

Spring Meeting Minutes April 20th 2013

1. Meeting called to order by Vice President Malone at 10:00 hours
2. **Membership present by the sign in sheet:** Alpha-Mastodon FD, Breitung Twp FD, Sagola Twp FD, Tri-County FD, West Iron County FD, Duncan Twp FD, Marquette Twp FD, Palmer FD, Republic Twp FD, Wells Twp FD, Munising FD, Spaulding Twp FD, Ironwood Twp FD, Ironwood VFD, Wakefield FD, Crystal Falls FD, State Fire Marshal Rich Miller.
3. **Pledge of allegiance said aloud.**
4. **Introduction of Guests:** State Fire Marshall Rich Miller, Dan Hammerberg (OFFT), Celeste Chingwa DNR Fire Division.
5. **Roll call of Board members.**
 - a. **President Caudill – Excused Absence**
 - b. **Vice President Malone – Present**
 - c. **Secretary / Treasurer Seppala – Present**
 - d. **Trustee Koski – Present**
 - e. **Trustee Yon – Present**
6. **Approval of agenda.** Motion made by Chief VanDoren –Tri County FD with support from Chief Jacobson Ironwood FD, all were in favor, motion carried.
7. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the fall meeting dated October 6th 2012, motion to approve was entertained by Chief Perlongo, WIC FD with support from Chief Sims, Marquette Twp FD, All were in favor and the motion carried.
8. **Treasurers Report:** Was presented by Secretary Seppala and a motion was made by Chief Petie, Ironwood Twp FD with support from Chief Hammerberg, Spaulding Twp FD. All were in favor and the motion carried.
9. **Unfinished Business: None**
10. **Training:** Chief Seppala Spoke of the training held in Iron Mountain in February it was a good seminar and an excellent instructor and about 75 people attended. Marquette County supported further training.
11. **New Business:** Narrow banding was spoke about and some of the problems with sirens and pagers tripping in Negaunee, Palmer and Marquette areas. Chief Yon mentioned that 800Mhz narrow banding will take place this year with Gogebic County being last on the list so he hoped the bugs would be worked out by then. An Ad to be placed in the Tournament book was motioned by Chief Jacobson, Ironwood FD with support from Palmer FD for a ½ page ad to be

placed as in the past. Chief Seppala noticed while preparing the minutes we have done full page ad's in the past so a full page ad for \$200.00 will be placed.

12. Reports:

- a. **State Fire Marshal Rich Miller** addressed the issues before him on funding for training through the fireworks sales issue for fees involved from sellers for certificates. He stated there are two types issued, a safety fee and a sales certificate. The structure of how to divide the funds for training are being worked on and could potentially put 10K per department for yearly training funds. Rich also explained some of the traveling and different boards he has been involved with. There was much discussion. The membership thanked him for making the time to attend the meeting. Chief Niemi gave kudos to the fire marshal out of Marquette that he had recently worked with on a fatal fire in Crystal Falls. The Fire marshal mentioned there is a web site (LARA) you can go to give SHOUT OUT's on any State employee for their good work/deeds.
- b. **OFFT Dan Hammerberg** He touched base on MIOSHA Part 74 that will go into effect on April 24th. There are 6-7 pages added on training recommendations and truck inspections, it is 12 pages long. There was some discussion. Spoke about the Fire Instructor course held and it started out as a full 16 people but dropped 5 to 11 graduates. Dan mentioned there were only 4 UP counties that did not have a certified training instructor now. Dan mentioned training classes coming up through the National Fire Academy next February and March funded by them. There was question about an NFPA rule for replacement of hose after 10 years. It will be looked into.
- c. **MDNR Fire Division, Celeste Chingwa spoke** to the membership about the shortage of Fire Officers in the State and how much they appreciate us working with them. Questions were asked about the training requirements needed to work with/for the State on wild land fires. She also mentioned the availability of fire equipment through them on a State level and Federal level through the DOD. She also mentioned to make sure that all departments have filed out their mutual aid agreements with the State so that equipment can be obtained. Her Chief could not make the meeting due to a prior engagement but would like to attend our next meeting and address the membership.
- d. **Member Comments:** Chief Seppala mentioned lunch will be served at the MacDonald house in Crystal Falls. Chief Malone mentioned the Fishing tournament fundraiser they are having May 18 & 19th in Munising, flyers were handed out. Chief Simondson spoke about background checks of potential fire department members, do more checking. No other comments were heard.
- e. **Next Meeting:** Annual meeting Thursday August 1st at 10:00 am, at the American Legion Building in L'Anse, the site of the Tournaments. Eastern Standard Time.
- f. **Adjournment:** 11:40 Cst. Motion by Ironwood Twp FD with support from Tri-County FD, meeting closed.