

SDFA Summer Board Meeting Minutes
Fort Pierre, SD
Friday – June 12 - Saturday, June 13, 2020

Call meeting to order By President Charlie Kludt Friday, June 12 at 1:00 pm at Fort Pierre Fire Station, Fort Pierre, SD

Members Present: Charlie Kludt, Dave Jorgensen, Jack Diez, Samara Erickson, Rick Gustad, Mark Stoks; Dennis Gorton and (via tele-conf) Ron Hines;

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Moment of Silence was observed

Approval of agenda: Motion by Jorgensen to approve agenda, seconded by Diez. Passed

Approve minutes of Board tele-meeting, April 18, 2020. Motion by Erickson to approve April 18 Board minutes, seconded by Stoks. Carried

Treasurer's Report – Gorton had emailed out some information for the Board
- Financial reports

Secretary's Report – Gorton

District Directors Report -

Black Hills – No Report

Northwest – District School in September

Northeast – No District School

Southeast – Spring school cancelled, kept in Vermillion for Fall

Central - District school in September at Wessington Springs

South Central – District school will be in Parkston

Badlands – District School will be in Burke in September

Discussion on fundraising efforts affected by covid-19 issues.

ACTION : Board will develop a survey monkey to send out to departments

Membership & Public Address Session – No other individuals to address board at this time

Business:

1. **Board Member descriptions & expectations review.** Board members reviewed descriptions of duty expectations for executive positions, director positions, and of a director. These items are separate from the definitions outlined in the SDFA by-laws. These descriptions and duties will be utilized for explaining to individuals interested in becoming an SDFA District Director. These will be made available on the SDFA website.
2. **Legislation for 2020**
- **34-48A-55. Search and rescue services--Costs--Limitation.**

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The state, a fire department, a law enforcement agency, or a county-recognized entity that provides public search and rescue services may collect the actual costs of the search and rescue services provided on school or public lands or in a national park, national forest, or state park from any person for whose benefit the services are conducted, not to exceed one thousand dollars.

The board discussed the purpose and intent of the legislation. It was interpreted to be only for S&R operations. The terminology allows only for the stated public lands.

The SDFA board recommends any department utilizing the billing option, have a defined and defensible rule and policy for when a billing statement will, or will not be submitted for the S&R incident operation. Have a table of billing for equipment and personnel positions. It is recommended the billing be submitted to the office of the governing agency or landowner for which the operations are requested.

(HCR 6023) Summer study for Mental Health issue – A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, to encourage the Executive Board of the Legislature to create an interim legislative study to address the mental health of first responders.

Discussion was held concerning the legislative committee being developed for an interim study on the lack of coverage provided by workers compensation insurance for mental health issues of emergency responders. The committee chair will be Rhonda Milstead. The SDFA will be requested for input during the study. A nomination for submission to sit on the committee must be completed by the end of June. The intent of the committee is to have legislative proposal(s) ready for 2021 session.

More information will be made available as the process progresses.

ACTION: Submit for consideration for committee position: Charlie Kludt will be the primary. Directors Samara Erickson and Dave Jorgensen will serve as secondary if meetings dates allow for attendance.

Further discussion on possible legislative issues:

- Why are State Parks not required to pay for emergency services, specifically fire suppression, for property and facilities? Campgrounds and buildings, hunting areas, etc. Possible suggestion of emergency services fee on park entrance stickers, hunting licenses, boat registration, etc. The fees collected would be distributed to departments providing services within the coverage properties.
- Develop “How Volunteer Fire Departments are Funded” one-pager. More discussion at next meetings.

3. NVFC

Spring meetings in Washington DC had been cancelled. Kludt discussed the various NVFC committee meetings held via teleconference in the spring. It was determined that this was likely to be a common activity in the future. Some committees plan to meet more frequently before each fall or spring director meetings.

Discussion held for development of NVFC Director position description. To include duties defined by NVFC and SDFA, travel requirements, and SDFA appointment and approval process.

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Discussion concerning succession of NVFC Director positions. Director Leroy was unable to attend for personal reasons and will be retiring in the future. He had discussed the understanding of the SDFA preparing a new director. The idea of sending an interested individual to a meeting if Leroy was unable to attend was considered. The idea of appointing a new director, and then still allow Leroy to attend one more conference was discussed. Board members were asked to think of individuals who would be possible a viable option for future NVFC Director.

SDFA will be submitting a bid proposal to NVFC Conference committee for hosting 2024 NVFC Fall Conference in Rapid City. Charlie & Denny had been in contact with Visit Rapid City (VRC) office for local assistance. A bid proposal package was sent out by VRC to prospective locations. Charlie will be setting dates to tour the facilities the end of the month. He will notify Adam, Denny, and the Wyoming NVFC director for the visits.

The bid proposal is due to the NVFC office by the first week of September to be considered for 2024.

2020 – spring mtg cancelled	14-16 Oct – Wilmington, NC
2021 – 28 April-1 May Alexandria, VA	13-15 Oct – Jackson, Wy
2022 – 6-9 April Alexandria, VA	21-23 Sept – KC, Ks
2023 – 22-25 May Alexandria, VA	20-22 Sept – Cooperstown, NY
2024 – 24-27 April Alexandria, VA	??? Rapid City, South Dakota ???

*Spring includes DC office visits

ACTION ITEM: Develop Position description for review at next meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Complete NVFC bid proposal for submission.

ACTION ITEM : Directors consider viable candidates for future NVFC Director. Contact Charlie with interested individuals.

4. State Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service:

Memorial service will be Sunday, 27 September 2020, 2:00 pm CDT at the Memorial Site. Paperwork for the visitor center and Rotunda (weather backup) have been submitted. Capital grounds had been contacted for annual shrub maintenance. Discussion on possibility of relocating the shrub to a position on the hill directly behind the memorial.

The engraving for Dwain Hudson, Argyle FD has been completed.

Adam and Chad have been in contact with the Honor Guard and Pipe & Drums. Travel restrictions may come into play for certain members.

Charlie has contacted the Governor's office. They will reevaluate the schedule in early September.

ACTION ITEM : Contact Capital Grounds for possible relocation of shrub and electrical outlet installation. *Gorton had contacted Capital Grounds in the past. The electrical outlet near the memorial with the flood light is run off the dusk/dawn photocell for all the grounds lights. The Ground official said it would be extremely expensive and labor intensive to pull power from the nearest building to the memorial site.*

5. National Fallen Firefighter Memorial – 3-4 October 2020

Denny will be the attendee for the SDFA in 2020. Jack had contact information for him. Possibility of cancellation was discussed.

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6. Media –

ACTION ITEM : Badlands Director - Add Rick Cronin photo, email, and contact information;

ACTION ITEM : Delete group photo from page. Hope to establish new group photo at fall meeting.

ACTION ITEM : Add link button to main page for events registration and schedule.

7. Statewide reports:

a) Public Safety Communications Council - June meeting was rescheduled for 25 June. Next meeting will be September.

b) Joint Council of Emergency Service Organizations : Discussed idea of moving Joint Council to earlier date for better preparation of legislative issues. Possible option being the Municipal League Conference in the fall (6-9 Oct 2020, Spearfish) or earlier winter (Chiefs Conference?). Current convenience of same weekend as Instructors conference, SDFA winter meeting, and being in Pierre may make for challenge to change.

ACTION ITEM : Charlie create a note to send out to agencies involved with Joint Council for thoughts of changing date.

c) Fire Chiefs – Discussed success of the teleconference round table discussions. Perhaps less frequent. 2020 Conference will be in Deadwood.

d) Instructors – Jan 2021

e) Fire Marshal’s Advisory Board – filled empty spots on board, meeting coming up;

f) LAST - The SD-LAST has website up , www.SDLAST.org ; Has lots of good information for departments to reference if planning a funeral for member.

g) SD-PERI – Next meeting is June 24; They will be working on developing contacts with the various emergency agencies, and possible discussions at their conferences or meetings.

8. SDFA Conference Planning:

a. Speaker session updates: NVFC Chair Steve Hirsch and Rob Franklin will be coming; SD-LAST will give presentation;

ACTION : Rooms for Hirsch & Franklin at Ramkota:

b. Finalize Schedule – (attachment)

c. Other items –

c.1 – Food – contact main past vendors for sponsorships;

Friday – social; Saturday (2) breaks & dinner (with registration);

Sunday – breakfast;

ACTION : Samara will be POC with Ramkota

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- c.2 – Vendor show – Not doing like at Fire school; Ramkota said we can utilize hallway and foyer for vendors; no cost;
- c.3 – Memorabilia – Auxiliary has challenge coins; will discuss selling or donation to fall conference;
- c.4 – Signage/posters/arrows – Will we need any...?
- c.5 – Memorial & meeting setup – Charlie, Ron, Adam (Samara will order flowers)
- c.6 – Sponsorships – Meals (\$750 each break; \$1375 dinner; \$875 breakfast), booklet, social (vendors do drink tickets);
- c.7 – Booklet - (Charlie) will be fewer pages (12-16); include Memorial program;
ACTION : Charlie will contact local printer

d. Final registration costs - \$10 for Dept Membership; \$25 non-members;

e. Registration open target date 1 July 2020 (maybe by 14 June)

9. Breakout sessions

- a) Registration preparation; Prepared information for the online registration
- b) Statewide LOSAP/optional deferred compensation plan; Board discussed the possibility of developing a Volunteer Public Safety State Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP); The program would be voluntary participation by any certified volunteer emergency services agency within the state; Guidelines for receiving funding would be established by individual departments;
Possible administrators of program SD State Retirement? Or LOSAP financial company; (similar to a 457 fund?)
Develop advisory board; Minimum requirements for being vested;
ACTION ITEM : Charlie will contact SDRS.
- c) NVFC 2024 – Reviewed NVFC hosting requirements and expectation per the NVFC Host Guide. Facility possibilities (Ramkota, Holiday Inn Civic Center, Alex Johnson); Discussion of spouse/guest activities; Contact Pennington County or Fire Dept for hosting an evening meal;
Mt Rushmore group photo; Transportation needs for entire group and guest tours;
Bid document will be submitted to NVFC in early September; Selection committee will meet at Fall NVFC meetings in North Carolina in October.
ACTION ITEM: Charlie will submit bid documents.
- d) Fundraiser shortfall – Developed a survey monkey to be distributed and link placed on social media;
In effort to take funding shortfall concerns to Governor’s office and legislature;
ACTION ITEM : Survey was completed during working session and ready to distribute by the end of the meeting;

10. Final comments – none at this time.

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11. Pay expenses Motion by Jorgensen to pay expenses for meeting, seconded by Erickson. Carried roll call vote. Jorgensen, Diez, Erickson, Gustad, Stoks; (via tele-conf) Ron Hines;

NEXT MEETING Friday, 25 September 2020 at Pierre, Ramkota, 8:30 AM

As Jack Diez's last official action as a Board member of the SD Firefighters Assn. Diez moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Stoks. Carried. Jack thank you for your service to the Board and the firefighters of South Dakota. Job well done sir.

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