

MINUTES
MICHIGAN PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS UNION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Lansing Radisson Hotel
Lansing, MI
December 5, 2016

Members Present:

Mark Docherty, President
Terrence H. Chesney, Secretary/Treasurer
Shaun Abbey, Vice President, Second District
Chris Reynolds, Vice President, First/Third District
Steven Heim, Vice President, Fourth District
Monty Nye, Vice President, Fifth District
Matthew Sahr, Vice President, Sixth District
Rich Clark, Trustee, Western District
Mickey Wiewiura, Trustee, Eastern District
Aileen Pettinger, Northern Trustee

Guests:

The following guests were present at various times during the meeting:
Melissa McKinley, Kelley Cawthorne Consulting
Glen Scafidi, Chairman of MPFFU EMS Committee
Chris Lake, IAFF 8th District Field Services Representative

Call to Order

President Docherty called the meeting to order at 0955 hours. The board observed a moment of silence for all fire fighters that have passed since our last meeting. President Docherty announced that 4th DVP Steven Heim will be arriving late to the meeting due to mandatory training in his department. President Docherty reported that IAFF 8th District DVP Mark Sanders will be arriving later today and will participate in the rally tomorrow.

President Docherty stated that the minutes of the last meeting and the financial reports were previously sent out via email. He asked if there were any questions.

Motion 25-2016: Moved by Reynold, supported by Abbey to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2016 Executive Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion 26-2016: Moved by Abbey, supported by Nye to receive and place on file the MPFFU financial reports for the months of September, October, and November. Motion carried unanimously.

Presidents Report

President Docherty stated that the agenda for this meeting has been shortened so the board can work on the final plans for the rally/lobby day that is taking place tomorrow, December 6th. He also stated that he is taking part in a press conference along with representatives from several other fire and police organizations to discuss and to explain our opposition to the package of bills (HB6074-6086) commonly known as the OPEB reform legislation. President Docherty indicated that the entire board should attend the press conference.

The board discussed and finalized duties and responsibilities for the rally and lobbying that would take place after the rally.

President Docherty recessed the meeting for the press conference and for lunch at 10:40 am. President Docherty called the meeting back to order at 1:15 pm. President Docherty acknowledged that Steven Heim, 4th DVP is now in attendance. President Docherty asked S/T Chesney to report on agenda items that require board action.

Secretary-Treasurers Report

S/T Chesney asked if anyone had any questions on the proposed 2017 budget that was distributed at the September board meeting. He stated that a detailed budget presentation was also viewed by the MPFFU Trustees on September 13th.

Motion 27-2016: Moved by Chesney, supported by Heim to adopt the proposed MPFFU 2017 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

S/T Chesney reported that the members of the Saline Fire Department recently voted to join the IAFF and the results have been certified by MERC. The Saline Professional Fire Fighters are IAFF Local 5119. S/T Chesney reported that the MPFFU Constitution and By-laws require a vote by the MPFFU Executive Board to accept Local 5119's membership into the MPFFU.

Motion 28-2016: Moved by Chesney, supported by Heim approve the membership application of Local 5119. Motion carried unanimously.

S/T Chesney gave a report on the application process for the Delegato-McColl WSU Labor School scholarships. Six applications were received by the December 1st deadline. He stated that the application process wasn't completed in time to distribute two awards in the fall of 2016 so technically, there is enough money budgeted for four recipients at this time. He reported that the essays written by the six applicants were given to MPFFU Committee Political Education Committee Chairman, DVP Matt Sahr. The applicant's names were removed from the essays to avoid any appearances of favoritism in making the awards. The essays were reviewed and all of them were well written, making it extremely difficult to omit four of them or even two of them. S/T Chesney reported that he and DVP Sahr discussed the possibility of awarding all six applicants the award. 6th DVP Sahr reported that it was the recommendation of the committee to award the scholarship to all six of the applicants. S/T Chesney reported that the money for the extra scholarships could be taken from unexpended funds in the line item for Committees.

Motion 29-2016: Moved by Sahr, supported by Heim to award the 2017 Delegato-McColl Scholarship to the six applicants. Motion carried unanimously.

S/T Chesney wanted the board to recognize the excellent job that Phil Hall did in making sure this program was a success. Brother Hall did most of the initial research in writing the convention resolution, putting together the application packet, and in reviewing the applications. The initial six recipients of the Delegato-McColl Scholarship are: **Jammal Faraj, Michael Gallmeyer, Steven Rogers, Bruce VanGemert, Jeffrey Woodcock, and Deric Wurmlinger.**

Lobbyist Report

President Docherty welcomed MPFFU Lobbyist Melissa McKinley to the meeting. A long discussion took place about the upcoming rally and lobby day. President Docherty and Melissa reported on the OPEB legislation and several other bills that may be considered during the lame duck session. The board inquired about the status of the applications for the First Responders Presumed Coverage Fund. President Docherty stated he will provide updated information about the fund as soon as it becomes available. A discussion took place about the benefits of participating in the Fire Coalition and the Joint Fire Service Council with the other fire service organizations. President Docherty reported that the Michigan Fire Chiefs have not rejoined the Fire Coalition but some regional Fire Chief representatives have attended. Northern Trustee Pettinger gave a report on the Fire Fighters Training Council. A discussion took place about the State Fire Marshal's committee and the plan to use the MABAS system to handle the funding for firefighter training.

Trustee Report

S/T Chesney reported that the Trustee meeting will take place tomorrow after the rally.

District Reports

President Docherty asked each District Vice President to give a very brief report about high priority issues and problems in their districts. The board shared ideas and strategies for providing assistance to these locals. President Docherty reminded the DVP's to stay in touch with the locals in their district on a regular basis. A written report from each DVP is included at the end of these meeting minutes.

Committee Reports

President Docherty reported that the MPFFU Standing Committees are still scheduled to meet after the rally tomorrow. The MPFFU PSO Committee will be meeting later in the month.

Motion 30-2016: Moved by Heim, supported by Abbey to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.