

Nat'l Volunteer Fire Council Mtng -
Friday, April 24, 1987

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MINUTES
OF
THE TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL
PLANTATION, FLORIDA

APRIL 24 - 26, 1987

Chairman MONIHAN called to order a closed meeting of the Directors and Alternate Directors at 1:00 PM on April 24. The stated purpose of this meeting was to permit the Directors to discuss items or topics which they would not comfortably talk about in public. It would also give them an opportunity to become better informed on some of the topics which would be discussed at the open meetings on Saturday and Sunday. Thirty two Directors, ten Alternate Directors, and three invited guests (Carolyn Perroni, Barbara Lundquist, and Peter Sparber) were present.

A number of items, all of which were scheduled to be presented for discussion at the regular meeting, were briefly presented by the Chairman and other speakers.

At the Chairman's invitation, each of the candidates for contested elective officers' positions made brief statements relating to their qualifications and reasons why they should be elected.

Pete Sparber talked about the idea of charitable foundations in general, and asked the Directors to consider whether or not it would be advisable to become involved in the formation of a foundation which could raise funds for the development and implementation of projects which would help the NVFC to reach some of its goals and objectives.

The main purpose of any foundation of this type is to raise funds for certain purposes. In order for a foundation's income to be exempt from income taxes, it must be organized and operated in ways which will comply with rules which have been established by the Internal Revenue Service. Depending on the exact purpose for which the foundation has been organized, there are several classifications under which tax exempt status may be achieved and maintained. The most common IRS classifications are under sections 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 509(4)(1).

To have any hope of being successful, a foundation must be structured so that it will have broad sources of contributions. Even though its main purpose is to assist a specific organization, it is generally necessary that the foundation have a number (perhaps a majority) of outside directors who will be able to generate sizeable contributions. Once a foundation becomes successful, directorship seems to have a certain "prestige" value.

Unrelated income of a foundation is not sheltered from taxation, so the operations must be carefully managed to comply with the rules under which it has been organized.

There are a number of problem areas which must be considered. These include:

- Expenses connected with the organization and operation;
- Additional administrative burdens, such as the extra and detailed reports and records which are required;
- There is more and more competition for the kind of money which must be attracted. Fund raising is becoming more difficult;
- Historically, the fire service does not have a good record with foundations;
- Insurance or bonding to protect officers and directors is becoming very expensive;
- There is always the possibility of losing control to the "public"

members of the foundation;

There may be negative publicity generated by the appearance of "selling out" to contributors;

There is no "free lunch": what will contributors expect in return for their dollars, even if nothing has been expressly stated?

The NVFC has some special and unique advantages:

It has become established as the perceived representative of the volunteer fire service;

It has in place a sizeable base of friends and supporters;

If the foundation is established, these supporters can be of great help in finding and developing contributors;

The NVFC itself has a highly qualified board of directors. They must make the decision whether or not to proceed in this area.

Mr. Sparber then asked for questions.

Q. How will the foundation's funds be spent?

A. This would be determined by the IRS regulations and the foundation's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

Q. Will the NVFC be able to keep "control"?

A. Yes, but this aspect will require a great amount of care and attention.

Q. Could you give some idea of the initial organizational costs?

A. From a minimum of \$1,000 for incorporation, to as much as \$10,000, depending on research, etc.

Q. Will the new tax laws have a depressing effect on contributions?

A. It is too early to tell.

Q. Why would foundation directors be required to carry liability insurance?

A. There are a number of reasons. The foundation may be liable if a director were killed or injured while doing foundation work. Directors may be liable if the foundation were to engage in product research or similar activities. They may (most likely, will) be liable in a fiduciary capacity, relating to handling or investment of funds.

Q. Where would we look for funds?

A. Initially, the most likely prospects would be in the field of equipment and service providers. Other foundations may have an interest.

This was followed by a general discussion of the NFPA's standards 1500 and 1901, and ways in which the NVFC could have more input into development of standards which affect volunteers.

A suggestion that presentation of the annual financial report be made at a closed meeting of the Directors will be considered.

The Chairman appointed Messrs. Blaser, King, and Quien as an election committee, to conduct the scheduled election of officers on Saturday, after which the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

REPORT ON INFORMATIONAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY
FOR THE DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL
PLANTATION, FLORIDA, APRIL 24, 1987

Acting Chairman Henry Roux called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. Present were members Henry Roux, Jerrold Pressman, E. James Monihan, Olin Greene, and Joseph Redden. Absent were: Larry Bonafon and Lester Tyro.

Mr. Roux called on Mr. Monihan to make some introductory remarks. Jim encouraged the audience to listen to the presentations of the BOV and those members of the Academy staff who were present, and then ask questions relating to any part of the Academy functions about which they had any doubts.

Clyde Bragdon, of the USFA, and Bill Neville, Jim Casey, and Chuck Bainey, of the Academy, were then introduced...Mr. Neville welcomed the NVFC Directors, and also requested that they ask questions. "We are here to answer your questions to the best of our knowledge and ability; not to tell you how good we think things are."

Mr. Roux explained the functions of the BOV. Their schedule calls for 4 meetings each year. Each meeting has a different topic for discussion and planning. Between the meetings, they generally hold one conference call each month, to discuss items which need attention. At this time, they are examining the relationship which exists (or should exist) between the Academy and the volunteer fire service. They have completed studies of this nature on the relationship between the Academy and the Association of Black Firefighters, and between the Academy and various state training programs and systems. They are also looking at the possibility of having the Academy develop or contract for development of expert interactive computer programs to help in the training and education for combating specific types of fires or emergency situations. (Hughes Aircraft has developed an interactive program for training aircraft firefighters.)

Mr. Casey reported on currently available courses, and gave some statistics on attendance and utilization. He also talked about courses which are being developed.

Next came a discussion relating to the "reorganization" of FEMA. It is contemplated that an Office of Training will be established within FEMA, and that all training activities would be coordinated in one group.

At this time 9 vacancies exist in the Academy's staff. The travel stipend program is in serious trouble. It appears that the only way to restore this vital program is for friends of the volunteer fire service to put enough pressure on members of Congress so that they will order FEMA to reinstate it.

Another item which was discussed related to the possibility of the Academy providing correspondence courses which would lead to college credit. This appears to have some promise of fulfillment.

Fire protection at the Academy campus also came under scrutiny. Some

items which need to be looked at include smoking in the dormitory buildings; built-in protection methods and systems; and safety programs.

Some of the questions which followed:

Mr. Allinson: Should certain Senators and Representatives be lobbied to restore the stipend program?

A. To be really effective, pressure should be directed to ALL members of Congress.

Mr. McAuliffe: Is there any way to have Congress order and provide funding for an extended period of time, so that the battle for funding would not have to be repeated each year?

A. The budget is established each year; it is very difficult, if not impossible, to have any program funded into the future.

Mr. Williams: Where does the elimination of the stipend program originate each year?

A. In OMB, (Office of Management & Budget)

Why is the Fire Administration budgeted at zero?

A. The FEMA people know that the fire service will complain and "bitch" to Congress, and the funding will be restored. Some components of FEMA have no support constituency. There has always been enough support for the Fire Administration to convince Congress to order funding for USFA and NFA.

Mr. Mueller: Would it be possible to provide 5 day courses which begin on Thursday or Friday, so that it will be easier for more volunteers to attend?

A. ???

Mr. Condon: Has the possibility of seeking outside funding for Fire Academy support ever been seriously considered?

A. Yes, but any outside contributions would (by law) have to go to the General Fund; they can not be specifically be directed to the Academy.

A suggestion was made that it may be possible to utilize the Air Force or the MATC for transporting students, since "reserves are required to get in a certain amount of flight time."

This was followed by an open discussion period relating to the apparent declining utilization of Academy programs. Some of the comments and suggestions:

There are too many "look-alike" courses.

State certification programs tend to reduce Academy enrollment.

Timing is bad in certain states; conflict with other scheduled fire service activities.

The state training departments make the actual selection of the courses to be delivered in their states; changes must be made through the state coordinators.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

The Florida Firemens' Association and the Plantation Firefighters' Association served as hosts for the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the National Volunteer Fire Council.

Chairman E. James Monihan called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM on April 25, 1987. Flags were advanced to the platform by an honor guard of the Plantation Fire Department. After recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, an invocation was offered by Jim Casey. The roll call showed that 31 Directors, 1 Alternate Director, and 1 Past Chairman were present.

Welcome addresses were given by: Ron Andrick of the Florida Firemen's Association, who also introduced the association's directors; Richard Steele of the Plantation Firefighters Association; and Dave Casey, Assistant Chief of the Plantation Fire Department.

There being no further additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting, a motion by Mr. Drinkard, second by Mr. Joyner, to approve the minutes of the 1986 Fall Meeting, together with the additions as offered by Mr. Lyman, as printed and distributed, was approved.

Chairman Monihan's report:

As Directors, please continue to present a good and favorable image of the NVFC by your appearance, actions, and speech.

It is my intention that in the future, the Friday meeting of the Directors be made an official part of the Spring and Fall meetings, including presentation of motions and resolutions, and action be taken on them. This will give us an more opportunity to conduct our business and reduce some of the time pressures which usually occur.

We have received an offer of funding to permit us to send representatives to more NFPA committee meetings, which should help to increase our influence in this area.

I am sure that most of you have heard of "reorganization" of FEMA. In my estimation, this is not exactly what the federal PR people seem to be saying. When they say that the Superintendent is to report directly to the Administrator, it does not appear that this really what will happen. They are also creating a new "office of training", which is just another layer of bureaucracy; exchanging one bureaucrat for another. "Reorganization" is more of a shuffle.

Additional funding for Dr. Perkins' recruitment and retention study has been promised. The questionnaires have been returned and the information is being entered into the computer. The findings and results should be ready for distribution by the early part of September, prior to our Fall Meeting. Our Directors should study the report, which should provide insight to help the volunteer fire service plan for the future. We hope that the Directors will think about ways to utilize this information, and be ready to present ideas and suggestions at the Fall Meeting.

First Vice Chairman Ron Miller's report:

Since the last meeting of the Council in October of 1986, the Executive Committee has not met. I have been in contact with a number of committee members on various occasions.

I have made a number of contacts in state in regard to the Fire Care Program and Council activities. I have also had contacts with several members of adjoining state organizations. I have had contact with the president of the states

of Kansas and South Dakota. Kansas will invite a representative of the Council to their annual conference in June and I am still working with South Dakota to meet with their association officers.

Along with the other officers, we met with the Tobacco Institute in January and as usual had a very productive meeting. Many new ideas for the Copuncil have been discussed and I only hope some will develop. Two of the most important items are the formation of a central office and a foundation. We are now at a point where we can only go one way. The Council has to go forward and expand. We need a foundation to improve communications and fire prevention information and we need a central office to coordinate the Council's progress.

I believe the Long Range Planning Committee has the right suggestions and I think we need to implement these ideas now. We can not continue to operate as we have in the past. We are becoming too involved in too many activities for our present structure.

It has been my privilege to serve as your First Vice-Chjairman in the past and I would be honored to serve in the future.

Secretary Gus Welter's Report:

From October 21 to 25, I represented the NVFC and the Minnesota State Fire Department Association at the annual meeting of the National Fire and Police Pension Fund Association in Oklahoma City. As usual, this organization had a number of well known experts in the pension field as speakers.

At the winter board meeting of our state association's board of directors, I handed out packages of questionnaires which I had received from Dr. Perkins for distribution to a selected group of volunteer fire departments. We had a very good return of these to Dr. Perkins.

During the middle of January, I attended the officers' meeting in Washington, where we discussed future cooperative plans with people from the Tobacco Institute and Tridata. The minutes of this meeting have been sent to all Directors and Alternate Directors.

Prior to the meeting of the Planning Committee held March 13 to 15, I prepared, distributed, and tabulated a survey form which was sent to all of the Directors, requesting their input and guidance, to assist the committee in formulating a five year plan.

Miss Perroni's and Mr. Monihan's press releases brought a sizeable number of requests: for information on suppressing fires in forage silos; for the media kit on smoke detector installation and maintenance; for the list of publications on substance abuse; and continued requests for the "New Tools" package.

It appears to me that the "New Tools" material generates more favorable publicity and exposure for the Council than any other single item. With the addition of the new pieces, which are almost ready for distribution, I am sure it will continue to do a good job for us, the fire service, and the general public.

We have distributed about 4,200 of these kits during the past 3 years. Elimination of duplicate names and those whose follow-up mailings have been returned as undeliverable makes our present count of recipients just under 3,900. All of these will be sent the new items.

I encourage all Directors to continue promotion of the "New Tools".

At April 15, the NVFC has 39 Director members. The New Mexico Firefighters' Association, whose application was approved at last fall's meeting, actually joined in January. At this time, 2 of the current members have not paid their 1987 dues.

Since November 1, 1986, we have added 26 new Associate members. Most of the applications of these new members were on the form which is included in the

"New Tools" package. Of the 492 Associate members which were billed for 1987, 93 have not paid dues. The present paid membership is at 425, compared with 391 a year ago.

I thank the Directors for the cooperation and support I have received from them during the past year.

Report of John Condon, Treasurer, and Editor/Publisher of the DISPATCH:

I believe that I have taken the DISPATCH about as far as my journalistic ability and available time will permit. Therefor, I have decided that I want to be relieved of my duties as editor and publisher at the end of this year. This intent has been expressed to the officers previously.

With their advice and consent, I have solicited bids or proposals for production of the DISPATCH from a number of persons who I believe to have expertise and ability in this area. I have received proposals from Carolyn Perroni, and from Colin Campbell, who was formerly with the IAFC. I have also been informed that the Dale Corporation is interested in submitting a proposal. These proposals will be examined and studied. I expect that a full report will be made at the fall meeting.

Progress on the communications study is not going as fast as I would like to see it go. I have been trying to reach an assigned person at OMB for some time, without success. When we do get all of the pieces in place between OMB and Jim Coyle of the Fire Administration, it appears that we will be able to make a few moves. We are going to use the DISPATCH as the first medium of information distribution. The Fire Marshals Assn. of North America has agreed to have some of their people act as downstream observers to see if any of the messages get through to the rank and file firefighters. Another part of the study is to determine or to discover if the average firefighter has any great interest in the type of information which is being distributed.

An organization called "American Heat" produces and distributes video tapes dealing with emergency incidents and methods of coping with them. I have one of the tapes with me, but I don't know if there are facilities here to show it. If any of you are interested, I can furnish the address and phone numbers.

I also have a few copies of an article which was published in the Portland Oregonian, relating to the Chernobyl nuclear generating plant accident.

I have gathered information and proposals on plaques, as requested at the last meeting. I presume that this topic will be discussed when we get to old or new business

A motion by Mr. Beaty, 2nd by Mr. Barrett, to approve Mr. Condon's report was approved.

For the Audit and Budget Committee, Mr. Drinkard reported that the committee has found that the books of the treasurer are in order and properly reflect the financial activities of the Council. A motion by Mr. Drinkard, second by Mr. Lyman, to approve the report of the A&B committee was approved.

Mr. Drinkard then began to discuss the proposed budget for 1987. However, there were not enough copies of the proposed budget for each Director, so the Chairman proceeded with other business, while the copies were being made.

The Chairman then called on Mr. Barrett to make the report for the Awards Committee. (Condensed version of the report: no written report was filed.)

The committee will make the presentation of this year's award at the banquet this evening. We are really disappointed by the few nominations we receive. Only 7 or 8 are presented each year for this prestigious award. We need

to publicize the award in the DISPATCH and in other publications. I am sure that there is at least one person in every one of our member states who should be nominated. The criteria must be made known. It appears that many people are not aware that this award is not just for heroic services as a firefighter. It takes into consideration both activities in the fire service and in the community at large. Perhaps it would be advisable to prepare and distribute application forms, as well as some type of brochure which would describe what qualifications are considered by the committee in making the award. It seems to me that all of our Directors need to be reminded from time to time of the duties and obligations which are part of the job of being a Director.

For the Bylaws Committee, Mr. McKeon reported that, according to the action taken at the 1986 Fall Meeting, the Bylaws committee is waiting for the Council to take action on the Planning Committee's report on the 5 year plan and the Directors' Handbook before considering needed bylaw changes or amendments.

Chairman Monihan then asked Joseph Redden, of the NFPA, to make a few remarks about the National Fire Protection Association. Because of his plane reservations, Mr. Redden could not wait until the time allotted for presentations by representatives of related organizations.

Excerpts from Mr. Redden's talk:

Along with the volunteer fire service, NFPA has a recruitment and retention problem. When they instituted a concentrated recruiting campaign at the beginning of 1985, membership was down to 32,500. At the end of March of this year, it was at 37,807. Their goal is to reach 39,000 by the end of the year, and they hope to have 40,000 members within a reasonable time. They have employed a new marketing manager, who has been responsible for the present program. While researching the problems, he found that some NFPA staff people were not members. Now, all of them are members. They have established 2 regional offices, one in Washington, DC, the other in San Diego; plan to place 4 more in the US, and one in Canada.

In order to find out more about what their members (and the general public) think about NFPA, they have annually for the past 6 years conducted 8 regional meetings at which at least 3 of their national officers have been present. They are looking for constructive criticism and suggestions about how the services of NFPA can be improved.

They provide advisory services and information to members and non-members. The NFPA Board of Directors appoints a member advisory council (for 3 year terms), taking into account geographic location and areas of expertise. The executive staff meets with this council every fall. The staff members really listen to the advisory council; many of their suggestions have been put into effect. One of the most important areas of discussion is NFPA Standards, both existing and proposed.

National certification tests for certification of fire department officers under std. 1021, and inspectors under std. 1031 are to be conducted by a testing firm NFPA has selected. More than 100,000 firefighters have now been certified under 1001, 1002 and 1003. They hope that an official testing body will be located in each state as soon as possible. They have asked the IAFC to cooperate with NFPA in the 1031 and 1021 certification programs.

The wildland-urban interface fire problem is increasing. Structure fires which result from spreading wildland fires are becoming more common. NFPA is working with forestry, agriculture and natural resource officials to develop methods of coping with these problems.

Ground water pollution from leaking underground tanks and other sources is increasing; at least it is becoming more known. NFPA is planning a satellite broadcast designed to make the general public more aware of ground water problems.

At the NFPA annual meeting (May 18-21) in Cincinnati, some of the topics to be discussed include: the Dupont Plaza, San Juan, hotel fire; the 1500 standard; open circuit SCBA designed for 100 liters/min air flow.

Publicity should be given to the fact that any item which was in compliance with an appropriate standard at the time it was purchased or placed in service can continue to be used as long as it is serviceable, even though it does not comply with a new or amended standard. Standards are meant to be dynamic documents; they should be revised as experience, research, and other conditions dictate.

It is not necessary to be a member of NFPA to become a member of a NFPA committee or to be admitted to the annual meeting. Any person who has made a written comment to the standards committee is entitled to appear on the floor of the meeting to defend his or her position.

A proposed standard is put out for comment in the fall of the year. In response to suggestions (read complaints) that more information be made available in a timely manner to the fire service for study and comments, this is now part of the process. Copies of proposals are sent to NVFC; IAFF; ISFSI; and IAFC. They are authorized and encouraged to make copies for distribution to their members. Other persons who request copies from NFPA are charged \$5.

Non-uniformed (civilian) persons are being hired by many departments or public safety divisions to perform a number of tasks which have, in many cases, been done by firefighters. There seems to be a need to develop some form of standard to define such types of work.

Chairman Monihan then requested that the committee which had developed the the requests for changes in the 1500 proposal at the 1986 fall meeting (Ackerman, Colvin, Condon, Jones, Lyman, and Perroni) meet with Mr. Redden during the break period to discuss the present language of the document.

A short question and answer period followed:

Q. Who makes the decision that a new standard is needed? It often appears that once we hear about a new proposal, suggestions seem to fall on deaf ears. Some of the proposals are of dubious value, or are not in the best interests of the volunteer fire service. Isn't it possible to devise a way to get word to groups who will be most affected, before the proposal is written, so that they can at least have some input at the beginning of the process?

A. We are trying to do something about such situations.

Q. Sometimes I get the idea that once the market for a certain piece of equipment has been fairly well saturated, some people decide that it is time for a new standard. This may not be true, (laughter), but the thought does cross my mind.

A. I think that this has been handled by the new policy which explicitly states that if a certain piece of equipment met the standard at the time it was built or placed in service, it is "grandfathered" in.

Q. We have been looking high and low for the source of the need for a change in the ladder standard. The old standard, as far as I know, was doing a satisfactory job. Under the new testing procedure, many perfectly good ladders were destroyed. Where is the justification, and who made the decision that the old standard was not rigid enough? I was at the committee meeting where these decisions were made. One person went to great lengths to explain why the standard

had to be changed. In reply to a question as to who he represented, he stated: "I'm employed by xxxxx Ladder Co." Another proponent works for a different ladder manufacturer. I am disturbed by the apparent amount of influence that certain trade people have on the process.

This revision was initiated by a letter from the Fairbanks Fire Department, asking that a non-destructive test be substituted for the one currently in effect (Oct., 1986), and that if such a test would indicate that the ladder may be defective, to then use a weight. A few days later, Garry Briese of IAFC sent a letter asking that the Standards Council immediately recall the requirement for destructive testing of ground ladders. The NFPA then sent a letter to Mr. Monihan, informing him that the standards committee would be meeting in Denver, and asking that a representative of NVFC be in attendance. At the meeting, it was decided that the problem be referred to the fire department equipment committee, the OSHA committee, and the manufacturers. A number of options were considered: to stay with the current standard; to go back to the 1979 (250 #); or some number between those. A 400# weight test was then established by a TIA (technical interim amendment). The IAFC approved the TIA, and agreed to publicize it. In tests conducted by U.L., 113 of 380 ladders failed with the 400 lb. procedure. Most of these were in the 24 - 50 ft. lengths. I am sure this is not the answer you are looking for, but this is what happened.

This was followed by a discussion of liability and other problems which may be related to the use of personal protective equipment which complied with NFPA or OSHA standards when it was new, but which does not now meet present standards. Even though a standard may contain a provision which states that clothing or other equipment which met the standard in effect when it was manufactured, and which is still in a good usable condition, does not have to be replaced, the mere fact that a different standard now exists will certainly have an effect on liability claims against a department's management in case of injuries or other mishaps. Several speakers pointed out that there is considerable difference in the way career and volunteer firefighters and officers view similar situations. No conclusions were reached.

Mr Redden concluded his presentation with words to this effect: The NFPA, as such, does not write standards. Committees write them. We recognize that there are problems. We are doing our utmost to try to solve these problems. The NVFC's comments and constructive criticisms are having more effect than you may imagine. I am glad that I have had this opportunity to discuss these topics with you.

Chairman Monihan introduced Lisa Osborne, who is the Tobacco Institute's liaison with NVFC. Miss Osborne had planned to attend the entire meeting, but became ill and was returning to Washington immediately. Mr. Monihan expressed the thanks of the NVFC to Lisa and TI, and wished her a speedy recovery.

Mr. Allinson reported for the Planning Committee that inasmuch as every Director and Alternate Director has been sent a copy of the committee report, there was no need to read it. He urged the Directors to present their comments and criticism at the proper time.

He stated that the NFPA Forestry Committee's 1987 meeting had been cancelled, and that he intends to attend the next meeting. The date has not yet been set.

For the Public Education Committee, Mr. Joyner asked the Directors to continue to urge the recipients of the Smoke Detector Publicity Kits to send their comments to Ogilvy & Mather for evaluation.

Mr Drinkard then continued with the report of the Budget and Audit Committee. Copies of the 1986 budgeted and actual income and expense report were distributed, as well as copies of the proposed budget for 1987. After discussion, a motion by Mr. Drinkard, second by Mr. Joyner, to approve the expenditure of \$3,428.16 by which the 1986 expenses had exceeded the budget figure was approved.

Mr. Drinkard explained the proposed 1987 budget, which projected income and expense at \$28,200. A motion by Mr. Drinkard, second by Mr. Hill, to accept the 1987 budget as proposed by the committee, was approved.

Mr. Jones was then asked to report on the NFPA 1500 committee. His written report:

This is my report on the NFPA-1500 meeting held in Phoenix, Arizona on December 6 through December 12, 1986.

The meeting started Monday, but I arrived on Saturday evening, and it was a good thing I got there early. It gave me time to go over the documents of the 1500 - which is practically like a thick catalogue.

On Sunday evening I was given a chance to get acquainted with the other gentlemen serving on the committee and to discuss the pros and cons of the 1500.

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. on Monday, and each person was introduced, telling where they were from and whom they were representing.

Items that took the most time were bunker gear, SCBA, working conditions, training, physical examinations. One whole day was spent on bunker gear and apparatus. Part of a day was spent on who should be responsible for the NFPA-1500, and it was decided that the governing bodies such as state, county, town, etc. should be. It was felt that it would take five years from date of accepting or putting in motion the 1500 act to get mobilized.

There were a lot of visitors from apparatus manufacturers, the news media, air compressor and bottles representatives, and also a representative from bunker gear. There was also an interview done by Paul H. Smith from Hanover, PA. broadcasting station.

Fire fighting has been recognized as the most hazardous occupation in North America, in terms of occupational death and injury statistics. In recent history, each year there have been over 100 line-of-duty deaths recorded among career and volunteer firefighters in the United States alone. The statistics compiled annually by NFPA on fire service deaths and injuries are more than sufficient evidence to demonstrate the need for increased efforts to reduce this toll.

The fire service is involved not only in fire suppression activities, but has an increasing role in the delivery of emergency medical and rescue services and response to incidents involving hazardous materials. The firefighter may be exposed to a wide range of dangers arising from these non-traditional activities that present an even more complex set of occupational health and safety concerns. There is a growing concern, as well, with the aspects of fire department activities and functions that are directly related to stress and the emotional and psychological consequences of providing emergency services.

Currently, there is no consensus standard for an occupational safety and health program for the fire service. A fire service organization may or may not be subject to mandatory occupational health and safety requirements, depending on governmental authority and legislative actions.

The intent of this standard is to provide the framework for a safety and health program for a fire department or any type of organization providing similar services. The standard addresses the basic organizational components that must be in place to provide for an appropriate program approach to safety and health management, including the stated organizational commitment to provide a

safe and healthy work environment.

The standard addresses training requirements for individuals who may be engaged in emergency activities, including provisions relating to precautions to be taken during training activities. The standard also requires that all personnel receive basic training before engaging in actual emergency scene operations.

Due to the number of reported deaths and injuries resulting from emergency vehicle accidents, the standard establishes requirements for driver/operator training and for the operation of emergency vehicles. It prohibits riding in exposed positions and requires all personnel to ride in seats with seat belts or safety harnesses. In case of new fire apparatus, it requires that all seating must be provided in fully enclosed areas. Requirements for maintenance, inspection, and repair of vehicles, tools, and equipment are also included.

The standard mandates the provision and use of appropriate protective clothing and equipment for individuals engaging in the types of activities for which it is designed. These provisions interface directly with the NFPA standards that establish design and performance criteria for these items.

Where special dangers or hazards exist, the standard requires supervision of operations by qualified personnel and backup crews to provide immediate assistance.

An additional aspect of this standard is the delineation of standard approaches to the medical, physical fitness, and employee assistance components that are directly related to health and safety in the firefighter's work environment. A variety of different approaches and standards have been applied in the past, but there are currently no universally recognized or accepted standards of good practice in these areas.

The standard is meant to be appropriate for voluntary compliance, as a state of the art document, whether or not it is adopted as a mandatory requirement by an authority having regulatory jurisdiction over a particular organization.

The National Volunteer Council applauds the efforts of the committee that worked on the 1500 standard. But when anyone undertakes such a task, one must size-up the whole and not isolate the majority from what influences their determination. There must be a balance between the ultimate and the realistic.

From April 1986 until October 1986, the Directors of the NVFC reviewed portions of the standard. A sub-committee of the Directors reviewed standard 1500 line by line at the fall conference.

The committee of the NVFC's primary purpose was to review the 1500 standard keeping in mind the volunteer fire department, regardless of its size or geographic area. The understanding of this committee was not to prevent the safety factor, but to incorporate some means for each fire department to be at some point in compliance with the standard. To this end, the committee of the NVFC submitted to the Directors of the NVFC, in session at its fall meeting, its recommendations.

Essentially, the committee of the NVFC found that the standard did not allow a time frame which fire departments could comply if the standard was approved as written. The Directors found that a time frame had to be inserted into the standard. This would allow fire departments the opportunity to comply with the standard once it is adopted, and allow adequate implementation time as it relates to acquisition of equipment and that any standard adopted should be broad and flexible enough to cover both volunteer and fully paid fire departments.

Of eighteen comments submitted by the NVFC, thirteen were accepted. Primarily the 1500 standard committee acknowledged the allowance for an implementation time frame that will be governed by the adopting authority.

The NVFC is still opposed to the standard as amended. The clarity of sections 5 dealing with fire apparatus is the area of concern. The question as to how the 1500 standard and the 1901 standard comply is not known. As to how the

standard applies to used equipment, sold, donated, or traded to another fire department has not been satisfactorily addressed. The question as to existing equipment not soon to be replaced or existing equipment that is planned for total refurbishing. Does the standard apply to only that apparatus that is built after the approval of 1500 standard?

I voted negative for the following reasons:

1. Monthly training is too restrictive.
2. Seated and belted are not possible on some older equipment - O.K. future purchases.
3. Inspections on older equipment may cause many problems in a lot of Volunteer Departments.
4. To destroy Life Rope is poor idea when using public funds.
5. Sleeping areas should be grandfathered in old buildings; but O.K. in new buildings.
6. We need at least five (5) years for all Volunteer Fire Departments to work up to the level requested by NFPA-1500.
7. As for the money for the program, it should be the responsibility of the State Government, County Government, or City-Town Government to acquire the funds for the additional expense for all type equipment and training.
8. The two major problems are THE DOLLAR SIGN and TIME.

During the discussion period which followed, a number of points were presented:

After the standard has been approved by NFPA, adoption at the state or local level is still voluntary.

According to the amendments, any jurisdiction which adopts the standard will be able to set its own implementation time.

Attempts should be made to make certain that the "grandfather" and phase-in provisions are very clearly stated, so that in the future they will not be misunderstood or misconstrued. Some of the present provisions seem to be contradictory.

There are a number of apparent contradictory differences between the 1500 and the 1901 standards. 1500 is a performance standard, 1901 is a design standard.

Chairman Monihan then called on Mr. Olivari for the reports of the PSOB and Arson committees.

Mr. Olivari's reports:

Information for this report was obtained from a discussion with Mr. Richard Condon, PSOB Program Planning Specialist.

General Scenario:

A \$50,000 Federal Death Benefit is provided under the Public Safety Officers Benefit Act to eligible law enforcement officers, firefighters or rescue squad members whose death results from a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty. The act was passed in 1976, and amended in October 1984 to extend coverage to Federal Law enforcement officers and firefighters, and to provide coverage which would exclude military personnel. The change also clearly defined gross negligence and specifically stated that claims would not be paid when an officer's death was due to gross negligence. Gross negligence is interpreted as wanton disregard for one's own life, excluding acts of heroism. The change also stated that levels of blood alcohol of greater than 0.20% will result in claim denial, however, the change did go on to state that a claim involving a blood alcohol level of at least

0.10% but less than 0.20% may be paid if the Justice Department receives evidence that the officer was not acting in an intoxicated manner, immediately prior to death.

In October of 1986, Section 1203 of Title 1 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1986, was amended by striking all text after the words "law enforcement officer", and inserting "a firefighter, or rescue squad or ambulance crew".

It might be well to note that the "no year" funding the PSOB enjoys guarantees that a pool of \$12 million is always available. There is no fund buildup nor is there any slack.

Eligibility Criteria:

Much has been said about eligibility, and it all relates to organizational as well as individual qualifications. Claims include a brief squib on the organization in which the claimant was a member. And as we stated previously, the benefit was mandated by the Federal Government as a supplement to the small compensation provided by local governmental agencies for Public Service Officers who are killed in the line of duty. Firefighters who belong to subscription type organizations, as organizations that provide fire fighting services under contract are not covered under the PSOBL.

Ambulance and Rescue Squads are measured by the same yardstick, with one additional difference: "Line of Duty".

The Fire Service Officer need not be involved with fire fighting at the time of his death to qualify. The EMS or Rescue Squad member must be involved in an incident that is considered to be an emergency in order to qualify. You may recall that previously, rescue workers who were law enforcement officers who were assigned rescue duties were covered by the act while performing those duties. If the rescue workers were not firefighters or law enforcement officers, they were not covered by the act. Now the test hinges on whether or not the rescue workers were responding to an emergency or not.

Legislative Activities:

Many Police groups have been pushing to raise the benefit to \$100,000, and other legislation is aimed at covering heart attacks, and some proposals are attempting to change the dependency disqualifiers. Generally speaking, any proposed legislative changes to the original bill that go to committee will not move. This is due primarily to the scope of the original bill and its impact on the Department of Justice, the State Department, and other Congressional activities. It is reasonable to assume that few changes are anticipated in the near future.

Private bills are another matter. The Attica Widows Bill comes up each year and will probably go nowhere. You may recall that at the Attica Penitentiary, during an uprising, many guards and police officers were tortured and killed by the prisoners. Then, as a further complication, the State Police put a stop to the uprising by storming the prison which resulted in killing both inmates and guards. However, this all happened prior to 1976, and retroactive clauses were not included in this legislation. Recently, however, a private bill provided a Capitol Police Officer with a death benefit. (I have good reason to believe that the incident took place prior to the date the original PSOB legislation became effective.) Special interest legislation moves as well as the connection behind it.

Recent Statistics:

Total FIREFIGHTER cases reported in 1987 were: 74: with 37 approved and 37 denied. It may be well to point out that the denials were due to improper filing based on heart attacks and the lack of blood test data showing the % of carbon monoxide present in the blood of the claimant at the time of death.

Resource Data:

1. Legal interpretations of the PSOB Act, OGC-1981
2. Federal Register, Vol. 42, No.88 - Friday, May 6, 1977.
3. NVFC Procedural Guide for Filing Claims for Death in Line of Duty, for members of the Volunteer Fire Service.
4. Slide Presentation on suggested practices to follow.
5. Items 1 and 2 may be obtained by calling Mr. Richard Condon, (202)-724-7620. Items 3 and 4 may be ordered through the NVFC secretary's office.

Arson Committee Report:

You may recall in Flint, Michigan, I mentioned a New York State sponsored conference covering the Arson problem, and the goals and objectives of the office of Fire Prevention and Control, which is the Office of the Fire Marshal of New York State, and the sponsoring agency. I think a brief scenario will be of value.

A National Committee had been working to establish model Statutes covering anti-arson legislation. However, it ran out of leadership or funds or both, because those in charge were not available for comment. I am positive that Bob Jones will support this statement since he and I were on the same National Committee. If the eloquence of the speakers could be used as a measure of the dedication and sincerity of the Committee Officers, Arson, in this country, would be contained or eliminated. I am positive that many of the states saw the problem and stepped in and wrestled with the odds and have made progress. My report covers what was done in New York and I offer it as information, and the booklet which was published as a result of our arson workshop is available to you for the asking. It was assembled much like the Stonebridge booklets the NVFC has pioneered, with group participation on mutually agreed upon issues. Rotation of the participants among the groups afforded maximum access to all workshop items.

New York State has established an anti arson fund of \$2 million, and these monies are available to those who apply on a grant basis. Local training facilities, of course, have a priority and can make optimum use of the funds.

The first Arson Task Force established a series of recommendations which have resulted in a 30% reduction in arson incidents across the State of New York. The first task force, convened in 1978, left a wide field to cover, and so, in 1986, the fire service agencies of New York State were convened to redefine and redirect the State's effort in the continuing fight against Arson.

The general format followed a pattern of: Stating the Problem, Identifying the Significant Discussion Points, and Listing the Recommended Action.

As an example: Look at the next items which represent what is contained in the booklet for the asking: Write, and ask for:

WORKSHOP SYNOPSIS

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON ARSON

Mr. John F. Morgan
Field Representative
Arson Technical Assistance
Department of State, OFPC
162 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12231

CONFERENCE METHODOLOGY

Workshop Groups
Conclusions

Statement of Problem
Recommendations

PROBLEMS

Technical Assistance
Juvenile Firesetters
Arson Laboratory
Public Education

Non-Residential Arson
Local Assistance Arson
Grant Programs
Vehicle Arson

Arson Training
Arson Information
Management System

RECOMMENDATIONS

Provide additional Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) fire investigation technical assistance service to localities;
Implement community anti-arson programs;
Develop an executive level anti-arson training program and publish arson-related technical publications;
Implement local juvenile fire-setter programs;
Coordinate and develop a statewide Arson Information Management System (AIMS);
Expand the arson debris analysis capabilities of crime laboratories and develop a standard procedure for examining all fire fatalities;
Upgrade vehicle fire investigation skills of investigators.

This concludes my report.

Chairman Monihan then called on Mr. Turner to report on IRS relations and developments.

Mr. Turner: Most Fire Departments under the new tax laws are still exempt from paying taxes, however, should your Fire Department wish to purchase a new fire truck or a fire station and finance the purchase, shop around, as not all banks will charge the same interest for tax exempt loans.

Under the old tax system your department could obtain a loan as a tax exempt Governmental Agency and you would be able to get a loan at approximately 1 1/2 to 3 percentage points below the going prime rate. Under the new tax laws, you will now pay anywhere from 2% below to 4% over the prime rate, depending on the bank that you use.

I have been informed by several banks, that even with the Fire Departments being exempt from paying taxes, the new laws changed the rules for the banks. Previously the banks were allowed to take loans from fire departments and the banks only had to pay the taxes on 10% of those loans. Under the new tax laws the banks have to pay taxes on 80% of their Governmental or tax exempt loans.

Not all banks are being charged at the same rates. It depends on what percentage of their loans are for tax exempt loans. The financial condition of the bank has a bearing on the amount of taxes they may pay, therefore changing

the rate of interest they may charge the tax exempt agency. This would apply to any tax exempt loans or bonds by your city for water, streets, sewer, and other improvements, also the fire department.

Those banks having financial problems may charge a lower interest rate than the banks making more money; they are charged at the old rate, which does not make any sense at all.

The banks are receiving their interpretation of the tax laws from their accounting firms.

We are attempting to find the tax laws which have changed for the banks and if the interpretation of the laws by the accounting firms is correct. At this time there is much confusion over the tax changes and some accounting firms are using a different interpretation of the changes.

We will make every effort to keep on top of this tax law change and keep you informed. At this time we are not sure if changes are required in the law. If so, we will ask for your help at a later date.

My own experience in selling fire equipment bears this out. Of the trucks I have sold recently, three were financed at different banks at about the same time. Two were financed at the same bank at 10.2%; the other was financed at a small bank in a small community at 7.8%. Be sure that you shop around before you make a loan; there is a difference.

I have not been able to get accurate information on any changes in the tax laws which would help to find any tax breaks for volunteer firefighters. If and when I do get find a source of up to date and accurate knowledge, I will let you know.

Chairman Monihan: Thank you Bob. Mr. Williams, what can you tell us about the NVFC's History?

Mr. Williams: Progress continues on the Historical Book of the Council. Just a short time ago, we finished our first ten years as an organization. We are now working on our second decade. Things have changed for all of us. I have been sifting through various materials sent me by Jack Condon, and through information sent me by Bill Barrett regarding Award recipients.

I have gathered photos of many of you to be placed on your Director's page in the book. I'll use these photos unless you are uncomfortable with them and supply me with another.

Tom (Tharp) has supplied us with a lot of fine photos, which will certainly help us to complete our albums. If any of you have pictures taken at previous meetings, especially during the first few years, or of people who we do not see any more, we would certainly appreciate receiving copies.

I again ask Directors who have not done so to send me a resume of your fire service background so your Director's page can be completed. If not for yourself, you owe it to your state to do so.

The book is here for your reference and I am always open to suggestions.

Chairman Monihan: Thank you, Fred. We will now break for lunch. Please be back in an hour.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Chairman Monihan reminded the Directors that the bylaws require that a Director or Alternate Director must be certified in writing to the Secretary in order to be able to vote at any regular or special meeting of the Council. If

someone other than the regularly certified Director or Alternate Director is going to represent a Director Organization at a meeting, it would be advisable to have such a representative carry a letter of certification to the meeting. This was precipitated by the fact that the Associated Firefighters of Arizona had not certified as an Alternate Director either of the persons from Arizona who were present at the meeting.

Report of Mr. Lukus, on Fire Research: The operations and responsibilities of the Center for Building Technology has been transferred to the Center for Fire Research. However, no funding was included in the transfer, so the overall result will be that neither operation will be able to do the amount of work which it formerly did.

Mr. Lyman reported that no action had been taken on the EPA programs.

Report of Mr. Ackerman, Protective Clothing Committee:

I attended the NFPA Protective Clothing Committee meeting in New Orleans on December 1 through 4. Three different subcommittees met and answered public comments on NFPA 1972 (helmets and face shields), 1974 (protective footwear), and 1981 (SCBA).

The subcommittees answered 43 public comments on 1972; 51 public comments on 1974; and 99 public comments on 1981.

Most of the public comments refer to changes in a word or wording, or numbers, and testing of equipment. Even a one word error in a standard can leave it open to errors in the intent of the standard. After the subcommittees review the public comments, their recommendations are brought to the full committee for final action. The full committee has to approve, reject, or change the subcommittee's recommendations. When this is done, the final draft is submitted to the NFPA National meeting to be voted on. If it passes at the meeting, it becomes a NFPA National Standard.

This whole process is necessary as new materials, products, and methods are always being developed. Improvements are an ongoing process for the fire service.

I was unable to attend the meeting held in March in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and am awaiting the minutes of this meeting.

Mr Stittleburg stated that the Recruitment and Retention Committee had no report at this time. He is preparing a contract which will spell out the exact terms of NVFC's agreement with Dr. Perkins relating to the study Dr. Perkins is conducting.

Miss Perroni submitted her Publicist report:

Public relations activities on behalf of the Council have continued on a consistent basis since the Fall meeting in Flint.

The Council has had a regular feature article in the International Fire Chief magazine. These articles have focused not only on NVFC activities, but also on programs and issues of interest to the volunteer fire service. Topics for articles which have appeared in the magazine have included: the Council's participation in the Federation of World Volunteer Firefighters Associations General Conference in New York City last September; programs to deal with alcohol and drug abuse in volunteer fire departments; more stringent OSHA/EPA health and safety standards; public fire education resources available from the U.S. Fire Administration; and proposed legislation to give volunteer departments greater

access to surplus federal property.

As always, input from Council members as to topics which should be addressed in these articles would be most welcome. I want to thank Tom Tharp in this regard. Ideas for articles can be sent to me by mail at: 7214 Jillspring Ct., Springfield, VA 22152, or feel free to call me at (703)-451-9519. It would be particularly helpful to hear about programs in outstanding individual departments or individual states which could serve as models for others to follow.

I would encourage you to re-publish these articles in your respective state newsletters to help spread information to volunteers who may not be subscribers to the International Fire Chief. Some of you already do that. Let me add a word of caution, however. In order to comply with copyright laws, please add a line at the end of the article which says "reprinted from International Fire Chief", when you re-publish the material.

As you know, the IAFC has discontinued the International Fire Chief and has begun a twice-monthly newsletter. The Council's article appears in the edition published on the 15th of each month. We are exploring the possibility of switching to Fire Command magazine, which has a much larger circulation and reaches many non-fire service audiences as well. More information on this will be provided to the Council as our talks with NFPA proceed.

I want to thank Walter Drinkard and Bob Hollander for getting me on the mailing lists for their state newsletters. That has been a big help in terms of ideas for articles and just keeping up with what's going on in Alabama and Oklahoma. I would appreciate other Directors doing the same.

Public relations support for the Council also has included production of several news releases about Council activities which have been published in various fire trade publications.

I will prepare a "hometown" news release, if the Directors wish, for your use in publicizing your participation in this meeting.

This presentation was followed by a general discussion on the differences in the distribution methods for surplus property in various states or regions of the country. It appears that different agencies are in charge in different areas.

Mr. Stittleburg reported on the present status of the FLSA as it applies to the volunteer fire service.

You will recall that one result of the Supreme Court decision in "Garcia vs. City of San Antonio" was a great deal of turmoil and uncertainty as to how it would affect volunteer fire departments. The DOL issued a number of tentative rules, while waiting for Congress to make some sort of decisions. Congress did enact some revisions, but left most of the interpretation and rule making to the DOL.

A comment period for submission of objections or corrections to the DOL interim rules ended on June 2, 1986. The NVFC submitted a 26 page comment document with a number of suggestions and requests. On January 16, 1987, the final rules of the DOL relating to the FLSA were published in the Federal Register.

Our direct requests included the questions: provide a definition for the term "volunteer firefighter"; what is a "nominal fee"?; will you permit a career firefighter who is a member of a combination fire department to be a volunteer firefighter in that same department during his or her off duty time?

Because the 1985 legislation specified that "the term 'employee' does not include any employee who volunteers to perform services for a public agency ... if - (i) the individual receives no compensation or is paid expenses, reasonable benefits, or a nominal fee to perform the services for which the individual volunteered; and (ii) such services are not the same type of services which the individual is employed to perform for such public agency.", the DOL stated that it

could not rule that a career firefighter could also be a volunteer in the same department.

The final rules state that "individuals do not lose their volunteer status if they are provided reasonable benefits ... or a nominal fee from a public agency".... "Whether the furnishing of expenses, benefits, or fees would result in individuals' losing their status as volunteers under FLSA can only be determined by examining the total amount of payments made (expenses, benefits, fees) in the context of the economic realities of the particular situation."

This means that, unlike the 1974 rules which set a maximum of \$2.50 per call as the difference between "expenses" and "pay", this area is now open to negotiation or judgment. However, it would appear that any call pay which is based on a "per hour" rather than a "per call" basis would make the recipients subject to FLSA.

Some areas where the DOL did take into account the NVFC comments include: Mutual Aid Agreements do not trigger FLSA coverage; Pension plans or LOSA's are permitted; the "reasonable" benefits which are furnished to volunteers are not required to be the same as those provided to other employees of the public employer; Although the DOL mentioned in its comments that a number of commenters asked for a specific definition of "nominal fee", it declined to do so, stating that "no guidelines on specific amounts applicable to all (or even most) possible situations can be provided."

It would appear that action by Congress is the only method by which some of these problems can be solved.

Chairman Monihan asked that any action to be taken by NVFC in the area of FLSA be proposed under New Business.

He then asked Mr. Arrants (NVFC Alternate Director, Florida, member of IAFC Volunteer Committee) to report on current happenings at the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Excerpts from Mr. Arrants' remarks:

IAFC has increased its membership by 400+ since last September, now have 7,284 full dues paying members. Goal is 30,000.
Have sharply reduced financial losses, expect to be in black soon.
Have increased some member services.
Cost per member is \$172; members pay only 20% of cost of maintenance; they must examine the dues structure; ratio should be 60% dues, 40% other.
Have instituted extensive residential sprinkler and detector campaigns.
Working with Apple on demo project for computer uses in fire service.
Have committee working on study for possible organizational changes.
Increased size of annual conference, both attendance and exhibits, more program topics and workshops.
Co-host for 2nd International Conference, Sweden, 6/2-5, 1988.
Re-opened Management Info Center for members.
Changed publication style.
Working to increase visibility in many areas.
Increased attention to Congress and Federal activities.
Contemplating increased activities; more members, increased services, increased income.

Chairman Monihan thanked Mr. Arrants and the IAFC for their cooperation with the NVFC, and announced that the NVFC will have a booth at the IAFC Conference in St. Louis, August 16 - 20. He then introduced Steve Austin, who represents the International Association of Arson Investigators.

Mr. Austin, who is a volunteer firefighter in the Aetna Hose, Hook & Ladder Co. of Newark Delaware, gave a brief description of the IAAI. They have members who are connected with the fire service, the police service and the insurance industry. They have about 50 chapters in the U.S., Canada, Australia, and a number of other countries, plus individual members in many countrise throughout the world.

Their 38th annual conference will be held in Niagara Falls, N.Y. next May. (8-13). The conferences are primarily directed toward education of their members. They generally have a local community college conduct tests to make sure that the members retain their qualifications.

Former Executive Secretary Bob May has retired; replaced by Tony Ahart; have moved their central office from Massachusetts to Louisville, Kentucky. They have established a resource center at the office, to provide information to members and others.

Educational programs include: training for people who will work with juvenile fire setters; arson information management systems; certified fire investigator programs. They are planning to become part of the NFPA certification program, under standard 1033.

They are establishing closer liaisons with police and other law enforcement groups and the insurance industry. They offer several annual scholarships to persons who are interested in becoming investigators. They do not have to be connected with the fire service.

They publish a membership directory and a quarterly publication entitled Fire and Arson Investigator. They are doing some research and testing, separately from the U. L. They try to work closely with members of the Joint Council of Fire Service Organizations.

Mr. Austin expressed the hope that the relationship between the IAAI and the NVFC will be beneficial to both organizations, and asked for questions and comments.

Mr. Goucher told of good experiences they have had in Alaska with IAAI members working on juvenile fire setter problems.

In reply to questions from Mr. Tharp, Mr Austin stated that the present membership is about 8,000 individuals. Some members have formed local chapters; it is not mandatory to belong to a chapter. Membership processing fee is \$10; annual dues are \$35. They have a full time Executive Secretary, one full time and one part time secretaries; actually need more help.

Chairman Monihan asked Lou Amabili to report on the activities of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors.

Mr. Amabili remarked that it is always a pleasure for him to spend some time with the Directors of the NVFC. He asked those Directors who were interested in ISFSI happenings to take copies of the handout materials which he had brought with him. Their monthly publication is named Rekindle, and they publish a weekly newsletter known as the Communications Link.

About 5,000 persons attended the FDIC conference which was held early in April. Attendance was down somewhat for several reasons: a snowstorm which covered most of the Northeast and Great Lakes areas; and 4 national or regional fire service conferences going on at the same time. There is a need for all of the major organizations to coordinate their schedules, to avoid such difficulties.

Next year, the FDIC will be held March 26-30, again in Cincinnati. They will coordinate a National Fire & Burn Conference in Pittsburgh June

4 7, 1987. This conference is meant to take the place of meetings which the US Fire Administration previously conducted. A week later, they are conducting a seminar on Fire and Loss Prevention Control for industry representatives. This is being done by a subsidiary of ISFSI called The Institute For Life Safety And Emergency Management Education, which has been in existence for about 2 1/2 years.

They are also conducting a national conference for volunteers at the Delaware Fire School facility from October 30 to November 1 of this year. I have invited Jim Monihan to attend. We hope to continue to work with the NVFC.

Mr. Amabili also provided some information about the workings of the Joint Council. It has no bylaws; it works as a Federation of organizations. It can only take a position with the unanimous agreement of all 11 of its members. This policy prevents the Joint Council from advocating anything which is not supported by all. It also is of great value in the Joint Council's lobbying efforts. Any politician who knows anything about the JC is aware that when it takes a position, that is the position of all of the member organizations. People should also realize that the members of the JC are not in competition with each other, their missions are meant to complement and supplement each other.

The door prizes furnished by ISFSI are the first volume of a series of books written to help fire department officers to better understand and perform their tasks.

He also provided information and handouts on the pension plan for volunteers which has been instituted by the State of Delaware, and copies of new legislation which serves to provide liability immunity for fire service instructors. (Copies available on request from the secretary.)

The next speaker was J. F. (Jim) Casey, Director of the Field Programs for the National Fire Academy, and unofficial Chaplain of the NVFC.

His report is included as a separate attachment.

Chairman Monihan reported on the progress of the development of new items for the "New Tools". He passed out for inspection samples: updates of the present pieces "Wouldn't you want to do more than watch" and "It takes more than the right shoe size"; new items, "Curiosity kills more than cats", "We can't help you if we can't find you" (plainly visible address numbers), and "Cool a burn". In addition, there are additional small ads (fillers). Carolyn Perroni has prepared the copy for a new membership brochure. A brochure to attract Sustaining Members is also being prepared. There are several new, shorter, news items for local papers. Two radio spots by well known weather man Willard Scott will be available. Before these revisions are sent to previous recipients of the "New Tools" a letter will be sent to the list (excluding those which are Associate Members), asking them to join the NVFC.

Under comments, Mr. Lyman asked if any thought had been given to development of a piece directed toward recruitment of female firefighters. Mr. Williams asked to get photos of Richard Petty and Willard Scott for inclusion in the Historian's photo album. Both requests will be considered. Mr. Mueller suggested that the copyrighted logo of the NVFC be imprinted on appropriate "New Tools" items.

Mike Edison, of Field & Stream magazine, was then asked to speak about the 1987 "Turkey Shoot" program. Last year, 4,000 kits were distributed. Each kit will contain a subscription order. They will pay \$1.00 to the NVFC for each subscription sold from these orders. Additional give-away items will be included this year. They will try to make sure that the advertising will not lead to any misunderstanding.

If given enough lead time, Mike can arrange to attend state firefighters conventions or conferences to make a presentation on the Turkey Shoot program. He also has a few original photographs (16 x 24) which he will send on request.

The report of the Planning Committee was the next item to be discussed.

During the discussion, it was decided by consensus that all of the items which relate to the NVFC Foundation be advanced one year. (i.e. item D of Year Two be moved to become item J of Year One, etc.)

A motion by Mr. Tharp, second by Mr. Turner, to accept the Five Year Master Plan as proposed by the Planning Committee and as amended, was approved.

Chairman Monihan then asked for discussion on the proposed Director's and Member Organization's Policy Handbook. Action on adoption of any of the proposed policy statements was deferred to the Sunday morning session.

Mr. Tharp presented a report on an Emergency Management Issues Seminar conducted by FEMA at the Academy January 7-9, 1987. He had been requested to attend by Chairman Monihan.

The attendees were divided into 8 working groups, each of which addressed a particular segment of FEMA's categories, or providers of similar emergency services.

Mr. Tharp distributed the results produced by 3 of these groups, which were most closely connected with the fire service; Training, Emergency Medical Services, and Fire.

The training group reduced the 15 issues they originally addressed into 4 broad categories: Resources; Career Development; Coordination; and Regulations.

Resources focused on the redundancy and duplication of training resources at all levels of government and the private sector. These should be catalogued and publicized.

Effective career development requires establishment of recognized standards, better evaluation methods, quality control, and record keeping.

Coordination requires development of understanding among participants.

Regulations should be simplified and some method of making the affected persons or entities aware of the regulations before problems arise should be developed.

The EMS group summarized their findings in 4 general statements:

There is a need for a stronger central federal focus on EMS;

FEMA should play a central role in improving coordination between EMS and other emergency services;

Insure continuity of efforts by providing participants with recommendations and findings developed by earlier FEMA sponsored workshops.

FEMA should establish a single unit within FEMA specifically for EMS.

The fire workshop's recommendations dealt primarily with items related to budgeting, funding, training and education, and cooperation with state and local organizations.

FEMA should restore funding to the US Fire Administration and the Academy, at least proportional to the historical FEMA proportions.

The fire service should have early input into FEMA's budget process,

and have that input adequately considered.

FEMA should formulate a clear statement or policy relating what it wants from the fire service, so local communities or organizations can incorporate FEMA's desires into their overall planning.

NFA should develop better information exchange and cooperation with existing state, local government, college, or association training and educational facilities to get better utilization and to prevent needless duplication of effort.

The TRADE (training resource and data exchange) program and its concepts should be expanded.

FEMA should work with and not duplicate already existing local Haz/Mat teams and facilities.

90% of mitigation funds should go to local fire departments, to reflect the actual response ratio.

Curriculum development should be looking 5 to 10 years ahead.

FEMA should spearhead development of improvements in design and functioning of signaling devices to reduce false alarms.

Mr. Williams reported on the status of the Cigarette Safety Study Act:

The inter-agency committee created by the Cigarette Safety Study Act of 1984 was granted the additional funding it requested to complete its work regarding a fire safe cigarette.

Its time to report was also extended to October, 1987. Since cigarette created fires continue to be the greatest cause of residential fire deaths, the report of the committee could be of significant value.

By the time of the Council's October meeting, we should know the result.

A motion by Mr Tharp, second by Mr. Turner, that the NVFC press on for legislation which would permit career firefighters to also act as volunteers in the same department, and to establish a specific definition of nominal fee or compensation, was approved.

A motion by Mr. Turner, second by Mr. Hill, that the NVFC send a representative to the NFPA Annual Meeting in Cincinnati with instructions to make every possible effort to get a commitment that the record will show the NVFC's opposition to those portions of the 1500 standard and the ladder standard as were stated at the morning session, was approved.

Chairman Monihan then stated that the election for officers would take place immediately. He called for nominations for the respective positions, in addition to those who had been nominated at the fall meeting. Mr. Lyman was nominated for the position of Secretary.

Messrs. Parker, Quien, and King were appointed as tellers, and they distributed one ballot to each eligible Director.

While the voting and counting were in process, Chairman Monihan spoke about the letter he had sent to members of Congress and the Directors, urging support for the Fire Academy and the Fire Administration.

Mr. Williams raised a question about registration of the NVFC logo, and whether or not the similar logo of the volunteer section of the ISFSI was an infringement. It was explained that the original "split man" character had been developed at one of the Stonebridge conferences with federal funding, so it is in the public domain. The NVFC copyrighted logo consists of the complete man-map in a

circle, with National Volunteer Fire Council org 1976 in the border.

A motion by Mr. Mueller, second by Mr. Hill, to instruct the Secretary to place revision dates on each page of copies of the bylaws, so that readers can be certain they are using the latest version, was approved.

Chairman Monihan read the report of the election tellers, which showed that Messrs. Monihan, Miller, McKeon, Condon, and Welter have been elected to the positions for which they had been nominated, after which he recessed the meeting until 8:00 A.M. the following day.

SUNDAY MORNING

Chairman Monihan called the meeting back to order at 8:00 A.M.

A motion by Mr. Lyman, second by Mr. Stittleburg, that the results of the previous day's election be declared as having been unanimous, was approved.

Mr. Williams raised a question as to the reason for not reporting the actual count of the election results. Chairman Monihan replied that the practise of not reporting the numbers has been in effect for some time, but that this could be changed by the Directors whenever they choose to do so.

Mr. Mueller suggested that the NVFC should be sure to follow up on the establishment of one week courses at the Academy by this October, as had been indicated by Mr. Casey in his remarks. Further, effort or pressure should be applied to make sure that the availability of such courses be well publicized, so that the volunteer fire service in all of the states will be made aware of these courses and the dates when they will be scheduled. Mr. Monihan indicated that the officers would provide the necessary impetus.

Mr. Beaty asked that the names and addresses of the Board of Visitors, and of the executive staff of FEMA, the Fire Administration, and the Academy be published in the DISPATCH.

A motion by Mr. McKeon, second by Mr. Hill, that: Subsequent to the final ratification of NFPA standard 1500, it is requested that a letter be transmitted to Federal-Osha, expressing the impact of these standards upon the nation's volunteer fire service, and expressing that it is essential that should they (OSHA) accept the standards, they include the exact wording with respect to the implementation period, was approved.

Mr. Amabili suggested that a copy of this letter also be sent to Tom Seymour at the Department of Labor.

A general discussion relating to pending or proposed changes in legislation which affects the distribution of surplus federal property led to requesting the New York Director and Alternate Directors to get the pertinent facts from their legislators, and to send a copy of their findings to the Secretary for distribution to the Council.

Chairman Monihan referred to Mr. Casey's remarks about updating the Financial Management Guide. Some questions were asked:

Is there any demand for the manual?
How many have been sold?

How many do we still have?
In view of the few copies
which have been sold, is
it worth while to spend a
lot of time and effort on
this item?

(Note: Other than the copies which
were distributed to Directors, 47
have been sold since 1983. We have
70 copies on hand. GW)

It was suggested that the Directors try to develop some interest in the Financial Guide in their States, and we will review the situation at the Fall Meeting.

Chairman Monihan announced that the NVFC will have a booth at the IAFC conference in St. Louis, August 15 - 20. If any of the Directors plan to attend, please contact Ron Miller, so that he can set up some sort of schedule for people to work in the booth.

Mr. Condon requested advice from the Council on how to proceed with the change in publishing the DISPATCH. We have only one concrete proposal at this time; two others have expressed an interest. During the discussion, it was suggested that consideration be given to the lead time required by some publishers.

A motion by Mr. Drinkard, second by Mr. Beaty, that the elected officers take action as they deem appropriate for employment of an outside publisher for the DISPATCH was approved.

The subject of providing some kind of plaque to sustaining members was discussed. A motion by Mr. Turner, second by Mr. Hill, that the officers use their discretion in the design and price of such plaques, was approved.

After a lengthy discussion relating to a number of the proposed policy statements, it was decided by consensus that each Director is to study these proposals, make written comments or suggestions, and send these to the Secretary by July 1. The Secretary will tabulate these responses and provide them to the Planning Committee to facilitate making any necessary or desirable modifications which will be sent to the Directors prior to the Fall Meeting. A special time will be set aside at the Fall Meeting for action on the Policy Statements. (Please do not hold back on your comments; the committee really wants to know what your opinions are.)

Mr. Lyman raised a question about several versions of the bylaws being in circulation. Mr. McKeon and Mr. Welter were instructed to study all of the amendments which have been made during the past 10 years, and to produce a current, dated version, and distribute a copy to each Director.

Under New Business, in response to the communication from the Boy Scouts of America, a suggestion was made to contact them and extend an invitation to them to have a representative attend our next meeting to find if there is a need or desire to develop any kind of official relationship.

A motion by Mr. Jones, second by Mr. McKeon, that the NVFC send a letter to NFPA stating our opposition to the Temporary Interim Amendment which establishes a 400 lb. testing procedure, and that the NVFC strongly urges establishment of a 250 lb. procedure, was approved.

A motion by Mr. Lyman, second by Mr. Hill, that the Legislative Committee of the NVFC be directed to formulate a questionnaire which will be sent to all presidential candidates (not based on party), addressing our concerns and those of

the volunteer fire service, with a return date prior to our meeting in Wisconsin, to be then published in a timely edition of the Dispatch, and that a program of candidate education be promulgated by the NVFC, was approved.

Mr. Reimann reported that in Michigan, some volunteer firefighters are having problems with their employers as a result of being absent from their work places because of volunteer firefighting duties. He asked that anyone who knows about legislation dealing with this problem please forward information to Mr. Reimann. Mr. Williams reported that in his area (Long Island), the volunteer fire service did not favor such legislation. They feared that employers would be more cautious about hiring volunteers if the law prevented the employer from setting rules which may affect absolute freedom of response. (Note: Such legislation was proposed in Minnesota in 1985. At the State Fire Department Association Conference that year, there was almost unanimous agreement to oppose the legislation. The primary reasons were two-fold: 1st, most volunteer firefighters and their employers have worked out informal agreements on response latitude; 2nd, they feared that a law which would mandate that no employer could take any action whatever against any volunteer who left a workplace because of volunteer firefighting duties would cause employers in general to hesitate to employ volunteers. The proposal was killed in committee. GW)

Mr. Stittleburg inquired if any Director had knowledge of a model drug testing policy which could be used by volunteer fire departments. Miss Perroni suggested that he contact Chief Jim Estep, of the Prince Georges County Fire Department.

Mr. Mueller moved, second by Mr. Beaty, (in order to implore Directors to follow through), that we undertake a selective effort as Directors, to each write a letter to President Reagan, requesting his attendance at the Annual Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service at Emmitsburg, Maryland, on October 11, 1987. The motion was approved.

Mr. Mueller explained that this action would enable us to take issue, as Directors, and see if, 1) we can make an impact at the federal level, and 2) see if we get responses to our letters.

Chairman Monihan will provide information on how to address the letters.

Mr. Tharp suggested that we contact allied organizations to also send such a letter to the President. Chairman Monihan will notify the members of the Joint Council.

Mr. Beaty requested that Directors from those states which have a "Fire Commission" provide him with information about how their commissions operate. He stated that the West Virginia commission has become very political and it is difficult to get it to act in the best interests of the fire service.

A motion by Mr. Mueller, second by Mr. Olivari, that all reports from committees be prepared and submitted in written format and copies distributed to the Directors. Those chairmen who require an oral presentation in addition shall so notify the Chairman, and routinely be limited to no more than 5 minutes, was approved.

Chairman Monihan requested that Directors who plan to attend major conferences such as the IAFC, FDIC, or the Firehouse show, contact Ron Miller, who is in charge of arrangements for our booth at these affairs, so that we can have proper representation, and that the work does not fall to just a few.

Mr. Beaty inquired if there is any possibility of providing funding of some sort to assist Directors to attend if they are going to work in the NVFC booth. Mr. Miller replied that in some cases, a certain amount of support is available, most of the time it is not. It has been done on a case by case basis.

Chairman Monihan announced that he had received some printed material on the NFPA Breathing Apparatus Standard. Directors who wish to study this and perhaps make comments should take copies.

Mr. Tharp initiated a discussion relating to expansion of the membership base, and retention of current members, especially Associate Members. It was pointed out that the Second Vice Chairman's primary duty is in this area. Some of the bylaw copies do not show this. The consensus was that a concerted effort must be made, and certain persons must be appointed, to develop an effective recruitment policy and method.

Mr. Lyman's motion, that the NVFC purchase its own computer and software did not receive a second.

Chairman Monihan then asked the Directors if they had reached any conclusions on the concept of a charitable foundation. Mr. Condon stated that the proposed master plan calls for action on it. A motion by Mr. Tharp, second by Mr. Olivari, that the NVFC investigate the formation of such a foundation was approved.

Mr. Lyman suggested that a certificate of appreciation be delivered to Mr. Streng. He was informed that this has been a regular procedure.

Mr. Ennis proposed that we contact the Chemical Manufacturers Association to request a copy of their new video "Teamwork" for each Director. Mr. Condon will make the inquiry.

Mr. Mueller moved, with a second by Mr. Turner, that the Chairman arrange for preparation of a professional quality pamphlet on the NVFC's Firefighter of the Year Program, which Directors could use to inform as well as solicit nominees. The material should be in a generic format, so that it may be used year after year. The motion was approved.

Chairman Monihan announced that he had appointed Mr. Hill to the NFPA 1901 (apparatus) Committee. He has also appointed Mr. Sayer to the 1021 Fire Officers Standard Committee.

Mr. Tharp spoke briefly about an article which has appeared in Fire Command relating to a Volunteer Manager who has been employed on a full time basis by the Kettering, Ohio Fire Department to work on recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters, and to make the public aware of the functions of the volunteer members of this combination department.

He also made a few kind remarks about a department chief from the state of Maryland who is a candidate for 2nd Vice President of the IAFC.

As an afterthought, Tom also made a discreet request for the return of a belt buckle and a paperweight, which had apparently escaped from his possession during the previous evening's festivities.

Mr. Drinkard announced that any committee chairman who has not submitted a budget request, and whose committee's activities may need funding, should communicate with Mr. Drinkard as soon as possible.

Chairman Monihan announced that he had appointed Mr. Olivari to the Executive Committee, to replace Mr. McKeon, who is taking Mr. Strng's place. He also announced the names of all of the persons whom he had appointed to the various committees. These are listed on an enclosed sheet.

Miss Perroni reported that she did not have time to prepare a generic news release for the Directors' local papers. She will mail it to the Directors during the week.

Mr. Reavley inquired if the NVFC had an objection to the inclusion of rescue squad members being covered under the PSOB program. Chairman Monihan replied that we had no objection; we just could not understand the way it was accomplished; it was attached to the budget bill after midnight at the end of the session.

Mr. Miller expressed the gratitude of the NVFC to the Florida State Firemens Association and the Plantation Fire Department for the excellent way in which they had served as hosts for the conference. He then presented Certificates of Appreciation to Chief Pudney and a representative of the Association.

Mr. Blaser, Secretary/Treasurer of the Wisconsin State Firefighters Association, distributed information packets for the 1987 Fall Meeting, which will be held October 2 - 4, at the RAMADA INN - AIRPORT, and the Franklin Fire Department Headquarters. The Ramada's address is: 6401 SOUTH 13TH STREET, MILWAUKEE, WI 53221 - (414)-764-5300. MAKE YOUR RESERVATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Also, when you have made your plans, please notify Bill Blaser, 12255 West St. Martins Road, Franklin, WI 53132 (414) H 425-2964, W 284-9486; so he and his helpers can properly plan for the event.

Mr. Beaty reported that he had been accompanied by a number of his association members who wanted to observe first hand what is involved in planning for and taking care of all of the details connected with a meeting of this type. The 1988 Spring meeting is planned for April 29 - May 1, at Vienna-Parkersburg, West Virginia.

Mr. Hill reported on the progress being made toward holding the 1988 Fall Meeting, which will be at Freeport, Maine.

Mr. Colvin had invited the Council to hold its 1989 Spring Meeting in the State of South Carolina. A motion by Mr. Lyman, second by Mr. McKeon, to accept the invitation of the South Carolina State Firemens Association, was approved.

There being no further business proposed, the motion of Mr. Lyman, second by Mr. Beaty, to adjourn the meeting, was approved.

Reported by
Gus Welter,
Secretary,

Based on notes and tapes
provided by Mr. Paul Lukus
Thank you, Paul.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

W. G. Drinkard, Jr	AL	John Goucher	AK	Marc Mueller	CA
Robert McKeon	CT	E. James Monihan	DE	Robert J. Jones	FL
C.H. Wofford	GA	Robert Turner	IL	William Goodwin	IN
Ron C. Miller	IA	George F. Hill	ME	Thomas L. Tharp	MD
Philip Sayer	MO	Lyle Nagel	MT	W. H. Templar	NE
Peter Ackerman	NJ	John S. Olivari	NY	Bobby Joyner	NC
Myron L. George	OH	Bob Hollander	OK	Jack Condon	OR
Paul S. Lukus	PA	John H. Lyman	RI	Robert W. Colvin	SC
James E. Reavley	TN	Bill Barrett	TX	Edward Haddad, Jr.	VT
Steve M. Ennis	VA	Fred G. Allinson	WA	Philip Stittleburg	WI
Fred Williams	NY	William Reimann	MI		

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS PRESENT

N. E. Hoeft	NE	Carl Veltri	NY	Earle T. Mousaw	NY
Ed Arrants	FL	Elsworth Greer	TX	J. C. Parker	IN
John J. McAuliffe	CT	Jack Quien	WA	Wm. R. Blaser	WI

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTATIVES

Lou Amabili, ISFSI, DE	Steve Austin, IAAI, DE	Barbara Lundquist,
Lisa Osborne, TI, DC	Carolyn Perroni, VA	TriData, VA
J. F. Casey, NFA, MD	Bill Darley, IL	Joe Redden, NFPA, MA

VISITORS AND GUESTS

William Blackburn, Seminole, FL	Ronald C. Butler, Scottsdale, AZ
Bill Craft, Perry, FL	Lou Doucet, Avaon Park, FL
Bill Drymon, FL	Howard Fair, Tucson, AZ
Mack Flowers, FL	Norman Frye, FL
Daniel Goodwin, Vienna, WV	Richard Harman, Cedar Rapids, IA
Paul Hill, Seminole, FL	Irvin Hill, Perry, FL
Robert Hooker, Bullhead City, AZ	Wm. Hopmeier, Venice, FL
Henry Hutt, Jacksonville, FL	Frank King, Hartly, DE
Ed Jones, Orlando, FL	Harold Kinsey, Avon Park, FL
Michael Moore, Vienna, WV	Bob Newell, New Smyrna Beach, FL
Ken Newton, Camillus, NY	William Owens, Vienna, WV
Martin Pepsin, Venice, FL	Mickey Shiver, Orlando, FL
James Simpkins, Plantation, FL	

(Additional persons were present, but did not sign the attendance sheet)