

Region 11–Dale Specken–Regional Report of March 20, 2009
Regional Meeting Date: 3/11/09 - Meeting Location: Buffalo

Number of attendees: 47

Special Guests: Mayor Fred Naaktoboren

Program: Wright County Fire Investigation Team

Wright County team was established in 2003. Have 35 members from 15 departments. They have 3 levels of call outs.

Treasurer's Report: \$4,526.73

Reports:

Dave Esinger:

The last MSFDA board Mtg was Jan 31 and a joint board Mtg was held on Feb. 28th. The Fire Acts Training request was over \$1,000,000 for the \$860,000 available funds. Over 200 FF's attended Fire Service Day at the Capital on March 5th. Keeping close tabs on the State 2%. Requesting that everyone would contact their legislator if necessary if a problem arises on this issue.

The NVFC will be hosting the National conference from Sept. 22-26, 2010. There might be a need for a couple of FD's to host some dinners for the attendees. Manufactures of fire equipment are pushing for more gadgets on fire apparatus which raises the cost of the apparatus. They are looking at a possible replacement for the Smoke Eater with The Blaze. They feel The Blaze would more current information. The MSFDA annual conference will be held from June 11-13th in Owatonna. They have 2 proposed by-law changes. If you have any firefighters that have served for 20 years please get that info to Doug Noah for the Honorary Life member award at least 45 days before the conference. Also if you had any deceased FF's since the last conference get that info to Doug in the same time frame. The Vice President and the treasure positions are up for elections this year. The MSFDA website is down so if you have any questions contact Director Eisinger.

Bruce Aretz: No Report

State Fire Marshal: No report

Certification Board:

The Certification Board now has a promotion exam process that FD's can use. The process consists of a written test. The process cost \$125 plus \$5 per FF taking the test. The next FF Regional test will be held at Blaine, Spring Lake Park, and Mounds view on May 2nd. The Fire Investigator test needs 12 FF's to happen. 8 FF's took the written but need 4 more to do the practical. They are currently doing the recertification process. They are doing about 100 recertifications per week. You will be getting them in the mail. You can register for tests on line. The Haz-mat operations have now been moved to FF1 test. No more Haz-mat Operations on FF2. Fire Inspector 3 is now available. If you are taking any practical test that requires a mask you need to be clean shaven or you will not be allowed to take the test. Fire Officer 3 & 4 are in the process and are looking for volunteers to assist with that process. Working on a Rescue Technician test that would cover vehicle, water, confine space and ropes. Any questions please check the website www.mnfirecert.org.

MNSCU Dan Roeglin:

His handout was given out and will be e-mail to all of the FD's that were not able to attend.

Unfinished Business:

Chief Rick Laskey will have a training class at the Waconia High School on August 29, 2009. Will first be open to the United FF's and if not enough people registered it will be open to the rest of the State's FF's. Working on the rest of the details. The first part of the class will be on managing change and the other part will be on Pride and Ownership

New Business:

2009 Grants, the next round of Assistance to Firefighter Grants will open on March 18th. Grants will be for basic fire equipment only. No vehicle exhausts equipment etc. If you have questions you can contact Warren Jorgenson, link on Minnesota Fire Service News. Looking for FF's to help review grants at the NFA.

Discussion on the next meeting to be hosted by Plymouth FD. Secretary Widmer advised on some of the e-mails that were exchanged with Chief Kline. Chief Kline stated that there would not be a meal per city policy, no Mayor or City Administrator would do a welcome to the visiting FF's and there was no need to do any pre-plan meetings. Secretary Widmer stated that the last meeting that Plymouth FD attended was June 2006. A motion was made by Victoria, 2nd by Buffalo to bypass Plymouth and have the June meeting hosted by Lorretto FD. Motioned passed.

Jay O'Connell talked about the Minnesota Fallen Firefighter Assn. He stated that anytime there is a FF death that they would send to members to assist the fire department with anything that they can. O'Connell requested a donation of \$100 to \$200 for the organization. This was tabled until the next meeting. FF's can look up more info at www.mffma.org

Other events:

Mayer FD Fish Fry on April 5th.

Waconia FD Pancake Breakfast on April 19th.

Long Lake FD Pancake Breakfast on April 19th.

Cologne FD Pancake Breakfast on April 25th.

Shakopee FD Bike Run on June 20th.

Next Meeting Date/Time: 6/09/09 7:00 pm Place: Loretto