



MICHIGAN PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS UNION

51ST BIENNIAL CONVENTION

Resolutions

&

Convention Committees

May 7-8-9, 2014

PARK PLACE HOTEL

TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

Summary of Resolutions

Resolution	Committee Assigned to:	Cost Factor	Notes
1 – Memorial Resolution	Resolutions	0	
2 – Retiree Health Care Committee	Constitution & By-laws	\$0.05	Sunsets on 6/30/2016
3 – thank-you to L 646	Resolutions	0	
4 – MPFFU Convention Site Selection Process	Constitution & by-laws	0	
5 – Designation of HVA as a Rival Organization	Resolutions	0	
6 – Retroactive Membership Adjustments	Constitution & By-laws	0	
7 – Filing Deadline for Eligibility to be Nominated	Constitution & By-laws	0	
8 – Appeal to Unaffiliated IAFF Locals to Join the MPFFU	Resolutions	0	
9 – Lifetime Membership to Joseph A. Grutza	Resolutions	0	
10 – Endorsement of Fire Fighters Candidates	Constitution & By-laws	0	
11 – Multi-year Site for MPFFU Convention	Constitution & By-laws	0	
12 – Clarification of Eligibility for Locals to Belong to MPFFU	Constitution & By-laws	0	
13 – Creation of Amnesty Period	Constitution & By-laws	0	
14 – Committee to Review MPFFU Organizational Structure	Constitution & By-laws	\$0.12	Sunsets on 6/30/2016
15 – Support of Proposed Increase in Salaries for IAFF DVP's	Resolutions	0	
16 – Support of Proposed Enhancement of IAFF Memorial	Resolutions	0	
17 - Community Paramedic	Resolutions	0	
18 – Guidelines for Merger of Locals	Resolutions	0	
19 – MPFFU LODD Policy	Constitution & By-Laws	0	

Amount Raised in 12 Months Through Per Capita Tax Increases

Amount		3500 Members
\$ 0.01		\$ 420.00
\$ 0.05		\$ 2,100.00
\$ 0.10		\$ 4,200.00
\$ 0.25		\$ 10,500.00
\$ 0.50		\$ 21,000.00
\$ 0.75		\$ 31,500.00
\$ 1.00		\$ 42,000.00
\$ 1.25		\$ 52,500.00
\$ 1.50		\$ 63,000.00
\$ 2.00		\$ 84,000.00

Resolution #1

Memorial Resolution

Whereas: During the period since the last Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union Convention, far too many of our IAFF Brothers and Sisters have died in the line of duty, and

Whereas: During this same period, a large number of other members and retirees have also passed away due to natural causes, therefore be it

Resolved: That those of us that remain shall never forget the contributions and sacrifices made by those before us to improve our profession, and be it further

Resolved: That we vow to honor their memory and continue fighting for Cancer Presumption and other beneficial firefighter laws, and be it finally

Resolved: That the members assembled at this 51st Biennial Convention of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union do hereby honor our deceased Brother and Sister Fire Fighters with a moment of silence.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Resolutions
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None
Convention Action:

Resolution #2

Retiree Health Care Issues Committee

Whereas: Pensions in the State of Michigan are constitutionally protected but retiree H/C does not have the same level of protections, and

Whereas: There has been a growing trend to either eliminate retiree H/C benefits or move to Defined Contribution retiree H/C plan, and

Whereas: The Affordable Care Act will begin penalizing employers for carrying retiree H/C plans, and

Whereas: In the future, many brother and sister firefighters will find themselves with uncertain H/C coverage as their retirements approach, and

Whereas: New legislation at the State and Federal level has changed the way that H/C is provided to employees, and

Whereas: Many MPFFU locals are finding that their employers are pushing the increased costs of providing H/C on their members therefore be it

Resolved: That the MPFFU President shall appoint a committee of no more than six members to research the feasibility of creating a H/C pool or exchange as well as other alternative H/C options for retirees, and be it further

Resolved: That the committee shall meet no more than six times and it shall issue a report and recommendations to the MPFFU Executive Board prior to December 1, 2014, and be it finally

Resolved: That the five cent per capita tax increase shall sunset on June 30, 2016.

Submitted by: Bernard Brosnan, Local 1206 – Redford Twp.
Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: \$0.05 Sunsets on 6/30/16
Convention Action:

Resolution #3

**Thanks and Appreciation to
Traverse City – Local 646**

Whereas: The delegates assembled at this 51st Biennial Convention of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union wish to express their thanks and appreciation to the members of Local 646 – Traverse City Fire Fighters for hosting this 51st Biennial Convention on May 7-8-9, 2014, at the Park Place Hotel; therefore be it

Resolved: That a suitable token of our thanks and appreciation be presented to Local 646.

**Resolution #4
MPFFU Convention Site Selection**

Whereas: The Biennial Convention is the most important and expensive meeting conducted by the MPFFU, and

Whereas: The MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws currently requires that the Convention be held in a location offered by a local wishing to host the Convention, and

Whereas: This requirement limits the number of facilities considered for holding the convention, which hinders competitive bidding and lower pricing for sleeping rooms, food and beverage costs, and meeting space for MPFFU Conventions, and

Whereas: The requirement for a local to host the Convention is an outdated constraint that is no longer necessary, therefore be it

Resolved: That the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws be amended to remove the requirement that a local must bid to host the convention, and be it finally

Resolved: That the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws be amended to read as follows:

Article 5, Section 1: Time and Place
The MPFFU Convention shall be held in the even numbered years between the dates of April 10th and May 21st.

The MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer shall submit Request for Proposals to a minimum of three facilities deemed suitable to hold the next yet to be scheduled convention by October 1st of the odd numbered years.

In addition, locals may also request that a facility in their jurisdiction receive the opportunity to submit a proposal to host the convention by contacting the MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer by September 1st of the odd numbered years.

Presentations to the delegates will be made by representatives of the sites submitting proposals prior to the closing of business on the second day of the Convention. Voting shall be by secret ballot of the delegates in a manner similar to the election of officers.

If there is a local in the City or Township where the convention is selected to be held, that local will be offered an opportunity to participate in the opening ceremonies of the convention and the local will be given the option to host or sponsor networking opportunities in their community outside the hours of official convention business, otherwise, all other convention activities and events will be conducted by the MPFFU.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None
Convention Action:

Resolution #5
Designation of HVA (Huron Valley Ambulance)
as a Rival Organization of the MPFFU

Whereas: The members of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union are under unprecedented attacks on many levels, and

Whereas: Many of our traditional fire departments are being stripped of their ability to provide quality EMS capabilities by privatization of service, and

Whereas: History has shown that in the vast majority of cases, when professional fire fighters no longer provide Emergency Medical Services, patient care and customer service levels decrease, and

Whereas: It is the sincere belief of the MPFFU and the IAF that privatized EMS cannot deliver the same professional services of a traditional, career, IAF-affiliated fire department can, and

Whereas: It is also believed that due to the reduced staffing levels of dedicated career, fire departments with a privatized EMS model department, the citizens of these communities are having their safety compromised, and

Whereas: Initially, HVA provided transporting service for medical first responder fire departments but they are now openly encouraging the privatization of EMS and providing municipalities with a false promise of service, and they are actively involved in using the privatized model as a recruitment drive to bolster the profit for itself, therefore be it

Resolved: That the delegates assembled at this 51st Biennial Convention of the MPFFU do hereby declare that HVA is officially designated a Rival Organization of the MPFFU and that the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws be amended to memorialize this action.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board

Committee Assigned to: Resolutions

Committee Recommendation:

Cost Factor: None

Convention Action:

Resolution #6
Retroactive Membership Adjustments

Whereas: Article 3, Section 2 of the MPFFU Constitution and By-laws states that each local affiliate shall forward new member initiation fees and per capita tax payments to the MPFFU by the fifteenth (15th) day of each month and that payment shall be based on the number of members in the local on the first day of each month, and

Whereas: Locals are responsible for notifying the MPFFU of membership reductions such as retirements, terminations, and lay-offs in a timely manner, therefore be it

Whereas: Some locals have failed to monitor their membership list with the MPFFU and have failed to provide updates as they occur, and

Whereas: Some locals have requested reimbursement of per capita tax for changes that have occurred several months or even years earlier, therefore be it

Resolved: That the MPFFU Constitution and By-laws be amended to state that refunds of per capita tax payments caused by failure to notify the MPFFU of retirements, withdrawals, terminations, and lay-offs, are restricted to a maximum of 90 days.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board

Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws

Committee Recommendation:

Cost Factor: None

Convention Action:

4/30/14
5:02 PM

4/30/14
5:02 PM

Resolution #7
Filing Deadline for MPFFU Candidates

Whereas: The MPFFU Constitution and By-laws currently permit any member in good standing to be nominated for positions on the MPFFU Executive Board or for MPFFU Trustee positions, and

Whereas: The nominations for these offices currently take place on the first day of the convention and the election for these offices takes place on the second day of the convention, and

Whereas: Delegates should be given an ample amount of time to determine the qualifications of the candidates for office and time to discuss the candidate choices with the members of their local prior to the convention, and

Whereas: Locals that are unable to attend the convention send their proxy votes with another local without really knowing who the candidates for office might be, and

Whereas: It is a common and accepted practice in most elections for candidates seeking election to office to declare their candidacy in a reasonable amount of time in advance of the election date, and

Whereas: Establishing a filing deadline for candidates for all MPFFU elected positions would provide members adequate time to compare candidates, meet with them and ask them questions at district meetings prior to the convention, therefore be it

Resolved: That Article 5, section 6 of the MPFFU Constitution and By-laws shall be amended by adding the following language:

Any member wishing to run for any MPFFU elected position shall be required to declare his or her candidacy for the position they are running for by submitting the Candidate Declaration form and a non-refundable filing fee of \$50 to the MPFFU office no later than 60 days prior to the first day of the MPFFU Convention. The MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer will announce the filing deadline date by January 15th in the year of the convention.

Only members that have submitted the candidate Declaration form and the filing fee by the announced filing deadline date will be eligible for nomination to that office at the MPFFU Convention.

If there are no eligible candidates meeting this requirement at the time of nominations, then any member in good standing will be eligible to be nominated.
And be it finally

Resolved: That Article 6, section 7 of the MPFFU Constitution and By-laws shall be amended by adding the following language:

“Any member wishing to run for any MPFFU elected position that was vacated between conventions, shall be required to declare his or her candidacy for the position they are running for by submitting the Candidate Declaration form and a non-refundable filing fee of \$50 to the MPFFU office no later than 14 days prior to the special convention or nominating and election meeting scheduled by the MPFFU Executive Board.

Only members that have submitted the candidate Declaration form and the filing fee by the above required date will be eligible for nomination to that office at the special convention or nominating and election meeting.”

If there are no eligible candidates meeting this requirement at the time of nominations, then any member in good standing will be eligible to be nominated.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None
Convention Action:

Resolution #8
Appeal to Unaffiliated IAFF Locals in Michigan to Join MPFFU

Whereas: All local unions of the International Association of Fire Fighters are urged to affiliate with their respective state, provincial or federal fire fighters associations, and

Whereas: All IAFF local unions in this state benefit from their affiliation with the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union (MPFFU) in many ways, including but not limited to legislative and political activities, and

Whereas: Recently, for various reasons, three IAFF locals voluntarily withdrew their membership in the MPFFU, and

Whereas: The success and continued existence of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union is dependent on all IAFF local unions in the State joining and maintaining their membership in the MPFFU, therefore be it

Resolved: That the delegates assembled at this 51st Biennial MPFFU Convention hereby direct and authorize the MPFFU Executive Board to send a letter to the officers and members of Local 344-Detroit, Local 1335-Waterford, and Local 2629-Independence Township officially inviting them to rejoin the MPFFU as members in good standing.

Submitted by: Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Resolutions
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None
Convention Action:

Resolution #9
Lifetime Membership for Joseph A. Gruzta

Whereas: Joseph A. Gruzta was a charter member of Local 2701-Trenton and served as its Local Union Secretary for almost 20 years, and

Whereas: Joseph A. Gruzta also served as MPFFU 4th District Vice President where he assisted many locals and represented them while serving on the MPFFU Executive Board until he resigned his position due to his promotion to Fire Chief in the City of Trenton, and

Whereas: In his position of Fire Chief, Joseph A. Gruzta continued to provide the union and labor perspective viewpoints at every opportunity he had while networking and interacting with various Fire Chief Associations, and

Whereas: When the State Fire Marshal Division was removed from the Michigan State Police, Joseph A. Gruzta was appointed Director of the Fire Fighters Training Council in the newly created Bureau of Fire Services, and

Whereas: While serving as Director on the Fire Fighters Training Council, Joseph A. Gruzta has continued to be a strong advocate for firefighter training and has continued to assist MPFFU locals and members with various training issues, and

Whereas: Joseph A. Gruzta has completed more than three decades of distinguished and honorable service as a dedicated and loyal member of the MPFFU, therefore be it,

Resolved: That Brother Joseph A. Gruzta is hereby awarded the honor and privilege of Lifetime Membership in the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: minimal
Convention Action:

Resolution #10

Fire Fighter Candidate Endorsement Process

Whereas: The Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union encourages all MPFFU members to take an active role in political elections, and

Whereas: The MPFFU has always encouraged its members to consider running for political office at every level, including local, state, and federal elections, and

Whereas: A firefighter that decides to run for office usually expects the support of other firefighters through financial assistance and/or endorsements, and

Whereas: In order to provide a clear understanding of the MPFFU Candidate Endorsement Process, and to make sure the process is consistently followed when one or more of the candidates are current or former MPFFU members, written guidelines for endorsement of fire fighter candidates should be adopted, therefore be it:

Resolved: that the following language shall be added to Article 12, of the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws as Section 1 VII:

VII. FIRE FIGHTER CANDIDATES

Although the MPFFU encourages its members to run for political office at the local, state, and federal levels, it is recommended that they follow the steps listed below to maximize the possibility of obtaining the support and endorsement of the MPFFU and/or other firefighters. Fire Fighter candidates for political office should not expect to automatically be endorsed by the MPFFU or other MPFFU Local Unions just because they are a firefighter.

1. If possible, register to attend the IAFF Political Academy well in advance of your decision to actually run for any elected position. If you are unable to attend the IAFF Political Academy, there are several members of the MPFFU that have attended the academy in the past and they will be happy to provide you with valuable information you may find useful in making your decision to run for office.

2. Make sure you are an active participant in the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union PAC program.

3. Send written communication to the MPFFU indicating your interest in running for political office well in advance of making your final decision to run for a specific office. The MPFFU and the IAFF will assist you by providing advice and many valuable resources and tools to assist you. They will also share their knowledge about the other potential candidates for the office you wish to run for. The MPFFU will coordinate a meeting with the leadership of any fire fighter locals that may be located in the district you are thinking about running in.

4. It is important for any firefighter candidate to recognize that the MPFFU will follow the Guidelines and Procedures for Endorsement of Candidates, regardless of whether one of the candidates is/was a MPFFU member.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board

Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws

Committee Recommendation:

Cost Factor: None

Convention Action:

Resolution #11
Multiple Year Site for MPFFU Convention

Whereas: The Biennial Convention is the most important and expensive meeting conducted by the MPFFU, and

Whereas: The MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws currently requires that the Convention be held in a location offered by a local wishing to host the Convention, and

Whereas: This requirement limits the number of speaker and guests that may participate in the convention and oftentimes presents challenges to providing an adequate number of sleeping rooms and comfortable meeting room space, and

Whereas: It is recognized throughout the event industry that awarding a convention bid for multiple years will result and lower pricing for sleeping rooms, food and beverage costs, and meeting space for MPFFU Conventions, and

Whereas: Holding the MPFFU Convention in the City of Lansing assures our members of an adequate number of sleeping rooms and ample space for all activities associated with the convention, and

Whereas: Holding the MPFFU Convention in the City of Lansing permits maximum interaction with State elected officials, and

Whereas: The City of Lansing provides easy access for a large majority of MPFFU members, therefore be it

Resolved: That the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws be amended to read as follows:

Article 5, Section 1: Time and Place
The MPFFU Convention shall be held in the even numbered years between the dates of April 10th and May 24th.

The MPFFU Secretary-Treasurer shall request a proposal from the Lansing Radisson Hotel and the Lansing Center to hold the MPFFU Convention in 2018, 2020, and 2022. The MPFFU Executive Board shall approve or disapprove the proposed contract. If an agreement cannot be reached on the contract for these convention years by October 31, 2014, the MPFFU Executive Board will follow the same procedure with other nearby hotels until a suitable agreement can be reached.

The delegates assembled at the 2020 Convention will review the convention site process and determine how to select future convention sites beyond the year 2022.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None
Convention Action:

Resolution #12
Jurisdiction and Membership in MPFFU

Whereas: The IAFF has historically issued charters to Industrial, Federal, and non-municipal locals throughout the United States, and

Whereas: These types of locals are governed by Federal Labor Laws rather than State Public Employer Labor Laws, and

Whereas: A State Association cannot properly or adequately represent these locals, and

Whereas: Membership in State Associations by these types of locals would subject the State Association to maintain and submit a multitude of mandatory recordkeeping and financial documents to the Department of Labor, and

Whereas: Currently, the only IAFF Industrial local in Michigan is I-35, otherwise known as Dearborn Industrial, and

Whereas: Although I-35 joined the IAFF in 1980, it was not a member of the MPFFU until 1997, when I-35 was inadvertently granted membership in the MPFFU due to the fact that no one in the MPFFU or I-35 leadership positions at that time knew or understood the reason that I-35 hadn't previously been a member of the MPFFU, and

Whereas: Upon being notified by the IAFF of the many reasons why State Associations should not allow Industrial Locals as members, the MPFFU stopped collecting per capita tax payments from I-35 in 2012, and

Whereas: In order to avoid others from making this type of membership mistake again in the future, the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws should be amended to memorialize the proper requirements for membership in the MPFFU, therefore be it

Resolved: That Article 3 of the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws shall be amended to read as follows:

"Membership in the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union shall be limited to members of IAFF chartered locals located in the State of Michigan and that are employed by the state or a political subdivision of the state such as a City, Township, County, District, Public Corporation, or Authority.

IAFF affiliates located in Michigan that are not members of the MPFFU may attend MPFFU functions as guests upon receiving prior approval of the MPFFU Executive Board."

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None
Convention Action:

Resolution #13
Creation of Amnesty Period

Whereas: Recently, for various reasons, three locals voluntarily withdrew their membership in the MPFFU, and

Whereas: The success and continued existence of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union is dependent on all IAF local unions in the State joining and maintaining their membership in the MPFFU, therefore be it

Resolved: any past due per capita, assessment payments, or initiation fees, owed by Local 344-Detroit, Local 1335-Waterford, and Local 2629-Independence Township, will be forgiven if they rejoin the MPFFU during the amnesty period that is hereby created and will end on March 31, 2015, and be it finally

Resolved: That the MPFFU Per Capita tax will be decreased on July 1, 2015 by an appropriate amount relative to the number of members that rejoin the MPFFU from these locals prior to March 31, 2015.

Submitted by: *Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union Executive Board*
Committee Assigned to: *Constitution and By-laws*
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None
Convention Action:

Resolution #14
Comprehensive Review of MPFFU Structure and Organization

Whereas: Following a review of MPFFU operations and determining that almost all of the budget is subject to inflation, and

Whereas: Per capita is currently \$13.40 and is currently adjusted annually to reflect changes in the CPI, and

Whereas: the last formal evaluation of our structure occurred in May 2010 when, following a substantial decline in MPFFU's membership and financial resources, District 1 and District 3 were combined to share one District Vice President along with other operational adjustments to the organizational structure, and

Whereas: it is good business practice for any organization to periodically review and evaluate its overall structure and operation, and

Whereas: due to the increase in operational costs and the continuing decline in membership and per capita revenue, it is time for another review of the overall structure of the MPFFU, including an evaluation of each position within the MPFFU executive board to ensure job descriptions, duties, and responsibilities meet the current needs of the membership and,

Whereas: this review should also examine the current committee structure to insure it is consistent with the needs of the membership, examine the current budgeted expenditures to insure that the needs of the membership are given top priority, and assess if all members are represented equally and in a fair and consistent manner, and

Whereas: because technology plays a significant role in developing and delivering high quality services efficiently and effectively to the membership, it is important to insure that the MPFFU is maximizing its use of recent technological advances that are available, and

Whereas: in order to achieve a balanced perspective in a review of the MPFFU operations and organizational structure, an ad hoc committee should be formed that includes large and small locals from each district, therefore be it,

Resolved: that an independent ad hoc committee be appointed to evaluate the operations and financial resources of the MPFFU, research other state associations and their operations and be it further

Resolved: to ensure diverse representation of members per district, the ad hoc committee shall consist of at least one member from each district, and shall include one member from a local of over 100, one member from a local of 50 to 100 and one member from a local of less than 50, and be it further,

Resolved: that this committee shall meet a maximum of 12 times, and it shall make a formal report to the Executive Board no later than May 1, 2015 and be it finally,

Resolved: that all of the ad hoc committee's recommendations be submitted as resolutions to the 2016 MPFFU convention for delegate action.

Submitted by: Chris Lake IAFF Local 421

Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws

Committee Recommendation:

Cost Factor: \$0.12 that will sunset on June 30, 2016

Convention Action:

Resolution #15

**Support of IAFF Resolution to
Increase the Salaries of IAFF District Vice Presidents**

Whereas: It is a well recognized fact that the duties, roles, and responsibilities of the IAFF District Vice Presidents have increased dramatically since their annual salary was first established in 1986, and

Whereas: The last salary increase for IAFF DVP positions, other than COLA adjustments, was in 2006, and

Whereas: The current annual salary of IAFF DVP positions is \$79,000, and

Whereas: IAFF DVP's are paid far less than what other comparable unions pay their elected officials that have similar duties and responsibilities, and

Whereas: The IAFF General President and IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer believe that the salaries of the IAFF DVP's should be increased, and

Whereas: The IAFF General President and IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer are submitting a resolution at the upcoming IAFF Convention to increase the salaries of the IAFF District Vice Presidents, therefore be it

Resolved: That the delegates assembled at this 51st Biennial Convention of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union go on record as supporting an increase to the salaries of the IAFF District Vice Presidents.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board

Committee Assigned to: Resolutions

Committee Recommendation:

Cost Factor: None

Convention Action:

Resolution #16

**Support of the IAFF Resolution to
Reconstruct and Enhance the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial**

Whereas: The Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial is a permanent remembrance of the courageous fire fighters and emergency medical personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty, and

Whereas: The Memorial provides support to the families of these heroes who gave their lives in the service to others, and

Whereas: The IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial is a place where thousands of people gather every September and throughout the year to celebrate and honor the lives of IAFF members who have died in the line of duty, and

Whereas: The winter edition of the IAFF Fire Fighter magazine gave a detailed description of the proposal to reconstruct and enhance the Memorial, and

Whereas: There is going to be a resolution at the upcoming IAFF Convention in Cincinnati to ask for membership support to undertake this important project, therefore be it

Resolved: That the delegates assembled at this 51st Biennial Convention of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union go on record as supporting the IAFF Executive Board resolution to reconstruct and enhance the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial.

Submitted by: MPFFU Executive Board

Committee Assigned to: Resolutions

Committee Recommendation:

Cost Factor: None

Convention Action:

Resolution #17

Community Paramedic

Whereas: Today the world of pre hospital care is changing at a faster pace than it has since the beginning of EMS, and

Whereas: Fire Based EMS is the most cost effective, dedicated and community orientated option for pre hospital care, and

Whereas: With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and as it continues to move forward, and

Whereas: it is critical to the future of the fire service and our membership as a whole to continue to deliver the best care and the best resources to our community, and

Whereas: throughout the county our members are beginning to deliver alternate resources for our citizens that is both cost effective and directed at providing the right care at the right time to provide for the better health of our citizens, therefore be it,

Resolved: that the MPFFU EMS committee encourages all locals within the MPFFU to keep open communications with the stake holders in each of their communities and be an active participant in the delivery of pre hospital care and be it further,

Resolved: any local that may need assistance or have questions on implementing a community based pre hospital resource to its community can contact the MPFFU EMS committee, and be it finally,

Resolved: that each local keep in mind that we as first responders are on the front line of each call for service in our communities and being the best at allocating the right resources at the right time we can have a dramatic impact on assisting each of the stake holders of the healthy community initiative in providing and allocating available resources to assist in accomplishing these goals.

Submitted by: MPFFU EMS Committee

Committee Assigned to: Resolutions

Committee Recommendation:

Convention Action:

Resolution #18

Mergers of MPFFU Locals

Whereas: The members of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union are being encouraged to merge locals by both local and state governments, and

Whereas: These mergers are not always done in a fair and equitable manner for our members, and

Whereas: These mergers have the potential to negatively impact our members, and

Whereas: All merging members are members of the International Association of Fire Fighters and should be treated as equal members in this labor union, therefore be it

Resolved: that Article 16-Ideological Agenda of the MPFFU Constitution and By-laws be amended to include the following language:

“The MPFFU encourages all merging Locals to merge into their ranks all IAFF members of the other merging Local as close to full seniority as possible using a single seniority list by hired dates. The merging members should be given a classification as close to where their classification would be currently as if they were always with the merging local.”

Submitted by: Dearborn Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 412

Committee Assigned to: Resolutions

Committee Recommendation:

Cost Factor: None

Convention Action:

Resolution # 19
Creation of MPFFU Line of Duty Death and Serious Injury Task Force

Whereas: Firefighting continues to be one of the most dangerous professions in the United States, and

Whereas: All MPFFU members in this state risk serious injury and potential loss of life while performing his or her duties, and

Whereas: In many instances these injuries and deaths place tremendous burden on the members and Executive Boards of the locals involved in these tragic events, and

Whereas: In many of these instances the local has limited experience or resources to properly handle these events and

Whereas: The ability for the IAF or MPFFU to formally train and update each local how to properly handle, report and investigate these incidents in a reasonable manner has proven to be unrealistic, and

Whereas: The MPFFU District Vice Presidents are directed the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws to closely associate itself with each and every local in their district and to make available their professional and technical skills and experience for the development and growth of the locals, and

Whereas: The MPFFU Trustees have a long history of serving the MPFFU in various capacities to serve its membership and have assisted in all aspects of MPFFU business, and

Whereas: The MPFFU Trustees have been a valuable resource in providing additional aid to locals within their region and throughout the MPFFU, and

Whereas: The MPFFU District Vice Presidents and Trustees have access to the training, resources and contacts to assist in these types of incidents, and

Whereas: These types of incidents often require immediate action and the need for additional resources and personnel, therefore be it

Resolved: That the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws be amended to establish a "Line of Duty Death and Serious Injury Task Force" that will be designated to provide assistance if requested to any MPFFU local in good standing immediately following a line of duty death or serious injury, and be it further

Resolved: That do to the complexity of these incidents and the variety of needs a local may require during such a tragedy, the policies adopted for this Task Force shall be constructed in a way that will allow for reasonable assistance for each local while working within the parameters of the fire department and families to whom these incidents impact, and be it further

Resolved: That the MPFFU Executive Board be directed to amend the MPFFU Policy Book to include provisions for this Task Force, and be it further

Resolved: That said Task Force shall consist of any combination of MPFFU DVP's and Trustee's necessary to complete the many tasks associated with these events under the policies adopted by the MPFFU Executive Board, and be it further

Resolved: That the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws Article 7- Duties of Officers, Section 3-Duties of the Vice Presidents to be amended to include:
"Each of the DVP's may be called to act as a member of the MPFFU LODD and Serious Injury Task Force and act in accordance with the policies and guidelines adopted for said Task Force."

In instances where advanced approval from the MPFFU President cannot be maintained, the District VP shall have the authority to authorize such activities as may be necessary for the first 24 hours of action following notification of an incident."
and be it finally resolved

Resolved: That the MPFFU Constitution and By-Laws Article 7- Duties of Officers, Section 6-Duties of the Trustees to be amended to include:
"Each of the Trustees may be called to act as a member of the MPFFU LODD and Serious Injury Task Force and act in accordance with the policies and guidelines adopted for said Task Force."

Submitted by: Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union Executive Board
Committee Assigned to: Constitution and By-Laws
Committee Recommendation:
Cost Factor: None – will be treated as unforeseen expenses
Convention Action:

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman: David Weisenberg – Vice Chairman: Ed Hosmer

District	Local	First Name	Last Name
3	Saginaw	Brandon	Hausbeck
4	Westland	Kevin	Tomaszewski
5	Battle Creek	Nicholas	Bazendine
6	Roseville	Michael	Junga
6	Southfield	Scott	Rickard

SGT AT ARMS COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mark Fankhauser

District	Local Name	First Name	Last Name
1	Marquette	Ken	Lamarre
2	Norton Shores	Butch	Attig
4	Western Wayne	Bryan	Schwesing
4	Trenton	Tom	Gross
5	Battle Creek	Jenell	Justin
6	Roseville	Andres	Maldonado

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Aileen Pettinger

District	Local	First Name	Last Name
1	Marquette	Kirk	Volger
2	Eggleston Twp.	Dan	Brentana
2	Wyoming	Brian	Blotnik
3	Alpena	Brett	Miller
3	Port Huron	April	Fuller
4	Western Wayne	David	Polite
4	Ann Arbor	Michael	Roberts
5	Meridian Twp	Monny	Nye
6	Harrison Twp.	Matt	Sahr

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman Jim Leve

District	Local	First Name	Last Name
2	Kentwood	Kurt	Nuffer
2	Muskegon Twp.	Bryan	Fethke
3	Bay City	Kurt	Wagner
3	Midland	Tim	Longlet
3	Marysville	Chris	Nesbitt
4	Dearborn Heights	Phil	Hall
4	Ann Arbor	Amy	Brow
5	Portage	James	Snowden
5	Lansing	Dustin	Dickerson
6	Royal Oak	Jonathan	Melochie
6	Shelby	John	McCoy

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Chairman: Shaun Abbey – Vice Chairman Steve Heim

District	Local	First Name	Last Name
1	Marquette	Brian	Anderson
2	Grand Rapids	Rich	Clark
2	Muskegon	Pete	Hughes
3	Port Huron	Steve	Dilochia
4	Redford Twp.	Bernie	Brosnan
4	Dearborn	Jeff	Lertz
4	Westland	Mich	Tokarski
5	Lansing	Chris	Lake
5	Battle Creek	Chris	Love
6	Birmingham	Paul	Wells
6	Warren	Scott	Hallock
6	Roseville	Scott	Bala

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman: Chris Reynolds – Vice Chairman Daniel Dawe

District	Local	First Name	Last Name
2	Grand Rapids	Joseph	Dubay
2	Cadillac	Fred	Osborn
3	Alpena	Andrew	Marcum
4	Brownstown Twp.	David	Zurawski
4	Lyonsia	Rob	Domenzan
4	Dearborn Heights	Mickey	Wiewiura
5	East Lansing	Gerald	Rodabaugh
5	Jackson	Tom	Lovetbury
6	St. Clair Shores	Chris	Krotchie
6	Steering Heights	John	Farah
6	Hazel Park	Chris	Kenny