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From the Desk of...
Paul Hamilton
Secretary/Treasurer

PFFMA ZONE 2 MEETING
Ambassador Hotel, Amarillo, TX
Saturday, October 19, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm by President Craig Dubois.

Invocation was given by PFFMA Past President Randy Finsterwald. Pledge was led by PFFMA Secretary/Treasurer Paul Hamilton.

Board members present were President Craig Dubois; 1st VP Scott Nelson; 2nd VP Billy Bonner; Secretary/Treasurer Paul Hamilton and Past President Quint Brown. Board members absent were 3rd VP Mario Garcia; 4th VP Kelly Vandegriff; Chaplain Wyley Chaney; mascot Berkley Brown and sweetheart Braxton Turner.

Guests present were Jeri Hamilton, PFFMA auxiliary; Lauren Hamilton, Potter County Fire Department; Pete Cole, Kelton Fire Department; Randy Finsterwald, PFFMA Past President; and Gail Bonner, Shamrock Fire Department.

Minutes of the May 18, 2008 board meeting were read. Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer Hamilton gave the sec/treasurer's report. Secretary Hamilton reported that 80 member departments paid dues for 2008 with 54 departments paying in to the relief fund. 23 departments remained unpaid for 2008. Bank balances as of September 30, 2008 were reported. Motion made and seconded to accept the sec/treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer Hamilton reported to the board that at the SFFMA Annual Conference and Convention in Beaumont, TX in June of this year, he placed first in brisket, 1st place in ribs, 3rd place in chicken and took first place overall. He also reports that the scrapbook from the Panhandle District also took first place for the second year in a row.

The board then discussed proceeding with getting PFFMA certified as a 501(c)3 organization. Secretary Hamilton reports all the information needed is available and application will be made.

2008 PFFMA convention was discussed at this time. President Dubois would like to have a break down of Friday evening games revenue separate from convention revenue. This will be effective for the 2009 convention. Secretary Hamilton reported the numbers from the convention were included in his convention report.

Past President Quint Brown addressed the board about getting corporate sponsorships for future PFFMA conventions. He states he has been in contact with ten electric coops

in the Panhandle (Touchtone Energies) and they would like to partner with PFFMA and provide sponsorships in amounts of \$250 or \$500 each. PFFMA would have sponsorship posters made to hang at the convention thanking our sponsors. Past President Brown has also been in contact with other corporations to ask for sponsorships for the convention. Sponsor money would be used to offset some of the cost of items such as trophies, door prizes, auction items, cups, etc. Sponsor amounts of \$100, \$250 or \$500 will be asked for. Companies wishing to sponsor are asked to contact any member of the PFFMA board.

2009 PFFMA convention was discussed at this time. A motion was made and seconded to change hotels to the Ambassador Hotel. Motion carried. A contract was presented to members of the board from The Ambassador. The contract is for two years with a room rate of \$69. The hotel will block 60 rooms each for Friday and Saturday nights. Rooms will be blocked under PFFMA. It is asked that each department pre-register for the convention if possible. This will help to save time and cut down on confusion at the front desk of the hotel. The hotel will provide one set-up person and one person responsible for check-in.

Friday night games can be held on the hotel's east parking lot. AC power for Friday night PA system and music will be provided by the hotel. Secretary Hamilton will contact MDA to see if they will provide the meal for Friday evening as in the past.

Saturday games will still be held at the Amarillo Fire Field. Bids need to be obtained for the Saturday evening meal. Secretary Hamilton will ask the Amarillo Convention Bureau for assistance in gathering bid information from local caterers. A bid will also be accepted from the hotel. Any outside caterer will need to provide a certificate of liability insurance. Secretary Hamilton will contact AMBUCS for Saturday evening game tables.

The Dalhart Fire Department Chaplain would like to be placed on the convention agenda to address the attendees.

The SFFMA planning conference will be held in McAllen, TX on January 30-31, 2009. A motion was made and seconded to send Secretary Hamilton to the planning conference. Motion carried. Motion made and seconded to allow the purchase plane tickets, expense of rental car and hotel room to be placed on PFFMA debit card. Motion carried.

Discussion on the 2009 SFFMA Conference and Convention for June 11-17, 2009 was tabled until the next board meeting.

Past President Brown addressed the board and made a motion to proceed with obtaining the \$1000 technology grant offered by SFFMA. Motion seconded and carried. Discussion about using the grant money for the purchase of a new lap top computer and a power point projector and any expense over the \$1000 will be absorbed by the PFFMA was presented to the board. Motion made and seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary Hamilton presented to the board information pertaining to the 2011 SFFMA Conference and Convention. The Amarillo Convention Bureau has asked for letters of support from PFFMA, Amarillo Fire Department and Amarillo Fire Chief Steve Ross in order for Amarillo to bid on the 2011 convention. The board will ask for letters of support from Potter County Fire & Rescue as well as Randall County, City of Canyon and Pantex Fire Departments.

The next board meeting of the PFFMA will be held on Saturday, January 17th at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo.

Board meeting adjourned at 3:31 following a benediction by Past President Quint Brown. Following adjournment, the board went to look at the convention areas and rooms in the Ambassador Hotel.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hamilton