

WNCAFF Quarterly Meeting  
Mills River Fire Department  
October 17, 2018

18: 33 - President Livingston called the meeting to order with 155 members in attendance. President Livingston welcomed those in attendance on behalf of the Mills River Fire Department. He then introduced Mills River Mayor Chae Davis.

National Anthem sung by Mills River FD, Firefighter Kenneth Martin.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mills River FD, Firefighter Cadet Graham Hill

President Livingston recognized the three candidates seeking election as the WNCAFF Foothills Region Director. Each candidate, Kelvin Brim, Greg Summit and Earl Withers addressed the association.

President Livingston recognized the meal sponsors for the meeting:  
Mark Durner from Mobile Communications America

18:45 - Reflection and Invocation was given by: Mills River FD, Chaplain Jimmy Burris.

18:50 – Meeting recessed for the meal.

19:35 - Meeting Reconvened.

**President Livingston recognized the 2018 WNCAFF Officers.**

President Rick Livingston – Mills River Fire Department  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Trevor Lance – Skyland Fire Department  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Brian Piercy – Ashford North Cove Fire Department  
Secretary Anthony Penland – Swannanoa Fire Department  
Treasurer Dean Coward – Saunook Fire Department  
Past President Andy Webster – Cool Springs Fire Department  
Foothills Region Director – Todd McMurry –Shelby Fire Department  
Highlands Region Director – Robert Griffin – Edneyville Fire Department  
Mountain Region Director Shane LaCount – Mooresville Fire Department

**19:40 - Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports**

Motion moved by David Hughes and seconded by Carmen West to accept the secretary's report as mailed, emailed and/or posted to the website. Motion Passed.

Motion moved by Jeff Cash seconded by Ryan Cole to accept treasurer's report as read. Motion Passed.

## 19:55 - Agency Reports

### NCSFA – Ed Brinson

#### ➤ **Board Update**

- Our new officers were sworn in at conference. Anthony Penland from Swannanoa is your new President.
- Richard Pulley is our newest board member, representing the East.
- Quentin Cash was elected by the Western Membership District to fill an unfinished term.
- President Brian Cox has rotated off the board.

#### ➤ **Relief Fund**

- The relief fund financial report and supporting financial statements are due October 31, 2018. This reporting is based upon the year closed on June 30, 2018.
- Please remind your relief fund treasurers the system is open for them to complete their reports online.
- As of October 17, 2018 there were 450 fire departments across North Carolina who has not submitted their reports.
- Relief Fund Board of Trustees report needs to be completed online during the certification of your membership roster. December 1, 2018 through January 15, 2019. Once you have certified your roster you will be automatically prompted to update and certify your Board of Trustees report.

#### ➤ **Certified Membership Rosters**

- The certified membership rostering period starts December 1, 2018 and goes through January 15, 2019.
- Chiefs, please make sure that you get your roster certified and submitted during this period so that your personnel that participate in the Fire & Rescue Pension fund will get credit for their 36 hours of training during 2018.

#### ➤ **Conference Update**

- The 2018 SAFRE Conference was held in Raleigh, NC on August 8, 2018 through August 12, 2018.
- Registered and wrist banded attendees along with our volunteers and vendors totaled 4,800 plus people in attendance. We believe this is the largest attendance we have ever experienced in our history.
- Justin Constantine was the keynote speaker. Justin was a Major in the USMC who was shot on a mission in Al-Anbar Province. He was helping others in his company when he was shot by a sniper. His motivational speech was second to none.
- Next year's conference will be August 22-25, 2019. Preconference activities will start on August 19, 2019.
- Two candidates were voted on for positions on the executive board during the annual business meeting:
  - Scott Rogers was elected to position of Second Vice President by acclamation.
  - Jay Howell was elected to position of Treasurer by acclamation.

➤ **Bylaw Amendment**

- There were four bylaw changes voted on at conference:
  - Bylaws were amended to allow NCSFA designated Life Time members, which are typically Past-Presidents to serve on the board of the NCSFA if they are otherwise eligible.
    - This means that if they are a rostered member of a fire department and the department and member are in good standing with the NCSFA, then a life time member may run for the NCSFA Executive Board.
  - Bylaws were amended to modernize the position of Treasurer.
    - In the past, the treasurer was responsible for all collections, disbursements and budgetary issues. This is no longer practical due to the size of the NCSFA since staff maintains the day to day operations.
    - This change simply indicates that the Treasurer will provide oversight to the staff to make sure that collections, disbursements and accounting functions are carried out in accordance with the NCSFA bylaws. This change simply puts into place the current practice of the NCSFA.
  - Bylaws were amended to add the responsibility of historian to the Statistician position.
    - The NCSFA was founded in 1887 and has a rich history that needs to preserve for future boards and members.
  - Bylaws were amended to allow Past-Presidents of the association to vote on all matters involving the association. This vote comes only if they are not eligible to vote already.

➤ **Legislative Report**

- State Legislation that passed in 2018:
  - \$2.3 million dollars was appropriated to Department of Public Safety for Search and Rescue Team funding.
  - Added Esophageal Cancer to the LODD benefit for firefighters.
  - Made changes to allow OSFM to assist with arson investigations.
  - Increased the NC LODD to \$100,000.

➤ **Staying Active Legislatively and Capital Impact**

- Right now, we have 424 active Advocates on Capital Impact. That means out of 50,000+ firefighters, just fewer than 1%.
- We would prefer to have many more, but the system is designed to allow people to join, not force or bulk sign them.
- If you want to keep up with what's going on and be a part of promoting and getting good legislation passed, join up. At the very least it will give you weekly updates and contact information for all of your representatives.
- Log on to NCSFA, click on the Legislative Banner called Capital Impact, or look under the Legislative Flag. Provide your email, design your own password, and provide your home zip code. It allows for much more, but that is all that is required. It takes less than 3 minutes.

➤ **Federal Legislative Initiative**

- The NCSFA and the NCAFC have established a sub-committee from their combined Legislative Committee to work on feasibility to allow non-profit fire departments to join the Local Government Retirement System.
- This will not be a fast process, but the committee has already met with Congressman Patrick McHenry and has reached out to the National Volunteer Fire Council.
- Updates will be given out as we progress through this legislative initiative.

**NCAFC – Ryan Cole**

➤ **2018 Mid-Winter Conference**

- MWC Registration & Hotel Rooming & Banquet Seating is NOW OPEN.
- The 2 ½ week delay in opening was to respect all that was taking place in the Eastern part of the State.
- Due to many requests from our membership over the last couple of years, this year we are providing Pre-assign Banquet Seating similar to SAFRE conference.
- **PLEASE** book your rooms now. History has shown they book up fast.

➤ **Fire Chief and Fire Officer of the Year (Volunteer and Career)**

- Applications will open Monday October 22, 2018 on the website. **PLEASE** take the time to forward that dedicated individual who deserves to be recognized for their efforts.

➤ **NCAFC Life Membership**

- For those members who have retired and would like to continue to stay affiliated with the association can fill out the application on the website. The Board recognizes the Life Members during Opening session of the conference each year.

➤ **Volunteer Workforce Solutions Survey**

- **We need your help.** As a part of the Volunteer Recruitment Grant the IAFC would like to acquire a few more participants in a **brief** survey that is posted on the associations Web Site. It is easy to access on the home page and the survey only takes just a few minutes. When you register for MWC, please take a few minutes to take the survey. The data received on the survey will benefit in the recruitment efforts in North Carolina.

➤ **2019 NC Fire Prevention School Fort Fisher/Kure Beach**

- **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the School**
- March 18–22, 2019.
- Registration will open in November.
- Again, history has shown the classes' book up rather quickly.
- It's going to be a Great 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

- **NCAFC Beneficiary Forms**
  - If you are a member of the Chiefs Association and you have not updated your Beneficiary Form it is **IMPORTANT** that you update it as soon as possible. The form is on the web-site.
  
- **NCAFC Website**
  - There has been reference to the Web site several times. The site has been updated to make it user friendly. The Board requests any suggestions you made have to improve the site, please contact the office.
  
- **NCAFC Board**
  - The Chiefs Board would like to **thank** everyone who assisted with the deployments and the many resources that were utilized across the state. Once again, as always, you answered the need when called upon to help!!!!!!!!!!!!!! What a Great State!!!!!!
  
- **NC Firefighter Assistance**
  - After the Hurricane, the association sent out a survey request regarding Firefighters whose property was personally affected by the Hurricane and needed assistance with recovery. The requests received were match with those that could provide assistance and the Board would like to **Thank All** who participated in the assistance.
  
- **NCAFC Specialty License Plate**
  - After **two years of planning** and **many prototypes** and a **great deal of constructive feedback from across the state**, it is with Great pleasure to share with you the NCAFC Specialty License Plate.
  - The applications will be on line beginning next week. The goal is to have **500 PAID Applications by February 15** to receive production next year. **The cost is \$30.00**
  - All details will be on the web site.



NVFC – Jeff Cash

- **Power point presentation will be posted on the WNCAFF website and attached with the minutes.**

## **OSFM Commission Report – Kim Williams**

### ➤ **Instructor Upgrades**

- Instructor Upgrades Continue, if you are a qualified instructor, you must take this upgrade by Dec 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Live Fire Requalification's are scheduled. Anyone qualified to teach Live Fire must take this course to continue teaching.
- The LP Gas Requalification's will be scheduled around spring of 2019.

### ➤ **Test Proctors**

- School Directors will be allowed to have two designated testing administrators. They must be identified and have the Proctor Training. Proctor training is delivered at the Instructor Upgrades and Indoctrination course.

### ➤ **Image Trend**

- Departments continue to take advantage of the free Image Trend Records Management System. If anyone is interested in the software, please contact the office. We have a demo on our website. The software has NFIRS reporting, Training, Inventory, Inspections, etc.

## **OSFM Grants/Governmental Service – Kim Williams**

### ➤ **Relief Fund**

- Relief Fund deposits/checks were completed the week of October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### ➤ **Grants**

- Rescue Grant Applications closed October 1<sup>st</sup>; awards will be announced on December 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Grant quality assurance visits are being conducted by Jerry Coble. These visits are to simply assure that all information was captured in the grants system, reported correctly, and lastly should not be considered an investigation or inquiry. We are using this information to improve the process and answer any issues should an audit be required at the state level on the funds or process. If you have any questions please contact Jerry Coble or Derrick Clouston.

## **OSFM Training – Kim Williams**

### ➤ **Classes**

- NC Extrication School is full and is scheduled to be held at Sandhill's CC December 7-9. We received over 130 applications and have a wait list established.
- High Angle Rescue registration is still open and slots available to attend.
- Fall Thermal Imaging school is this weekend at Guilford CC and the course is full. The spring school will be at Cleveland CC.

## OSFM Ratings/Inspections – Kim Williams

- **NFRIS**
  - Please make sure that your NFIRS reports are being uploaded at least quarterly.
- **Water Hauls**
  - Several county-wide water haul ratings have been completed. If your county is interested, please contact Davie Summey.

## OSFM Injury Prevention – Kim Williams

- **Conferences/Summits**
  - Fire & Life Safety Educators – Feb. 19-21, 2019, at the Great Wolf Lodge in Concord, NC. Registration should be up and going by November 1, 2018. Registration for the conference is \$150.
  - Regional Fire Safety Summits-That were scheduled in September has been rescheduled to November 29 in Raleigh and December 4 in Thomasville. If you were previously registered, you do not have to re-register. Space is still available at Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018NCFSS> to register.
- **Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Classes**
  - Nov. 6-9 in Selma
  - Nov. 13-16 in Creedmoor
  - Nov. 26-29 in Elizabethtown
  - For more information or to register for a class go to: [www.buckleupnc.org](http://www.buckleupnc.org)
- **Fire Prevention**
  - We have Smoke Alarms
  - To apply for smoke alarm canvassing grant, visit our website: [www.ncdoi.com](http://www.ncdoi.com) Click Injury Prevention/Smoke Alarms
  - 7446 Smoke alarms have been distributed to NC fire departments since the first of the year and 49 Deaf & Hard of Hearing.
  - Fire Prevention week was October 7-13 and there were many events all over the state. Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey, Chief State Fire Marshal Brian Taylor, Wilmington Fire Chief Buddy Martinette, New Hanover Fire Chief Donny Hall got together to deliver Meals to our seniors in the area and check their smoke alarms to ensure they were working.
  - We are holding the Fire Safety Show for children at the State Fair, Chapel Hill, Durham, Pinecroft-Sedgefield, Rocky Mount and Wadesboro Fire Departments are performing 4 shows a day.
  - This is good time of the year to talk to your community about heating/Carbon Monoxide dangers, Frying turkeys/cooking risks and Holiday lights and tree hazards.
- **Educational Materials**
  - Go to [www.safekidsnc.org](http://www.safekidsnc.org) to order free materials.
- **IP Staffing**
  - Jan Parker retired on Oct. 1 with 12 years at OSFM and over 40 years in the fire service.

## NCFS – Stuart Scott

- **Fall Outlook**
  - Lots of rain the last several months.
  - For the past 90 days WNC well above normal rainfall, getting dry in ENC.
  - Drought Monitor has WNC out of drought conditions.
  - Forecast is for slightly above normal temperature with normal precipitation.
  
- **Fall Fire Season**
  - Warmer but wetter.
  
- **November - December Fire Potential**
  - Below normal.
  
- **Aviation**
  - Full capacity out of Hickory with the helicopters.
  - Call for aviation resources early.
  
- **Contact Information**
  - Stuart Scott – Assistant Fire Chief NCFS  
220 Old Colony Road  
Morganton, NC 28655  
Office Phone: 828-438-3793  
Cell Phone: 828-773-8115  
Email: [stuart.scott@ncagr.gov](mailto:stuart.scott@ncagr.gov)

## NC FLSE Association – Jeannie Moore

- **Fire Prevention Week**
  - I hope that everyone's Fire Prevention is going well so far. This year's NFPA theme (Look, Listen and Learn) was a little difficult to fit into some age groups. How do you fit the hunt for home hazards in, for kindergarten and younger groups? Also, when conducting your programs, remember that "stop, drop, and roll" is considered a reactive behavior. Our goal is to prevent fires and injuries! This is the reason, we are moving this lesson away from being a primary lesson and toward the end and lesser focused on items. We still want them to know, just in case they did have an incident. If you ever have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact myself or one of the other Educator's for assistance.
  - This is a great time to conduct a smoke alarm canvassing program with installation and battery replacements. Remember just like food smoke alarms now have expiration dates: 10 years from the manufacturer's date on the back, they should be replaced.
  
- **FLSE Conference**
  - 2019 Fire and Life Safety Educator's Conference will be held February 18-21 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Concord. Room Rates will be around \$100/night and that does include waterpark wristbands.
  
- For any questions or information regarding FLSE, feel free to email Jeannie Moore at [fireeducator1840@gmail.com](mailto:fireeducator1840@gmail.com)



## **NCEM – Danny Gee**

- **Been a busy year for EM.**
  - Got through the World Equestrian Games in September.
  - Hurricane Florence and TS Michael.
- **Fall Conference:**
  - Sea Trails
  - Sunset Beach
  -
- Thanks for all the help from the local departments in assisting with the hurricanes.

## **NCFFF – Rick Wood**

- **SAFRE Conference**
  - This year's conference was a great success for the NCFFF. We appreciate everyone who attend the memorial service, the candlelight service, the LODD roundtable discussion and who stopped by the booth and supported the Foundation.
- **LODD Report**
  - 8/13/2018 - Assistant Chief Jeff Holden, Orange Rural Fire, Orange County.
    - Chief Holden had worked a Trench Rescue in Efland, NC and successfully freed the victim, upon returning to the station, Chief Holden collapsed in the shower and resuscitation efforts by the crew on duty were unsuccessful.
  - 4/8/18 - Chief Richard Sales, Reynolds Fire Dept. Buncombe County
  - 6/3/18 - Chief Tony Spencer, Englehard FD, Hyde County
  - 6/10/18 - Firefighter Dakota Snively Eastside Volunteer Fire Dept. Stanly County
  - 7/4/18 - Firefighter Michael Goodnight, West Liberty Vol. Fire Dept., Rowan County
  - Will Willis, Asheville Fire Dept.
- **Previous years LODD's**
  - 05/18/17- Bobby Darren Shew, Roaring River Vol. Fire Dept. Wilkes County
  - 11/04/14- Captain Eric Lacewell, Wilmington Fire Dept.
- **Pre-1981 LODD's**
  - Recognition at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, Emmitsburg Maryland.
  - Walkway of bricks will be laid to honor and remember all those who died in the line of duty prior to 1981 in a section of the walkways surrounding the National Memorial.
  - Paul Brooks is heading up the effort to add all the names from North Carolina to the National Memorial. Total Cost for placing bricks for North Carolina Fallen is approx. \$12,100.
  - Joint effort between NCSFA/NCAFC/NCFFF to help raise funds to complete this project.
  - <https://www.firehero.org/donate/fundraising/support-nfff-purchase/sponsor-a-brick/>
  - Individual named bricks are \$100, Department bricks are \$150.
  - If Individual Departments/Agencies purchase a memorial brick for their fallen firefighter pre-1981 to add to the North Carolina Section of the Walk of Honor, please let us know so we can check them off the list. Those Departments or Fire Brigades that are no longer in service, Between the State Organizations we will look into ways of providing funding to cover those.
  - **List of all Pre-1981 Line of Duty names are available and will be attached to the report.**

## 20:50 - New Business

1. Cancer Insurance
  - Mr. Paul Miller made a presentation to the association about a Cancer Policy that is being provided by the NC Firefighters' Insurance Providers.
2. LGFCU/Civic
  - Mr. Dwayne Naylor from Civic Credit Union (LGFCU) spoke about the new credit union that has been developed by LGFCU. The SECU made the decision not to service business accounts for their credit union and told LGFCU that their employees would not service LGFCU business accounts in the local branches. With over 770 business accounts and many fire department loans through LGFCU Commercial Lending, the LGFCU board of directors decided to create Civic. Questions can be addressed by contacting LGFCU.
3. 2018 Firefighter/Officers and Chief of the Year Nominations
  - Applications need to be submitted to Chief Ryan Cole by Saturday, November 17, 2018. Chief Cole's email address is rcole@skylandfire.com.
4. WNCAFF Officer Nominations/Elections
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Todd McMurry (Only Nomination)  
Motion moved by William Hunt seconded by Earl Withers to elect Todd McMurry by acclimation. Motion passed.
  - Secretary – Anthony Penland (Only Nomination)
  - Motion moved by David Hughes seconded by Earl Withers to elect Anthony Penland by acclimation. Motion passed.
  - Treasurer – Dean Coward (Only Nomination)  
Motion moved by Ryan Cole seconded by Quentin Cash to elect Dean Coward by acclimation. Motion passed.
  - Foothills Director (Earl Withers, Kelvin Brim, Greg Summitt)
    - Election was held with Earl Withers being voted to serve as the Foothills Director.
    - Motion moved by Ryan Cole seconded by Quentin Cash to destroy the ballots. Motion passed.
5. Announcements/Recognition
  - Lowell Griffin (Edneyville Fire Department) recognized as sheriff elect for Henderson County.
  - Winfield Abee (Lake James Fire Department) running for the NCSFA Executive Board in 2019. Would appreciate your support.
  - Becky Rawls (Atlantic Emergency Solutions) spoke about the importance of each individual and the differences that they are making in the lives of their citizens.
6. Next Meeting: Polkville Fire Department (Cleveland County)
  - January 16, 2019.
  - Polkville Fire Department  
4315 Polkville Road  
Polkville, NC 28136

21: 35 Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted: Secretary Anthony Penland