



TO: MSFCA Board of Directors

FROM: Chief Bill Mund – Great Lakes Division Representative

SUBJECT: Report to Board

DATE: April 15, 2011

The GLD Board met in conjunction with CFSI on April 6, 2011. I was unable to attend CFSI but attended the board meeting via conference call. Minutes from this meeting are not yet available. Meeting highlights are:

1. A second candidate for the 2nd VP position has announced. Bill Metcalf the current Treasurer of the IAFC spoke to the board. The Division at its annual meeting endorsed Chief I. David Daniels from Washington State. This endorsement was prior to Chief Metcalf announcing his candidacy.
2. Financial reports will be emailed out to the board members.
3. The investment fund for the division showed a 12% return for our first year of investing some of our reserves.
4. Chief Kenn Taylor, our International Director gave an update on what is happening in the IAFC. Chief Taylor also announced he would be stepping down in August at the end of his current term.
5. The board discussed our policy of endorsements and how the timing has created issues such as this year. I have been appointed to a committee to look at our process and those of other divisions to see if we should make some changes.
6. All of the state directors reported they are facing similar issues as Wisconsin and Ohio to one degree or another. The current political landscape is extremely difficult at best.

7. The GLD Board also had a presentation by the IAFC on the recently launched "Ready, Set, Go!" program. There is some excellent info on the IAFC website about this program to deal with wildfires and urban interface fires.
8. Reminder that the Honor Guard Competition is set for July 29-31 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. More info can be found on the GB Fire website.
9. The Board discussed and then approved the "Blue Card in a Box" program. This will purchase the required equipment to conduct the hands-on portion of Blue Card certification. The idea is that the equipment can be sent to various locations so those interested do not have to travel to the only two locations currently available in the GLD. The cost was estimated at just over \$10,000. Once this equipment is purchased and the program is up and running I will send out more information for those departments that may be interested in checking out the equipment.
10. The board discussed a proposal to look at hiring an Executive Director to run the affairs of the Division. A very good discussion reviewed the many pros and cons of this proposal. The workload on the current Secretary/Treasurer continues to increase. The biggest area of concern is how do we pay for it, my estimate is that it would cost the division about \$25,000 more per year than we are currently paying the Secretary/Treasurer. There appeared to be a general consensus that if we move this direction the ED would be a contract employee rather than elected. There will be much more discussion about this over the summer before we meet for our annual meeting in August.

Speaking of August, Fire Rescue International will be held August 23-27 in Atlanta, GA. Registration is now open. The web site for room reservations is:

<https://onpeak.compassreservations.com/compass/webdirect.cfm?code=62FRI11>

They have put together some great programming this year and I hope that many of you will be able to attend.

I will be attending the Fire/Rescue GPO Advisory Group meeting in Seattle at the end of June. The GPO continues to grow and we will be meeting with many of the current vendors on the GPO as well as discuss strategies to continue to grow the GPO.