

PIEDMONT NORTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY MEETING

JANUARY 25, 2017

CITY OF KING FIRE DEPARTMENT

Call to Order: President Steve Neal called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Opening Comments: President Neal thanked Chief Steve Robertson and City of King Fire Department for hosting meeting tonight. Thanks also given to Stevens Fire Equipment for sponsoring our meal and the American Legion for use of their building tonight.

Prayer: Chris Langham offered the opening prayer and gave thanks for the meal.

Introduction of the Board: President Neal welcomed everyone and asked that they sign the sheet going around. He introduced the Piedmont Association Board of Directors:

Steve Neal – President
Chris Langham – 1st VP
A.C. Rich – 2nd VP
Ed Brinson – Treasurer
Dolly Hulin – South Director
Chris Davis – North Director
Brian Cox – Past President
Kathy Weatherspoon – Executive Secretary

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous association meeting were provided for review and approval. Motion made to accept by Steven Robertson and seconded by James Griffin. Passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given. Total in all accounts is \$25,712.00. Motion made to accept by Jerry Brooks and seconded by Len Needham. Passes unanimously.

Vendor Briefs: Stevens was recognized and thanked for sponsoring the meal tonight. Stevens was given a few minutes to introduce their staff and gave a brief update of what they can do for firefighters and departments across the Piedmont. LGFCU thanked everyone for their support and use of the debit cards.

Agency Reports

1. New Insurance Commissioner, Mike Causey introduced himself and gave a brief history and stated he was looking forward to working with all of us and is honored to serve us. He was sworn in on December 31 at Gil-Rand Fire Department, a first for any State elected official.
2. The NCSFA Statistician Dennis Presley attended meeting. He has been speaking with all of the Associations. He, being from the Western, thanked everyone who assisted with the coverage and help with the western fires. Thanks to everyone.
3. NCSFA – Ed Brinson gave report. He introduced all current and past board members. Thanks for submitting their rosters. Only 3 departments did not submit. Membership dues are due by March 31. On April 1, your benefits will be dropped. If paid after that, benefits can be restored but please don't let a lapse happen. Relief fund update was given. Please make sure you look at

your roster and look at your balance to see if over maximum allowed. Scholarship application process is now open. Applications are on line. Ed reported on several other benefits. Joint legislature committee has met several times and have narrowed down to several issues that they will concentrate on those issues. SAFRE Conference is coming in July. We have joined with FRI to hold conference this year. Planning has been going very smoothly so far. Several good classes available and a good time to get exposed to an International Conference and what they offer. Elections will be held at SAFRE conference. If interested you need to contact Tim Bradley by April 1. Summit of all Associations will be held next week before Mid-Winter Chief's Conference.

4. **NCAFC** – Chris Langham gave report. Chris recognized past NCAFC Presidents. He asked anyone who helped with the deployment for the down east for the hurricane and in the mountains for the woods fires to raise their hands. Thanks was given to all who helped.
5. **NCFFF** – Robert Templeton reported. Ten individuals will be added to the NCFFF Memorial on May 6, 1 from prior year and 9 current years. We set up at the Piedmont Expo last weekend and raised \$2,400. We will be setting up at more schools across the State. Ed Brinson has stepped down as our President. Rick Wood from Skyland Fire Department is our new President. We will hold a line of duty death round table discussion on Saturday at 9:30am. Please make sure your Chief's are aware of this discussion. We will also be hosting survivor dinners in February 18 and 25 in the East and West. Information is on our website. These dinners are designed to bring the families back together and continue to provide support to them and see what we can do to help them. We will hold a Memorial Service on July 27 at SAFRE Conference. Please plan to attend and support the departments and families that have experienced the ultimate sacrifice. Thanks for all of your support.
6. **NC Society of Fire-Rescue Instructors** –Jonathan Sowers gave update on upcoming classes and conferences. Reminder to renew your membership as deadline is coming soon. He gave an update on insurance that is now available for members. They will be at Mid-Winter next week.
7. **OSFM** – Derrick Clauson gave update on education. He reported on several new classes and have several classes coming up. Changes made to some classes. Scott Hackler reported about certifications. Meg Langston reported on injury prevention issues and updated issues with her section. Grant division has had a complete turnover. If you are looking for your check, please see her tonight. Grant applications are open. Dave Summey reported on the ratings and certifications reported that they are behind due to the flooding and fires. The Piedmont will be seeing a lot of them this year.
8. **SEAFRC** – Len Needham reported. Ron Fowler will be sworn in as President of the SEAFRC in June at their annual meeting in Charleston, SC. Len would like a good attendance by NC. He gave statistics for fire deaths. Most did not have smoke detectors in their home. SEAFRC will host a luncheon at FRI for all of their members.
9. **NC Community College System** – Chris Raynor reported that they have been working closely with OSFM to get several classes setup. He gave an update on several items they are working on at this time. Thanks for supporting the Community Colleges.
10. **NC Emergency Management** – Steve Robertson gave report on several EM projects.
11. **Legislature update** – Steve Neal gave list of the 3 issues committee will be addressing this year. Drivers license, reporting deadline for rosters and decreasing from 5 to 1 year for designation of a destitute firefighter in order to receive help from relief funds.

Old Business –

1. Chris Davis gave report on the Piedmont Expo that was held last weekend. They offered 7 classes and all were full. Attendance was good and they should have more information on numbers from the Expo at next meeting.

New Business –

1. Scholarships applications are now open. They can be downloaded from our website.
2. The Board of Directors nominate Shane Allred and Robert Templeton to the NCFFF Board of Directors. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion made and second to close. Both elected by acclamation.
3. The Board of Directors nominate Chris Davis as the PNCFA representative on the NCSFA board. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion made and second to close. Elected by acclamation.
4. We will give \$500 sponsorship to the NC F&LS Educators.
5. Awards were given:
 - a. Firefighter of the Year was City of King Fire Department Mark Thorpe.
 - b. Chief Officer of the Year was Bahama Fire Department Assistant Chief David Weatherspoon.
 - c. Chief of the Year was High Point Fire Department Chief Thomas Reid.

Program – Steve Neal gave update and summary of the proposed bylaw revisions that will be presented at the Mid-Winter NCAFC Conference for vote next week. They will be adding Company Officers to their membership.

2017 Meeting Locations:

- a. 4/26/17, Randolph County
- b. 7/19/17, Orange county TBD
- c. 10/25/17, Moore County at Sandhills Community College

Door prizes were given out.

Attendance: Over 100*

Adjournment – Motion made to adjourn. The association meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.