



Administrative Fire Services Section

California Fire Chiefs Association Southern Division

AFSS Quarterly Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2007

Hosted by Cathedral City and Palm Springs Fire Departments

A. Call to Order and Introductions:

- President Sylvia Diaz called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Ronda Guillaume, Cathedral City Fire Department, led the flag salute.
- Janet Vines-Mott, Palm Springs Fire Department, provided the inspiration and chocolate.
- Cathedral City Fire Chief Bill Soqui and Palm Springs Fire Chief Blake Goetz welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked their staff for hosting the meeting.
- The attendees gave self-introductions. There was one first time attendee: Renae Rasmussen (North County Fire).

B. Approval of Minutes:

Members reviewed and a correction was made to the Minutes of the September 11, 2007 meeting.

Motion: Celia Contreras moved to approve the September 11, 2007 quarterly meeting minutes as amended. Carrie Joyce seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.

C. Approval of Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Lisa LeCates presented the Treasurer's Report and asked members to review.

Motion: Carrie Joyce moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed. Ronda Guillaume seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.

D. Section Chief's Report:

Chief Benson reported that he has become known throughout Cal Chiefs as the AFSS Liaison. He said that it is a pleasure to be affiliated with our group.

E. Correspondence Report:

Corresponding Secretary Roberta Mirzayans had nothing to report

F. Committee Reports:

Bylaws Committee

Barbara Altizer reported that it has become necessary to revise the Bylaws and here is some suggested wording for the changes: "Any member in good standing prohibited from voting by these Bylaws shall be granted voting privileges as a result of active involvement as a committee member or committee coordinator." Unfortunately, she has tried numerous times to contact Valerie Erwin, the Bylaws Coordinator from the North, and has not been successful in speaking with her. As soon as the changes are made, the Bylaws will be brought back to the Section for approval.

Communications Committee

Darilyn O'Dell reported that the Winter Issue of the Fire Circle was distributed by fan-out on Thursday, December 13. Extra copies of the Fire Circle are available.

Conference Committee

Darilyn O'Dell reported that everything is on track with the 2008 AFSS Conference. The Conference will be held at the Anaheim Sheraton, April 22-25, 2008. Hotel and registration information should be available late December/early January.

Education Committee

Celia Contreras reported that if anyone hosting a meeting needs help with the education topic to please contact her.

Historical Committee

Joyce Becker reported that she is still working on the photo directory. If you prefer a photo of your own to be put into the directory, please email the photo to Joyce as soon as possible. The photos should be in the portrait layout.

Membership Committee

Terrie Villalpando reported that we have a total of 135 members to date and have collected \$6,080 in membership dues. She is currently finalizing the directory which will be placed on the secured portion of the Cal Chiefs website. She is working with Joyce Becker on incorporating the photos into the directory.

Ways and Means Committee

Amy Lidster reported that she does not have Ways and Means items to sell at this meeting

G. Educational Program:

Andrea Cutler, Human Resources Director, City of Santa Fe Springs, gave a presentation on Leadership Skills: Being the Best in 2008. At the conclusion, Sylvia Diaz presented Ms. Cutler with a certificate of appreciation.

H. Member of the Year:

Sylvia Diaz read a sampling of the nominations for the 2007 Member of the Year. She then announced that Terrie Villalpando of Corona Fire Department was selected. A congratulatory gift was given to Ronda Guillaume of Cathedral City Fire Department for her nomination.

I. Old Business:

Brochures – Sylvia Diaz

Sylvia Diaz reported that we are currently working on developing a joint brochure with the Northern Division. She asked for volunteers to form an Ad-Hoc Committee to develop the brochures for review. Sherre Nissley and Shelly Hill volunteered to be on that committee.

Tax ID – Lisa LeCates

Lisa LeCates gave an update on the Ad-Hoc Committee reviewing which type of tax exemption status to file with the Internal Revenue Service. The committee reviewed the pros and cons and the cost associated with filing for a 501(c)3 status. This issue will be discussed at the next Executive Board meeting.

Training Symposium – Sylvia Diaz

Lynn Pearson was present and gave the report on the Symposium held in November in Fresno. This year there were 639 attendees. The Northern and Southern Divisions will split \$3,000 for their assistance in making this years' event a success.

J. New Business:

Charitable Contributions – Lisa LeCates

Lisa LeCates announced the quarterly contribution of \$100.00 would be going to the Ramirez Family. Gloria Connors of Chino Valley Independent Fire District nominated the Ramirez Family. "Anthony Joseph Ramirez is the first-born child of Rudy and Sharon Ramirez. Anthony (A.J.) was diagnosed with infant acute lymphoblast leukemia, a week shy of turning 4 months old. He was admitted to CHOC on August 17, 2007. Rudy or Sharon is with A.J., in the hospital 24/7 days a week, while A.J. is being cared for. Rudy is our Consulting Manager and services our computer network." She asked members to keep suggestions flowing and to submit them to her at any time. She said that forms are available on the website.

Quarterly Meeting Locations – Sylvia Diaz

Sylvia Diaz asked for volunteers to host the 2008 quarterly meeting. The host agencies are:

March – CAL FIRE
June – Grover Beach/Arroyo Grande
September – Hermosa Beach
December – San Miguel (San Diego County)

Executive Board Elections – Becky Timmers

Becky Timmers reported that two members, Karen McCoy of Riverside Fire Department and Robin Brock of Rancho Cucamonga Fire District, accepted nominations for the position of Corresponding Secretary. Ballots were distributed by fan-out and the election results were announced that Karen McCoy will be the new Corresponding Secretary. She then opened nominations from the floor for the position of 2nd Vice President, as no one accepted nominations from the committee. Shelly Hill nominated Valerie Nellis as the 2nd Vice President and she agreed to accept the position.

K. Round Table Discussion

Jim Reing, L. N. Curtis – Invited the membership to their Firehouse World Party at Dick's Last Resort in San Diego the first night of the event.

Ronda Guillaume, Cathedral City FD – She wanted to thank everyone for coming out to the desert. The See's Candies orders are in and be sure to pick them up before you leave. She also mentioned that Judy Blumberg and Janet Vines-Mott worked very hard at making this quarterly meeting a success.

Celia Contreras, Santa Fe Spring FD – Santa Fe Springs is currently recruiting for the position of Firefighter and they will have 3 new Firefighters beginning on January 5.

Barbara Altizer, South Pasadena FD (Retired) – Wanted the membership to know that former member Dixie Willemse with Running Springs Fire Department lost her home during the October firestorms. A fan-out was sent in November asking that anyone who can participate in a "Gift Card Shower" to please send the gift cards directly to Running Springs Fire Department. It is unknown how many cards she received. Her husband is a firefighter for Ontario Fire Department and she believes their Firefighters Association has also set up an assistance fund.

L. Adjournment

In adjourning the meeting at 2:08 p.m., Sylvia Diaz thanked the members of the Cathedral City and Palm Springs Fire Departments for hosting the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 hosted by CAL FIRE in Riverside.

Darilyn O'Dell

Darilyn O'Dell
Executive Board, Recording Secretary

Quarterly Meeting Attendees
December 14, 2007

Attendee

Barbara Altizer
Joyce Becker
Paul Benson
Alice Berumen
Judy Blumberg
Jeanne Bodine
Carole Borries
Dreena Brethorst
Robin Brock
Celia Contreras
Sylvia Diaz*
Laura Fernandez
Christine Flores*
Kathy Ford-Brodersen
Cathy Gibbs
Ronda Guillaume
Irma Gullickson
Nancy Haglund
Alicia Hernandez
Shelly Hill
Deanne Johanson
Carrie Joyce
Lisa LeCates*
Amy Lidster
Roberta Mirzayans*
Valerie Nellis
Darilyn O'Dell*
Colleen O'Keefe
Lynn Pearson
Renaë Rasmussen
Zelda Ross
Anika Sanchez
Ruth Slusher
Becky Timmers*
Becky Toney
Carol Tousignant
Jackie Vandagriff
Terrie Villalpando
Janet Vines-Mott
Sheila Waddell

Agency

South Pasadena Fire, Retired
Ontario Fire
Chino Valley Fire
Cathedral City Fire
Palm Springs Fire
Downey Fire
Montebello Fire, Retired
Riverside County Fire
Rancho Cucamonga Fire
Santa Fe Springs Fire
Hermosa Beach Fire
Lakeside Fire
Rancho Cucamonga Fire
North County Fire
Crest Forest Fire
Cathedral City Fire
Fullerton Fire
Arroyo Grande Fire
Chula Vista Fire
Pala Fire
Big Bear City Fire
Laguna Beach Fire
El Segundo Fire
San Miguel Fire
Burbank Fire
Heartland Fire Communications
San Miguel Fire
West Covina Fire
Grover Beach Fire
North County Fire
Downey Fire
Cathedral City Fire
Santa Fe Springs Fire
North County Fire
San Bernardino County Fire
Morro Bay Fire
Corona Fire
Corona Fire
Palm Springs Fire
Brea Fire

*Denotes Executive Board Members