

FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Meeting via WebEx only

P	Mark Kulda Insurance Federation of MN	P	Don Smiley MN State Fire Chief's Assoc. (MSFCA)
P	Kip LaMotte Fire Marshals Assoc. of MN / International Assoc. of Arson Investigators-MN Chapter	P	Chris Parsons MN Professional Firefighters Assoc. (MPFF)
P	Rick Loveland MN Professional Fire Fighters Assoc. (MPFF)	P	Jon Kahnke MN State Fire Department Assoc. (MSFDA)
P	Mark Windschitl <i>Vice Chair</i> League of MN Cities	P	BJ Jungmann <i>Chair</i> MN State Fire Chief's Assoc. (MSFCA)
P	Lisa Laliberte League of MN Cities	P	Ed Hoffman MN State Fire Department Assoc. (MSFDA)
P	Jim Fisher MN Assoc. of Townships	P	Bruce West Commissioner Designee

Guests: Margaret Koele (FSAC Admin), Mike Aspnes & Steve Sampson (St Paul Fire Department), Pete Knaeble (MN-TF1), Dave Schliek (MFSCB), DeeDee Jankovich (MSFDA), Allen Lewis (Virginia FD), Steve Flaherty (MBFTE), Dean Wrobbel (St Cloud FD), Jared Rozeboom (SFMD FSS), Jim Smith (SFM), Kevin Kennedy (Solo Rescue Decon), Michael Gaede, Tom McDonough (SFMD), Ryan Kunst (SFMD), Matt Doughty, Mike Dobesh (MnFIRE), Mike Nelson (South Metro Fire), Amanda Levitt, Eric Jonassen (Virginia FD), George Esbensen (MnFIRE), Todd Manley (DNR), and Rich Gasaway (Gasaway Safety Solutions)

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Call to order – Chair BJ Jungmann

- Acceptance or additions to agenda
 - Nothing to add to the agenda approved as written
- Approval of January minutes
 - Minutes approved as written

New Business

- FSA & Firework balance - State Fire Marshal Jim Smith
 - Total balance collected as of May \$15,099,138.49

Public Comment

- No public comment

Old Business

- Bylaw discussion from strategic planning session
 - Approve revisions to bylaws
 - Motion to approve the bylaws changes by Don Smiley, Assistant Commissioner West second motion, motion carried unanimous
- Presentation policy discussion from strategic planning session
 - Approve revisions to presentation policy
 - Motion to approve changes by Rick Loveland, second by Lisa Laliberte, motion carried unanimous
- Update on RFP from MBFTE to MFSCB
 - Marshal Smith and Chris Parsons
 - Chris Parsons commented that the transition will be getting started with SFMD to meet with MNFAC representatives to discuss the process going forward. We will need to have changes to statute for introducing the bill at the January legislative session. We will need to shape the bill with the language for the advisory board with all the stakeholders input moving forward. We are in holding pattern right now legislatively, until January.
 - Marshal Smith has met with Steve Flaherty and Assistant Commissioner West with a time table for action to move forward, there has been some controversy with the certification board to clarify the State Fire Marshal Division absorbing the certification board into the operations under the state, with the only exception to that is if the state was unsuccessful in obtaining legislative financial assistance to move forward.
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, commented that it was his understanding that the board had approved the motion to move forward with the State Fire Marshal Division as long as legislation was secured.

Presentations

- SFMD – Marshal Smith
 - Total Request \$780,000
 - \$75,000 SFMD Health Care Team funding due to COVID 19 short fall for salaries with MDH and PPE supplies

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- Mark Kulda would like to know potential impact of CARES Act COVID funding and if some of that funding could be allocated for this request
 - Marshal Smith commented that any funding from the CARES would be a blessing, however we are not aware if there will be any funding available for this type of need and if get FSAC funding would only use what is needed and any extra would go back to FSAC
 - Assistant Commissioner West commented that we do not know what the state is getting in regards to CARE and then we have to look at any restrictions that might be on that funding. This funding request was submitted to MMB and if CARES does not fund this request, this presentation needed to be made today in order to request from FSAC.
- Jim Fisher commented he thinks the SFM should request a base budget increase in August as he does not agree to give one time money out for salaries
 - Marshal Smith commented they will be requesting a base budget increase in August, but will not be affected if approved until FY22 and this is needed for FY21
 - BJ Jungmann commented that this is a federal issue and not like you can raise your fees
 - Marshal Smith agreed and with COVID the federal government has stopped funding the healthcare facilities they inspect. They had to keep inspecting them based on the situation that arose
 - Mark Windschitl commented is this the responsibility of this committee to cover shortfalls from COVID
 - Mark Kulda commented that these requests are tailored for the CARES Act purpose
 - Assistant Commissioner West commented that this finding request was submitted to MMB and if the CARES Act does not fund this request, this presentation needed to be made today in order to request the funding from FSAC.
 - BJ Jungmann commented that we need to keep in mind the SFM is fully funded out of the FSA, which includes salaries for the division, this is unlike some other Fire Marshal divisions across the

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nation that are funded out of general funds. Hopefully in August we will have a better idea on the CARES Act funding.

- \$493,500 Haz Mat/Cat equipment to enhance capabilities and readiness of the states eleven response teams
 - Two FLIR Griffin G510 gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer
 - \$245,000
 - AutoRae 2 system for OSAH for OSHA required, automated calibration and bump testing of virtually all team monitoring equipment with WIFI interface
 - \$200,000
 - Compdata system for inventory control of all eleven HMRTs.
 - \$48,500
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked if cannot fund all of the request, what would be the priority request
 - Tom McDonough replied, that first priority would be the FLIR
 - Second the Compdata system
 - Third would be the AutoRae 2 system
- \$211,500 for IMS web based permit processing and records management software to complete the electronic permitting and plan review program
 - Mark Kulda asked how much operational oversight MNIT would have in this project
 - Ryan Kunst replied that MNIT would have to create the portal and website access for the program people to access through, but they would not have any operational ties to the program
 - Mark Kulda asked if there would be a minimal amount of code writing by MNIT
 - Ryan Kunst replied that is correct
- MBFTE – Executive Director, Steve Flaherty
 - \$2.354 million fund request to reach \$200 per firefighter reimbursement rate
 - The MBFTE would accept any funding amount that the FSAC would be willing to accommodate of this request
- Task Force One – Pete Knaeble
 - Total request \$894,122
 - Structure Collapse Technician course \$460,000
 - Unified Quarterly Training 3 \$75,000
 - Unified Quarterly Training 4 \$75,000
 - MNFT1 airbag replacement \$284,122
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked what the priority of this request would be if the committee could not fund the full request

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- Pete Knaeble replied, that the Structure collapse would be the priority
 - Second would be quarterly training 3 & 4
 - Third MNFT1 airbag replacement
- MART - Mike Aspnes
 - Total request \$100,000
 - \$50,000 training assistance
 - \$50,000 communications equipment purchase assistance
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked what the priority request would be if the committee could not fund the whole request
 - Mike Aspnes replied, that the \$50,000 for the communications equipment would be the priority
- Washer /Dryer Extractor Grant Program – Chris Parsons
 - Total request \$600,000
 - Split funding between washer & dryers decided by the award committee
 - 204 departments received washer/dryers
 - 155 washers/65 dryers have been awarded through this program (220 units)
- MBFTE – Executive Director, Steve Flaherty
 - MnFIRE – Mike Dobesh
 - Total request \$750,000 (half request is for instructor costs)
 - Request to complete cardiac, mental health and cancer awareness training around the state, build additional curriculum train allied medical professionals in caring for firefighters and host conference with national speakers around focus areas
 - Have 112 instructors ready to go for program with curriculum
 - Building online program through Target Solutions
 - We could cut some of the funding request, but would take away from the program as a whole, but if had to would scale back the conference and online delivery of the operational training
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, would like to have a breakdown of the costs
 - Mike Dobesh replied the funding request breakdown of costs will be provided to the committee by MnFIRE
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked how many classes they covered in the first round they were funded for this program
 - Mike Dobesh replied they covered 600 classes at 389 departments
 - Mark Windschitl asked if this gets put into Target Solutions will there be ongoing costs to keep that course material in that program using articulate programming

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- Target Solutions ongoing cost would consist of keeping the course materials updated
 - Virtual Speakers/Gasaway Safety Solutions – Rich Gasaway
 - \$48,000 for National speaker lecture series
 - 12 virtual nationally recognized speakers recorded and made available for 30 days on learning management system
 - Funding could be reduced by offering less speakers
 - DNR – Todd Manley (L380,L381,L480 - for 5 leadership courses regionally for 128 students)
 - \$220,250 total request for funding
 - Funding could be reduced by offering less courses
- Solo Rescue Decon Washer – Kevin Kennedy
 - Total request \$100,000 grant (10 departments for \$10,000 each)
 - Solo Rescue - Decon Washer machine – extractor for your bunker gear
 - Releases cancer carcinogens from equipment by the chemicals used in machine
 - Proven decontamination
 - Washes all other equipment, but not turn out gear
 - Mark Kulda asked if the product is manufactured in Sweden
 - Kevin Kennedy replied that it is manufactured in Sweden and shipped to Texas to their warehouse and currently they have 15 of them on hand
 - Mark Windschitl asked if it is like an extractor and equipment has to be dried or sit for hours to dry
 - Keven Kennedy commented that it has 23 jets that spray minimal amount of water to wash the chemicals off and the equipment comes out with some dampness on liners such as helmets, but they dry quickly
 - Mark Kulda asked if the chemical is a consumable product that has to be replenished often and is it expensive
 - Kevin Kennedy commented that they can get a 120 washes out of 2 ½ gallon container and a case runs \$115.00 for department
 - Mark Windschitl asked if the chemicals are fine for the turn out equipment
 - Kevin Kennedy replied this machine does not wash turn out gear, it washes all other equipment such as helmets, tools, boots, air packs, bottles, etc.
 - The chemicals have been approved for washing air packs

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- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked if other manufacturers have approved the use of the equipment
 - Kevin Kennedy replied yes they have, just waiting for the signed paperwork that has been on hold because of COVID, so it has been delayed
- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked about this being a company coming before FSAC and how this would be handled being public money and they being a private company, also are they under state contract
 - Kevin Kennedy replied this would be handled the same as the washer dryer grant program through the SFM to benefit the whole state and we are looking into the state purchasing program, as Minneapolis was able to navigate down that road
- Firefighters w/PTSD – Matt Doughty
 - Total request \$150,000
 - \$100,000 to purchase a campus (campground to do training, for retired/active MN fire/police/EMS/Veterans to stay for free and house dogs)(public would pay a going rate for facility)
 - Mark Kulda asked if this would be purchasing an already existing facility
 - Matt Doughty replied that there are three spots they are looking at, one in Mille Lacs, northern Minnesota on the great lake and one between Bemidji & Lake of the Woods
 - \$25,000 Group training to train 10 MN firefighters and their dogs to service dog level / have wait list for people to get into the classes) – covers cost of trainers, facility rental, backpacks full of training gear, testing and certifications
 - Mark Windschitl asked how people get on this program and who makes the decision
 - Matt Doughty commented there is an application on their website that applicants will fill out. He and the Vice President will go meet with the individuals that apply. They have monthly and quarterly meetings that they select the individuals for the classes. Each applicant must pass a drug test to be considered for the safety of the trainers and dogs
 - Lisa Laliberte asked where the group trainings take place right now
 - Matt Doughty replied they partner with other dog training facilities, public spaces, Mall of America and North Town Mall for dog meet up groups

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- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked to explain the certifications
 - Matt Doughty replied they work with professional dog handlers that lead the class, then they go before a third party to get certified as service dogs
- \$25,000 fully trained service dog – cover birth, board and full training to “Service Dog” level for up to two dogs to be placed with MN firefighters/first responders
 - They sustain organization by offering dog training to the public for a fee
- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked what would be the priority request if they could not fund the whole request
 - Matt Doughty replied the \$25,000 for group training
 - \$100,000 for the resort
 - \$25,000 for the service dog
- Virginia Fire Department – Al Lewis & Eric Jonassen
 - Total request \$400,000 to supplement technical rescue capabilities for the Arrowhead region (have 13 members and want to bring to 30 members)
 - 30 rescuers to be trained and equipped
 - Wages and backfill for regional partners
 - Add 22 members to the team
 - \$383,598 to train personnel
 - \$138,990 personnel costs
 - \$244,608 training and travel
 - Statewide impact is the time it takes for metro team to get to northern part of state, they could get boots on the ground faster to help save lives
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, commented that he thought the AFG allowed for back fill and overtime or personnel costs
 - Eric Jonassen replied it does but they did not apply for a regional grant officially, they can use it for tuition for outside departments, but not outside department backfill. We did purchase a fair amount of equipment with that grant
 - Assistant Commissioner West asked if they have used up all their AFG funding
 - Eric Jonassen replied they have not, they have \$187,787 still remaining and waiting to hear back from FEMA if they can use their excess funds or not
 - BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked that this is one time funding from FSAC, what is the long term plan to sustain the organization
 - Eric Jonassen replied this will have to be a collaborative effort between the four departments to use on duty training at some points, also a reach out to business & industry partners to help augment the cost of doing business

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- BJ Jungmann, Chair asked if they have reached out to any of them to get a commitment
 - Eric Jonassen replied not as of yet, the area is dominated by the mining industry and since COVID 19 all talks have been put on hold
 - Al Lewis commented that they do have existing contracts with two of the mines that supplement on a regular basis, we would look at those existing contracts in place to increase the level of service and apply additional funding
- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked if they have a business plan in place for this team
 - Eric Jonassen replied they do not have a formal one in place right now, it is currently in the works along with SOG's and policies between the cities
- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked about statewide impact of this
 - Eric Jonassen replied that the key feature of this program is Task Force One is down in the metro area and we are looking at a fair amount of time, if an incident happens, that will pass before they can get here, so state wide impact is they can have boots on the ground to start initiating life saving measures to help command what the needs are to when Task Force One can get up here. In the first three or four hours we can save some lives and get pieces in place to make it easier for Task Force One when they get up here
 - Al Lewis commented they can be a source to be used by Task Force One in other parts of the state as well, it would be a reciprocal relationship
- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked if they have established that relationship with Task Force One, as have heard they have worked with Wisconsin Task Force One
 - Eric Jonassen commented they had one meeting after the FEMA grant with Pete Fisher and we have not had anything formal since then
- Mark Windschitl asked if Duluth has a rescue set up now
 - Eric Jonassen commented that there is a restriction in areas of response outside the city of Duluth jurisdiction limits
- BJ Jungmann, Chair, asked if Duluth commits to this team then are they willing to go outside the city limits
 - Eric Jonassen replied that is a commitment that Duluth is willing to make to this team

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Adjourn Meeting 1:12 p.m.