



## MONTANA CAREER FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

President: Brent Christopherson  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Frank Odermann  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Greg Megaard  
Treasurer: Jason Manley  
Secretary: Steve Hester

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Meeting called to order on April 29, 2010 @ 1:30 PM

### In Attendance:

Brent Christopherson	Assistant Chief	Missoula Rural Fire Department
Frank Odermann	Assistant Chief	Billings Fire Department
Steve Hester	Assistant Chief	Great Falls Fire Rescue
Derrick Rogers	Fire Chief	Miles City Fire Department
John Bibler	Fire Chief	Frenchtown Fire Department
Adriane Beck	Captain/Training	Frenchtown Fire Department
Derrick Rogers	Fire Chief	Miles City Fire Department
Randy McCamley	Fire Chief	Great Falls Fire Rescue
Jeff Miller	Fire Chief	Butte Fire Department
Mike Painter	Fire Chief	Missoula Fire Department
Steve Paske		Missoula Fire Department
Paul Dextras	Fire Chief	Billings Fire Department
Jason Shrauger	Fire Chief	Bozeman Fire Department
Jack Coburn		Bozeman Fire Department
Glenn Davis	Training Officer	Helena Fire Department
Steve Larson	Fire Chief	Helena Fire Department
Bill Rash	Fire Chief	Lockwood Fire Department

### Visitors:

Liz and Steve Cunningham      T.E.S.T. Inc.

### MEETING MINUTES:

- 1) Administrative Issues:
  - a) Meeting called to order by President Christopherson
  - b) Pledge of Allegiance
  - c) Role call
  - d) Motion: Approve Jan. 21, 2010 meeting minutes Passed
  
- 2) Presentation:
  - a) Liz and Steve Cunningham of Total Educational Solutions in Technology (TEST) provided a presentation on webinars and web based training.
  - b) The MCFCA Members were interested in exploring the possibilities of this technology for all organizations.



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- c) Liz explained there would be a cost savings if more organizations were involved and noted that if there was enough interest, she may be willing to develop a partnership for a server with the fire organizations involved.

### 3) Committee Reports:

- a) Treasure's report: Manley was unable to attend; Odermann stated that MCFCA had a cash balance of \$3,665.75. A financial balance sheet couldn't be provided.
- b) Finance Committee Report:
- i) Ideas for funding: discussion was held on funding ideas. One idea was to develop a buying group or for MCFCA to join a buying group which would create revenue for the Association. More information and research is needed to find options to this idea.
  - ii) A local refinery in Billings donated \$2000 to the MCFCA, it was suggested that there may be other corporate grants or donations that could be sought by members of MCFCA.
  - iii) Renting advertising space on the MCFCA web-page shall be investigated. The finance committee will:
    - (1) Discuss the possibilities with web master and
    - (2) Develop a letter to vendors
- c) Training Committee Report:
- i) A discussion was held regarding the idea of MCFCA providing Pro-board certification for firefighters and fire officers.
  - ii) Examples were given from Bucks County PA and Washington State.
  - iii) This item shall remain open and will be on the agenda for next meeting
  - iv) Motion: Hester & McCamley will inform the Fire Services Training School Director Butch Weedon that MCFCA is exploring the possibilities for developing a fire service accreditation program. Unanimously passed.
- d) Fire Marshal's report: This committee will submit minutes which shall be posted on the web-site.

### 4) Old Business:

- a) Mission Statement: Several suggestions were presented and after the members deliberate the following was voted and accepted as the MCFCA Mission Statement.
- i) "The Montana Career Fire Chief's Association exists to shape the future of Montana's professional fire service organizations, enhance the professional development of its members, and improve the quality of life for the communities it serves."
  - ii) Motion: Accept the MCFCA mission statement as written. Approved unanimously



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- b) Strategic Objectives: The members considered several strategic objectives but after some discussion determined that while strategic objectives are a good idea it was too early in this organizations evolution to have many strategic objectives.
  - c) Motion: Table the strategic objectives; Passed unanimously.
- 5) New Business:
- a) The members considered a proposal to develop a MCFCA EMS committee. The members discussed this idea and determined that it had merit. Further study and a interest survey will be sent out to determine if an EMS committee should be organized.
    - i) The Consensus of the members was that Chief Mike Painter would send out an inquiry to the departments.
  - b) Medical Marijuana Issues: The members were asked to consider what the local ramification of the recent medical marijuana legislation. There were a number of issues that Fire Chiefs must address for the sake of firefighter and community safety.
    - i) MCFCA members agreed that the association must speak with a collective voice and identify their concerns and offer recommendations for legislative changes.
    - ii) Also a position paper shall be drafted by Chief McCamley that clarifies the issues and concerns of the MCFCA.
  - c) An invitation from the Montana Firefighter Association was offered to allow chief officers to participate in their conference in June at Fairmont Hot Springs in Anaconda Mt.
  - d) Great Falls Fire Rescue modeled the new MCFCA logo embroidered on shirts. The web-site and catalog was offered to allow others to order.