOR	40
Norman Hoelt David City VFD	NSVFA - NVFC DIRECTOR	130
Wymore VFD	2013 CONFERENCE HOST	132

**<N.S.V.F.A. CERTIFIED RESULTS>
OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW AMENDMENTS
VOTED ON OCTOBER 22, 2011**

This report provides the NSVFA membership the certified results of the By-Law changes voted on by ballot at the 2011 Annual Conference.

**ARTICLE SIX – BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(134 “Yea” 10 “Nay”) Change Passed**

SECTION 2.

Prior to 2011 Annual Conference Vote Read:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of this organization and four (4) District Directors. Said District Directors shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive two (2) year terms on the Board of Directors in such Board of Directors capacity. Two District Directors shall be elected each year with District Directors 1 and 3 elected in alternate years from District Directors 2 and 4. Alternating terms of election will assist with maintaining continued experience and capability to transfer acquired knowledge between the four District Director positions. (Amended 10/16/04 and 10/18/08)

Change Passed:

ADD THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ABOVE.

District Directors shall represent the district of which their department is located, not of their residence.

**ARTICLE SEVEN – FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES
(130 “Yea” 3 “Nay”) Change Passed**

New Section 4 will be added.

New Section 4.

All checks for disbursement of funds for the continuation of NSVFA business are to be signed by two (2) of the four officers (President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President or Secretary/Treasurer).

Passage of the above authorized the reviser of the by-laws to adjust Article Nine to reflect the above change.

ARTICLE NINE – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

(81 Yea 54 Nay) Change Failed – Did not meet 2/3 Majority Vote

SECTION 1. PRESIDENT:

New Item J that was proposed during the voting process will not be added to the by-laws:

Proposed Item J that failed: The President at the end of his/her term may elect to serve a one year term on the Board of Directors as an “At Large Member”. Should the President, at the end of his/her term, desire to run for another elected office of this Association, in choosing to do so, will waive the one year term as an “At Large Member”.

ARTICLE TWELVE – ELECTION

(111 Yea 22 Nay) Change passed:

SECTION 1.

Prior to 2011 Annual Conference Vote Read:

The election of Officers shall be done at the annual conference of the organization separately by ballot. District Director positions shall meet the same qualifications as per all candidates for office. However, their elected positions will be determined by the voting members within their own districts, which follow county lines (see district map). Only the immediate Past President’s name will be placed on the ballot for their respective district, without nomination. All other names being considered for District Director shall be nominated by the general membership, including those within the Past President’s District.....

Change Passed: Delete wording struck out below.

The election of Officers shall be done at the annual conference of the organization separately by ballot. District Director positions shall meet the same qualifications as per all candidates for office. However, their elected positions will be determined by the voting members within their own districts, which follow county lines (see district map). ~~Only the immediate Past President’s name will be placed on the ballot for their respective district, without nomination.~~ All other Names being considered for District Director shall be nominated by the general membership, including those within the Past President’s District. <Remaining Article Twelve – Elections, Section 1 remains unchanged.>

ARTICLE TWELVE – ELECTIONS

(73 Yea 58 Nay) Change failed – Did not meet 2/3 Majority Vote:

SECTION 2.

Currently Reads:

To qualify as an elector to vote for elective Officers, amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws of this organization, or to vote on any matter before this organization, one must be a member in good standing of this organization as provided in Article FOUR SECTIONS 1, 2, 3, and 4 of these Bylaws. (Amended 10/19/02)

Proposed Change that failed:

ADD THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ABOVE.
and shall have paid the registration fee for the Annual Conference.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN – ANNUAL CONFERENCE
(88 Yea 44 Nay) Change passed:

SECTION 1.

Prior to 2011 Annual Conference Vote Read:

Any member of this organization in good standing, EXCEPT guest members, and who has registered for the annual conference of this organization shall be entitled to a voice vote at the annual conference of this organization.

Change Passed: Remove words struck out below:

Any member of this organization in good standing, EXCEPT guest members, ~~and~~ who has registered for the annual conference of this organization shall be entitled to a ~~voice~~ vote at the annual conference of this organization.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN - REGISTRATION COSTS
(103 Yea 27 Nay) Change passed:

SECTIONS 1 and 2.

Prior to Annual Conference Vote Read:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a registration fee for the Annual Conference of this organization for those who are Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the FIRE HOUSE OF DELEGATES or EMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES, which shall be different from those registering for just attending the Annual Conference of this organization and voting at elections. This registration fee for Delegates shall be set by the Board of Directors of this organization.

SECTION 2. There is hereby created a registration fee for the Annual Conference of this organization for those attending said conference who are NOT Delegates or Alternate Delegates to the FIRE HOUSE OF DELEGATES or EMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES, and are attending for the Annual Conference's activities, which includes the Annual Conference itself, and for voting at elections. This registration fee for Annual Conference attendees not Delegates or Alternate Delegates shall be set by the Board of Directors of this organization.

Change Passed:

Delete Sections 1 and 2 in their entirety and insert new Section 1 to read:

The registration fees for the Annual Conference shall be set by the Board of Directors.