



MONTANA CAREER FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

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

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
Mike Painter	Fire Chief	Missoula Fire Department
Steve Larson	Fire Chief	Helena Fire Department
Jason Manley	Fire Chief	Lewistown Fire Department

Date: January 17, 2011

Time: 1815 – 1930

Location: Helena – Lucca's Restaurant, 56 Last Chance Gulch, Helena Montana

- 1) Administrative Procedure
 - a) Called to order by President Christopherson @ 1815
 - b) Role Call: Attendees noted above
 - c) Review and Accept MCFCA Meeting minutes for 9/29/2010: Approved unanimously

- 2) Legislative Issues.
 - a) Representative Brodehl has introduced LC-0860 to repeal laws specifying disciplinary actions by fire departments and municipalities
 - i) MCFCA shall offer no official position on this issue at this time
 - b) Also, Rep. Brodehl introduced HB-231 to repeal the requirements for municipalities to hire career paid firefighters in class I and II cities.
 - i) MCFCA shall offer no official position on this issue at this time

Another legislative concern is LC-1844.1 which would limit EMS providers to 12 hours in one consecutive 24 hour period with at least a 10 hour rest period. This legislation is still in draft, none the less it may have profound effect with full time fire service's ability to provide EMS. The MCFCA has taken a position to oppose this bill draft.

 - c) MCFCA are asked to review these documents for further discussion and action.

- 3) Elections of MCFCA Executive Board
 - a) The membership voted unanimously to re-elect the current Executive Board for another term.

 - b) Also, of concern is LC 1844.1 which would limit EMS providers to 12 hours in one consecutive 24 hour period with at least a 10 hour rest period. This legislation is still in draft, none the less it may have profound effect with full time fire service's ability to provide EMS.



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- 4) It was brought to the attention of the Association Members that a State firefighter medical presumption law (LC 2159) is currently being drafted. Legislators will want hard data to back-up the need for compensation of firefighter specific illnesses and injuries.
 - 5) Elections of MCFCA Executive Board
 - a) Since the Association is relatively new and there is still much to do in regards of forming and organizing the MCFCA; the board wishes to consider keeping the Executive Board another year.
 - b) The proposal passed unanimously.
 - 6) The association discussed the importance of maintaining a communication link with the Montana State Fire Chief's Association (MSFCA). This line of communication will help this Association to stay in touch with the Western Chiefs and the International Association of Chiefs.
 - a) Also there are two MCFCA members who are executive board members of MSFCA. They inquired if it was important if one of them or both represented the interests of the MCFCA to the State Chiefs.
 - b) MCFCA members were asked to review the bylaws and be prepared to discuss the matter at the mid-winter (early spring) meeting.
 - 7) Membership dues will be sent out soon. All current members should contact others who maybe interested in joining.
 - 8) Next meeting will be in Billings (location and time TBA) on March 31, 2011