

WNCAFF Quarterly Meeting  
Waynesville Fire Department  
October 19, 2016

18:35 – President Deaton gavelled the meeting to order with 83 members in attendance. President Deaton introduced Waynesville Fire Chief Fred Joey Webb who welcomed the association to the town of Waynesville and Haywood County. Chief Webb recognized Waynesville Town Manager Rob Hites, Assistant Town Manager Amie Owens and Beverly Elliot, who is from Representative Mark Meadow's office. Chief Webb introduced Waynesville Mayor Gavin Brown.

Invocation was given by Chief Robert Messer – Jonathan Creek Fire Department

Pledge of Allegiance: Assistant Chief Shannon Morgan – Waynesville Fire Department

President Deaton recognized our meal sponsor for the meeting: LGFCU Commercial Lending. Loren Pittman spoke about the services provided by LGFCU and he introduced Jeanne Massey who is serving the western part of the state as LGFCU's Fire Service Representative. Loren announced that since joining the credit union eight years ago he has not missed a WNCAFF meeting.

Meal was provided by Vickie Messer Catering.

President Deaton recognized the other vendors in attendance tonight and encouraged association members to go by their booths. The event would not have been possible without the support of the vendors.

18:46 – Meeting recessed for the meal.

19:20 – Meeting reconvened with President Deaton introducing Dean Castaldo, who was in attendance with his arson K9, Dante. Dean wanted association members to know that Dante is available to assist any department. To make contact departments would need to contact Haywood County EOC.

19:25 - **President Deaton recognized the 2016 WNCAFF Officers.**

- President Curt Deaton – Mooresville Fire Department
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Andy Webster – Cool Springs Fire Department
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Rick Livingston – Mills River Fire Department
- Secretary Anthony Penland – Swannanoa Fire Department
- Treasurer Dean Coward – Balsam Willets Fire Department
- Past President Eric Wiseman – Parkway Fire Department
- Mountain Region Director Brian Piercy – Pleasant Garden Fire Department
- Highland Region Director Trevor Lance – Skyland Fire Department
- Foothills Region Director Todd Frizsell – Hickory Fire Department

#### **Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports**

Motion moved by Joey Webb and seconded by Jeff Cash to accept the secretary's report as mailed, emailed and/or posted to the website. Motion Passed.

Motion moved by Winfield Abee seconded by Jake Whisnant to accept treasurer's report as read. Motion Passed.

## 19:30 – Agency Reports

### NCSFA – Tim Bradley

- **North Carolina Firefighters' Foundation (NCFE)**
  - The NCFE is gearing up to accept donations for NCSFA members who have been affected by Hurricane Matthew. The goal is to more of a benevolent foundation that will assist members who have been affected by this tragedy. More information will come as soon as it is available.
  
- **Name Change Update**
  - The Association's name was changed by the General Assembly this year to the NC State Firefighters' Association. The Charter has been updated with the Secretary of State and staff's working on updating electronic media, documents, letterhead, etc. For some time you will still see Firemen's in various places, so please just be patient with us as well try to find all of the places the changes need to be made.
  
- **Bylaw Change Update**
  - The Association agreed by vote at the 2016 SAFRE Conference to the recommended changes in the by-laws. Although most of these are consistent with the way we've done business in the past, here are some key points on the changes they include:
    - Corrected the voting process to make the bylaws current with how we have done elections the last several years. This essentially eliminates the use of delegate cards
    - Changed the terms of regionals board members representing the three regions to three year terms instead of three individual annual terms. This is essentially the practice that has existed for the past many years anyway. There is also a new section added to allow regions to remove their representatives if they are not serving properly in a fair and consistent manner.
    - Changed the terms of all Board members to 3 years, and made the move of 2<sup>nd</sup> VP to 1<sup>st</sup> VP automatic, which is consistent with the other Executive positions. So now the 1st VP is not an elected position but the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP remains an elected position, and next year when we have an election for Statistician, it will be a 3 year term just like the Treasurers position.
    - It now requires any candidate running for an elected position to make notification of intent to seek office by April 1<sup>st</sup>, so the election is fair and advertised well ahead of the conference meeting. This insures people know who is running so they can plan to come and vote if they desire.
    - Added sections that allow the removal of any Board member by the membership in a fair and advertised manner.

- **2016 Annual Conference/SAFRE Expo Report**
  - This year's conference in Charlotte was a success. We had over 200,000 square feet in vendor exhibits, and the conference attendance registration was over 1,900. We had a Friday night street party at the NASCAR Hall of Fame, and one of the largest banquets ever on Saturday night with over 600 attendees. As we compile the data we'll continue to provide updates.
  - **Election of Officers**
    - At the SAFRE Conference in Charlotte Chief Dennis Presley from the Skyland Fire Department in Buncombe County was elected as the new Statistician. He joins Winfield Abee, the new Western Director, as new members on the Board. Chief John Grimes revolved off the Board after serving a year as Past President.
  
- **2017 SAFRE/FRI Update**
  - The 2017 SAFRE conference is scheduled the week of July 24-29<sup>th</sup> of 2017. This is earlier than our normal dates, and the conference will be joined with FRI. This will increase our vendor show from 200,000 sq. feet to 285,000 sq. feet. It is an outstanding opportunity to go to FRI if you've never been, while it is in North Carolina at a very reasonable rate. There are a lot of specifics to be worked out, but here are a few of the selections of attendance:
    - Just to attend the vendor show will be \$25, but if you show you NCSFA membership card you can get in for free.
    - Normal SAFRE registration will be around \$100, just as it always has which includes the vendor show.
    - If you want to attend FRI, as a NCSFA member for an early rate of \$450 you can attend both conference and the vendor show. This would include the FRI education track of your choice.
    - Guests, banquet tickets, etc., will be similar as in previous years.
  - Look for more to come as registration becomes available.
  
- **Relief Fund Reporting Requirements**
  - Don't forget about the deadline for relief funds financial statements, and report of eligibility due to retain eligibility for relief funds. They are both due October 31<sup>st</sup>. Each Local Relief Fund Board Treasurer was sent a letter with their log-in and password last month. Keep in mind that once the Treasurer completes the Finance Report on line, they also must email, fax, or mail copies of bank statements as well by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Please remind them to e-mail them [ed@ncsfa.com](mailto:ed@ncsfa.com). If they are mailed, or faxed, advise them to keep a certified receipt of the mailing or a fax confirmation for their record.
  
- **Additional**
  - Dates of Importance
    - January 15, 2017 Fire Department Certified Rosters are due.
    - Chief's Mid-Winter Conference, February 1-5, 2017. Regional and State Boards Summit to be held in the afternoon on Tuesday January 31, 2017. Mid-Winter Conference will be held at the Embassy Suites in Concord.

## **NCAFC – Jeff Cash**

- **Annual Board Planning Session**
  - October 5-7, 2016.
  - Highlights
    - The board will be looking into doing focus groups in conjunction with the three regional associations to provide the board with grass roots input.
  
- **NCAFC/NCSFA Joint Cancer Task Force Inaugural Meeting**
  - November 3, 2016 at Guil-Rand Fire Department.
  
- **Address Change**
  - PO Box 1416, Shelby NC 28151.
  
- **Web Site Updates**
  - Fire Chief & Fire Officer of the Year (Nominations are now open).
  - Membership “**Spotlight**” will begin in November.
  - Leadership “**Thought**” will begin in November.
  - “**Yahoo Talk Group**” coming soon “**Officers Talk Group**”
  
- **NCAFC Mid-Winter Conference**
  - February 1-5, 2017. Embassy Suites in Concord.
  - Workshop Highlights:
    - Bill Jenaway – “Who Controls the Right Seat & Risk Management for Fire, Rescue, EMS Instructors”.
    - Paul Brooks – “Accreditation 101 (Volunteer, Combination, Career)”.
    - Dave Finger – “OSHA Emergency Response Preparedness”.
    - Sal Scarpa – “Where have all the Good Officers Gone”?
    - Candice McDonald – “Reputation Management in the Fire Service”.
    - Key Note Speakers:
      - James Tornabene.
      - Dennis Swanberg.
  - Hot-Classes at Z-Max Race Track.
  
- **Training Management Program**
  - October 17-21, 2016
  - Charlotte Fire Department Training Center
  - 47 Students attending.
  
- **NC National Fire Academy Weekend**
  - November 18-20, 2016.
  - National Fire Academy/Emmitsburg Maryland.
  - 265 Students Registered.
  
- **58<sup>th</sup> NC Fire Prevention School**
  - March 20-24, 2017
  - Ft. Fisher, Kure Beach NC.

## NVFC – Jeff Cash

- **NVFC Programs – [www.NVFC.org](http://www.NVFC.org)**
  - The NVFC administers a wide array of programs to assist fire departments, firefighters, EMS personnel, and emergency responders. These programs address issues ranging from health and safety, recruitment and retention, fire department capacity, fire prevention, and more. NC Directors: Tim Bradley/Jeff Cash.
    - Share The Load: A Support Program for Firefighters and EMTs.
    - Find the Firefighter in You.
    - National Junior Firefighter.
    - Wildland Fire Assessment Program.
    - Heart Healthy Firefighter.
    - Fire Corps.
    - Globe Gear Giveaway.
  
- **NVFC Volunteer Firefighter Support Fund**
  - Every day, volunteer firefighters and emergency personnel put their lives on the line to protect their communities, but what happens when the tragedy strikes home? Many first responders are impacted each year by disasters such as hurricanes, flooding, tornadoes, and others. These men and women dedicate themselves to serving their communities. When their homes and families are affected by tragedy, they rely on the community to give back. You can assist in helping these first responders in need by contributing to the National Volunteer Fire Council's (NVFC) Volunteer Firefighter Support Fund.
  - The NVFC Volunteer Firefighter Support Fund provides a stipend of \$250 to volunteer first responders whose homes have been impacted by a state- or federally-declared disaster. The stipend helps these firefighters and emergency personnel meet their basic needs in the aftermath of the disaster. Recipients who are not already NVFC members also receive a complimentary one-year Individual Membership into the NVFC.
  - The Volunteer Firefighter Support Fund was created in response to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. Since then, the fund has also assisted volunteer first responders impacted by flooding in New York and along the Mississippi River, tornadoes in different parts of the country, Super Storm Sandy, and other large-scale disasters. So far, more than half a million dollars have been distributed to volunteer firefighters in need. The fund relies on the support of individuals and organizations to assist volunteer first responders in need.
  - **Applying For Assistance**
    - Volunteer first responders whose homes have been impacted by a state- or federally-declared disaster can apply for assistance through the Volunteer Firefighter Support Fund. The Fund provides a \$250 stipend to help these individuals meet basic needs in the aftermath of a disaster, as funds allow. To qualify for a stipend through the Volunteer Firefighter Support Fund, applicants must meet the following criteria:
      - Be from an NVFC member state as an individual or department member of the state association, or an NVFC member.
      - Be an active volunteer firefighter, rescue worker, or EMS provider.

- Live (or have housing) in a state- or federally-declared disaster area.
- Have incurred an uninsurable loss in excess of \$5,000
- Applications must be received by the NVFC within 60 days after the incident occurred.

➤ **Position on Firefighter Physicals (Adopted September 23, 2016)**

- The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) supports annual medical assessments for all firefighters. Firefighter health and safety is essential to the protection of citizens and property in our communities. Firefighting is a physically demanding occupation. Health-related injuries including heart attack, stroke and cancer are the leading causes of firefighter duty-related death.
- It is important that firefighters have an annual medical assessment but many do not. In some cases firefighters may not have health insurance or even a personal physician to conduct or consult with regarding the results of the assessment. Additionally, it can be cost-prohibitive or administratively challenging for many departments to implement an assessment program. The following are options for departments to consider in developing a firefighter medical assessment program:
  - **Preventive care/wellness check.**
    - Preventive care/well check assessments are generally available at no charge through employer-provided health insurance, Medicare or Medicaid. Individual coverage purchased through health insurance exchanges typically includes a free annual preventive care/well visit. It is important to note that this type of assessment is not designed to assess the ability of a person to perform the job duties of a firefighter.
  - **Department of Transportation (DOT) assessment**
    - A DOT medical assessment is designed to confirm that someone is healthy enough to safely perform the job of commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver. A DOT assessment must be conducted by a licensed “medical examiner” listed on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration National Registry. It is important to note that this type of assessment is not designed to assess the ability of a person to perform the job duties of a firefighter.
  - **Department-specific assessment**
    - Many fire departments develop a medical assessment for their candidates and members that include components of the NFPA 1582 assessment but are based on the specific job duties and expectations of the agency.
  - **NFPA 1582-compliant assessment**
    - The NFPA 1582 standard presents descriptive requirements for a comprehensive occupational medical program for fire departments. Provisions are applicable to fire department candidates and members whose job descriptions are outlined in NFPA 1001, NFPA 1002, NFPA 1003, NFPA 1006, NFPA 1021, and NFPA 1051.

## **OSFM – Wayne Bailey**

- **New Office Location**
  - 116 West Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27699.
  - This move will be temporary until renovations are complete at the Albemarle Building.
  - Mailing Address:
    - 1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1202.
  - New Officer Number:
    - (919)647-0000.
- **Certification Rewrites**
  - Marine, Airport, FLSE and Driver Operator are projected to be released this year.
- **Practical Skills for FF and TR**
  - FF and TR now have a critical skill element that the student must perform correctly in order to pass the overall skill. If this critical skill is not performed, the student will not pass the practical skill regardless of the overall score.
- **Indoctrination Classes**
  - These classes have and are being run with great success and comments. This is for General Level II certified instructors who wish to become qualified. We highly recommend current qualified instructors and school directors to attend as well.
- **The 2017 Q-Schools are posted on our website.**
- **Image Trend Records Management**
  - Software is available for all departments to use for free. It provides NFIRS reporting and other tools like training, inventory and inspections. All departments who use the fire USFA NFIRS tool will be required to switch to Image Trend for NFIRS reporting by December 31. If they are using software packages like Emergency Reporting and Firehouse the DO NOT have to switch. It can be accessed through OSFM 24 portal.
- **Testing Procedure**
  - If you are a qualified instructor make sure that you follow the NCFRC's Policy for Testing.

## **NCEM – Curt Deaton on behalf of Eric Wiseman**

- **Hurricane Matthew**
  - NC EM would like to thank all of the western departments who have sent and/or will send firefighters to Eastern North Carolina in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew.

## **NCFS – Travis Ruff**

- **Weather/fuel conditions for the upcoming fall season.**
  - WNC is in a drought. Some counties are in an extra ordinary drought conditions and the rest are in an exceptional drought conditions.
  - Fires will require more than just a scratch line and will need to be monitored more than usual.
  - Mop up require more time and resources.
  - Dozer and hose lines will be used more often.

- There will be an increase from fire departments to provide water.
- Due to some NCFSS crews being utilized down east. Fire departments will be requested to supply man power longer than normal.

➤ **Aviation Stationed at Hickory**

- 1 Helicopter.
- 2 Scout Planes.

**NCFFF – Dennis Matheny**

- NCFFF is facilitating a LODD round table for all Chief Officers that has suffered a LODD during the Mid-Winter Conference. Details and information will be available in the brochures for Mid-Winter.

- NCFFF will be set up as a vendor at Caldwell County Fire School in November.

- We now have NCFFF merchandise in the west. Contact Rick Wood at [828-230-7114](tel:828-230-7114) if interested in any NCFFF shirts, hoodies or other items.

➤ **NCFFF Contact Information**

- [www.ncfff.org](http://www.ncfff.org) (919) 697-5350, NCFFF 323 West Jones Street, Suite 401, Raleigh NC 27603.
- Can also follow us on Facebook.
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**Community Colleges – Winfield Abee**

- Mike Willis has resigned from WPCC to take the job as Burke County Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Director.

- Dr. James Williamson, System Office President, has completed statewide tour of all colleges and campuses.

- The Fire/Rescue Advisory Board meeting was held Oct 18, 2016, at Mitchell CC. FIP Number approved through WDLC pending Commission Approval at April Meeting.

- Directors and Regional Coordinators attended and presented at the 2016 NC Community College Adult Educators Association Conference.

➤ **Fee Wavier Legislative Change**

- The new waiver for “**Firefighters, EMS personnel, and rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty station is located on a military installation within North Carolina...**” is new since their last meeting. It came out this summer with an effective date of August 15.

- **Upcoming Weekend Fire/Rescue Colleges**
  - High Angle School Surry CC Nov 4-6, 2016
  - Wilkes CC Nov 4-6, 2016
  - Cleveland CC Nov 11-13, 2016
  - Cape Fear CC Jan 6-8, 2017
  - Sandhills CC Jan 27-29, 2017
  - Lumberton CC Feb 3-5, 2017
  - Fontana/Tri-County Feb 16-19, 2017
  - Randolph CC Mar 3-5, 201
  - Haywood CC April 6-9.
    - Wilderness Weekend at Camp Hope
    - TR Wilderness, Wilderness Medical, Man Tracking, Tree Rescue TR Ropes.
  
- **Announcements:**
  - Doug Frye representing Armed Forces Benefit Association.
    - AFBA offers a free \$5,000 life insurance to fire service personnel.
    - Doug Frye: 828-238-0560, [dfrye@afba.us](mailto:dfrye@afba.us).
  - Rick Livingston
    - Western Region FLSE Meeting will be held at Mills River Fire Department on November 7, 2016 at 10:00.

20:01 - **Old Business – No Discussion**

20:01 - **New Business**

1. **SAFRE Grant Changes:**
  - Motion moved by Joey Webb seconded by William Hunt to increase the number of SAFRE grants awarded to two and increase the amount of each grant to \$1,500 dollars. Motion Passed.
  
2. **Proposed By-Law Changes:**
  - NCSFA voted to change their bylaws at the annual conference. The WNCAFF Executive Board will look at the WNCAFF bylaws for possible changes to reflect the change in the NCSFA bylaws and other changes that need to be addressed.
  
3. **WNCAFF Officers Positions**
  - Ryan Cole presented the nominations for the 2017 officer positions of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Foothills Director.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Todd Frizzell has decided to step away from the executive board and declined the nomination of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Highland Regional Director Trevor Lance was presented to the membership for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Motion moved by Greg Shuping seconded by Dennis Fagnant to accept the nomination of Trevor Lance. Motion Passed.
    - Secretary: Anthony Penland was presented to the membership for the position of secretary. Motion moved by Steve Jones seconded by Larry Morrow to accept the nomination of Anthony Penland. Motion Passed.
    - Treasurer: Dean Coward was presented to the membership for the position of treasurer. Motion moved by Jeff Cash seconded by Jake Whisnant to accept the nomination of Dean Coward. Motion Passed.
    - Foothills Director: Mark Hinson and Todd McMurry were presented to the membership for the position of Foothills Director. Each candidate was

permitted to address the association. President Deaton suspended the meeting so that a vote could occur among the Foothills Region. Todd McMurry was elected to the position of Foothills Director.

- In keeping with parliamentary procedure, Motion moved by Jeff Cash seconded by Bob Messer to destroy the ballots of the election. Motion Passed.

**4. Highlands Director Vacancy**

- The Highlands Regional Director position will be left vacant until the January 18, 2017 meeting. Anyone interested in this position needs to contact the nominating committee.
  - Eric Wiseman: [eric.wiseman@ncdps.gov](mailto:eric.wiseman@ncdps.gov).
  - David Hughes: [dhughes@hagemeyerna.com](mailto:dhughes@hagemeyerna.com).
  - William Hunt: [william.hunt@cityofshelby.com](mailto:william.hunt@cityofshelby.com).
  - Ryan Cole: [rcole@skylandfire.com](mailto:rcole@skylandfire.com).

**5. Firefighter, Officer and Chief of the Year.**

- Applications for the End of the Year awards can be found on the WNCAFF.com website. Please go to the website and fill out an application. The deadline is December 15, 2016.

**6. Next Meeting:** January 18, 2017. Rowan County.

Meeting adjourned at 20:35.

Respectfully Submitted: Secretary Anthony Penland