

**Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association Executive  
Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August  
15, 2018 – 11:30 a.m.  
Aurelios of Addison, 1455 West Lake Street, Addison**

**1. Call to Order at 1151 hours By President Wax**

**2. Roll Call – (8 Voting Members\* Needed for Quorum)**

<u>Members</u>	<u>Departments</u>	<u>Present</u>
<u>President Alan Wax *</u>	<u>Des Plaines</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tracy Kenny*</u>	<u>Broadview</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Tom Styczynski*</u>	<u>Alsip</u>	
<u>Secretary Joe Leone*</u>	<u>Addison</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Treasurer Tom Deegan*</u>	<u>Retired Chief</u>	
<u>Immediate Past Pres. Gordon J. Nord, Jr*</u>	<u>Lyons</u>	
<u>Sergeant-at-Arms Jim Jackson</u>	<u>Retired Chief</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Sergeant-at-Arms Fred Friedl</u>	<u>Retired Chief</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Director John Christian*</u>	<u>Grayslake</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Director Randy Deicke*</u>	<u>Batavia</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Director Phil DiMenza*</u>	<u>Winfield</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Director Michael Kuryla*</u>	<u>Berkeley</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>Director Sean Maloy*</u>	<u>Bedford Park</u>	
<u>Director Jim Walters*</u>	<u>Schaumburg</u>	
<u>Director Dick Swanson*</u>	<u>Retired Chief</u>	
<u>Director Bob Wilson*</u>	<u>Frankfort Chief</u>	<u>X</u>

**3. Secretary's Report – Secretary Leone**

**A. Approval of Minutes** – A vote was taken to approve the Executive Board Meeting minutes from July 18,

**Motion was made by** – Director Wilson

**Second by** – Director DiMenza

**Voice vote** – Unanimous

Other Business from the Secretary – Secretary Leone presented the meeting sponsors for the remainder of the year. See below for the list:

September 6th, Symposium IPRF – \$400 Municipal Emergency Services \$500

November 1st Darley – \$250 1800 Board Up -\$250

December 6th Installation Lunch IPRF -\$1000

Secretary Leone also discussed that the instructors for IRTB have been confirmed for the September 6<sup>th</sup> Symposium. Chief Kenny will be contacting the Empress to let them know the amount of people and

that they need to supply breakfast and lunch.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report – Treasure Deegan

A. **Financial Statements** – Through August 10, 2018 were distributed and reviewed.

B. Account balance as of \$67,463.91

MB Financial Bank – \$69,028.94

PayPal Balance – 3,384.97

Petty Cash – 50.00

Director Deicke questioned if the payment was made to Pedersen Design, LLC for Web Hosting and design. After reviewing the Treasurer's report several questions arose without clear explanations. Since Treasurer Deegan was not in attendance, President Wax tabled the motion to approve the Treasurer's report till next month in order to receive clarification on a couple of questions.

**Motion to approve the financial statements was postponed till September.**

C. **2018 Budget Status – Treasure Deegan**

**No report**

#### 5. President's Report

A discussion was had on donation to the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation (NFFF). President Wax received a request for a donation for both the NFFF and the Survivors conference. During the discussion it was agreed to be a lunch sponsor for the NFFF in the amount of \$1250. Since the Board did not know the request from the conference, direction was given to President Wax to proceed with a verbal agreement to donate to the conference with a motion to approve in September. Generally the Board felt the donation was about \$1000.

**Motion made** by Director Christian to donate as a lunch sponsor to the NFFF in the amount of \$1250

**Second by** - 1st Vice President Tracy Kenny

**Voice Vote** - Unanimous

#### Committee Reports

A. **Administrative Professionals Recognition Luncheon** – No report

B. **Audit** – No report

C. **Bylaws** – President Wax reported that the new by-law changes were approved at the August 2<sup>nd</sup> general meeting.

D. **Directory/Website** – No report

E. **Fundraising** – Several Directors reported that the fishing excursion went well and that it raised \$760.

No report on the golf outing total.

**F. Home Day – No report**

**G. IFCA -** Director John Christian reported the IFCA is working towards a Federal EMS cost recovery opportunity called the Ground Emergency Medical (GEMT) Supplemental Reimbursement Program. The GEMT, once in place, will allow us to access funding by drawing down Federal dollars to help offset the cost of providing ambulance transports as obligated providers. This will in essence reimburse agencies for the balance of any Medicaid transport that is not currently covered by what is received already through your EMS billing ordinance. We will engage an outside contractor through the IFCA to prepare annual cost recovery reports for each agency to recoup this individually. Based on estimates the City of Chicago may recover \$34 million dollars annually. Departments/Districts with a large Medicaid payer mix will see the most advantage.

**H. Installation/Holiday Luncheon –** Sergeant-at-Arms Fred Friedl final invites will be completed soon and will be sent to Director Randy Deicke for distribution. Sergeant-at-Arms Fred Friedl asked the board for gift ideas; the amount spent was about \$10 per plate.

**I. Legislation – No report**

**J. Nominating –** President Wax reported that there was no nominations from the floor during the August general meeting, therefore the slate presented will be mailed out with a vote at the general meeting in November.

**K. Programs – No report.**

September - Symposium on IRTB

November – IFCA update

**L. Sick & Welfare - no report**

**M. Metro Chiefs Association History – No report**

**7. Unfinished Business – None**

**8. New Business – None**

**9. Open Discussion – President Wax** gave an updated on the Orland Park Fire Protection Districts law suit.

A Federal Judge granted partial summary judgment last week in favor of the Orland Fire Protection District in a lawsuit involving claims brought by a private alarm monitoring company.

The Orland Fire Protection District was sued under the Illinois Fire Protection District Act for its contractual relationship with another private alarm monitoring company in competition with the plaintiff.

Though several claims remain pending in front of the District Court, summary judgment by Federal Judge Thomas M. Durkin in favor of Orland Fire Protection District on the basis that there is no private right of action under the Illinois Fire Protection District Act.

**President Wax** also updated the group on the opinion of the Inspector General.

The West Suburban Fire/Rescue Alliance received a favorable opinion from the Office of the Inspector General (OIG, the Medicare legal office) regarding the Alliance's proposed plan for the member fire departments to bill patients (and write-off charges) for EMS services when providing backup ambulance service to the other members when the billing rates and practices of the members are different.

The opinion (OIG Advisory Opinion #18-08) states that, given the circumstances as presented by the Alliance, the plan does not violate the Federal Anti-Kickback statute. The Alliance's proposed plan includes provisions for a provider of backup mutual aid ambulance service to charge the patient based on the fees and practices of the department receiving the mutual aid instead of the provider's own fees and practices.

During the discussion at the Board meeting, it was originally thought that the OIG approval included situations of out-of-district closest-unit ambulance response even when an in-district ambulance was available, however after the Board meeting it was identified that the OIG opinion did not address that situation.

**Director Wilson** asked if Director Randy Deicke could send out a flyer promoting Region Nines All Hazard Emergency Preparedness Committee's conference on In the *Midst of Chaos*

#### **10. Future Meetings**

- A. 2018 Board Meetings – 9/19, 10/17, 11/21, 12/19
  - i. 10/7 Board Meeting conflicts with 10/14-17 IFCA Conference. As that date approaches, a decision will be made whether to change the meeting date, cancel the meeting, or meet during the IFCA event.
- B. 2018 General Meetings – 9/6 Symposium- (no meeting after), 11/1, 12/6 Installation Luncheon

#### **11. Adjournment** - at 1234 hours

Motion made by - Director John Christian

Second by - Director Bob Wilson

Voice Vote - Unanimous

Prepared by and submitted by,

**Joseph Leone**

Secretary,

Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association

## **Addendum**

Direction was given later in the day for the following.

A check for \$1,000 made out to the "Illinois Fire Services Association" and, on the memo line, include "Illinois Survivors Conference Donation." The check should be mailed as follows:

Illinois Fire Services Association

c/o Chief Mitch Crocetti

12N044 Muirhead Rd

Plato Center, IL 60124

2. A check for \$1,250 made out to the "National Fallen Firefighters Foundation" and, on the memo line, include "NFFF Golf Outing Lunch Sponsorship." Along with the check, please mail the attached form, and send them to the following:

Ms. Laura Haiden

c/o Glenside Fire Protection District

1608 Bloomingdale Rd

Glendale Heights, IL 60139