



## 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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### In Attendance:

Paul Dextras	Fire Chief	Billings Fire Department
Frank Odermann	Assistant Chief	Billings Fire Department
Steve Hester	Assistant Chief	Great Falls Fire Rescue
Mike Painter	Fire Chief	Missoula Fire Department
Steve Larson	Fire Chief	Helena Fire Department
Bill Colwell	Fire Chief	Missoula Rural Fire District
Brent Christopherson	Assistant Chief	Missoula Rural Fire District
Mike Painter	Fire Chief	Missoula City Fire Department
Jason Shrauger	Fire Chief	Bozeman Fire Department
Greg Megaard	Assistant Chief	Bozeman Fire Department
William Rash	Fire Chief	Lockwood Fire Department
Dale Berg	Fire Chief	Miles City Fire Department
Steve Larson	Fire Chief	Helena Fire Department

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Date: June 06, 2011

Time: 1430 - 1600

Location: Bozeman, Mt MSU Campus Shroyer Gym

- 1) Administrative Procedure
  - a) Called to order by President Christopherson @ 1430
  - b) Role Call: Attendees noted above
- 2) Old Business
  - a) MCFCA identification cards were completed and offered to members and handed out.
- 3) New Business
  - a) Legislation for next session. There was a discussion regarding MCFCA legislative issues. One specific topic was HB 231 which would have allowed Class I cities to use volunteers and what would MCFCA do in order to offer alternatives or more workable solutions to this bill if it were to come up during the next Mt state legislative session.
  - b) During the Montana Career Firefighters Association, spring meeting, Regional IAFF director Ricky Walsh suggested that firefighters and fire chiefs work together and offer



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the legislators with a different model that would be more suitable for Montana Cities and communities.

- i) A motion was made for the MCFCA President to contact Retired TVF&R Fire Chief Jeff Johnson, who has had great success in Oregon with the Rural Fire Authority (RFA) model to see if he could meet with the MCFCA to discuss this issue. Since he will be attending the MSFCA, meeting in October this would be the best opportunity for this meeting.
  - ii) Motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the members.
- c) Also, the members discussed the options and possibilities to acquiring a legislative liaison. There are issues with funding but Retired Fire Chief Curt Belts may be interested in the position for a reasonable price.
- i) Motion: The MCFCA President should contact Curt Belts to determine if he is still interested, and if so, what would be the cost.
  - ii) Motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the members.
- 4) Other business:
- a) There is tentatively an eight day Fire Officers Academy to be offered in Helena in December 2011. Further details shall follow from Helena Fire Department.
    - i) The course shall be held at the Mt Law Enforcement Academy which will keep overall costs down to about \$335.00 per student including room and board.
  - b) A HazMat technician course shall be offered Sept. 26-30, 2011 in Helena in cooperation with Helena Fire Department and the 83<sup>rd</sup> Civil Support Team. This program is being offered with Hazardous Material Emergency Planning funding. Further details forthcoming.
  - c) The next tentatively scheduled MCFCA meeting shall be held in conjunction with the MSFCA meeting on October 06, 2011 from 1230 – 1330, location TBA.