



PREMIER • PROFESSIONAL • PROACTIVE

**2017 Ohio Fire & Rescue Officer Development Conference  
Business Meeting  
Hilton Columbus at Easton  
Friday, July 14, 2017  
8:30 AM**

**State of the Association—President Chief Jeff Klein, OFE, OFC:**

Chief Klein thanked everyone for attending the Business Meeting, and emphasized the strategic plan with rebranding. We have a new logo, since we are one organization. Now OFCA and OFESF is combined. We worked on career advancement opportunities, which includes the Credentialing Program, New Fire Chiefs Resource Symposium, and professional networking. We have continued meetings between the State Fire Marshal and the Executive Committee. Our legislative presence is strong, which is important at the statehouse and in Washington, D.C. Attended the Great Lakes meeting in Indianapolis, which OFCA proved to be in the forefront of many issues that were discussed. The Foundation is continuing to offer many educational opportunities including Fire Officer I & II, soon Fire Officer III, and the Ohio Fire Executive Program. The testing, assessments, and consulting divisions are all well received. The organization is financially sound.

**Constitution Report—1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bill Houk, OFE, OFC:**

Nothing to report.

**Homeland Security—1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bill Houk, OFE, OFC:**

We still have a relationship, and will have a report soon.

**Emergency Response Plan—1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bill Houk, OFE, OFC:**

The ERP is still a viable program and resource.

**Ohio Fire & Emergency Services Foundation Report—OFCA Past President Chief Paul Wright, OFC:**

In March, we hosted Alan Brunacini in Rittman, Ohio for an event followed by dinner. The event was well received. We have increased our social media presence with Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. We have started to test out webinars, and have been trying to create an emphasis with connecting with the younger officers. The Resource Symposium has been successful, we will be having our third symposium at Deer Creek, and are trying not to compete with the State Fire Marshal courses.

In regards to education, we are bringing it all under one roof, and trying to improve our communications. Currently, the chairman is Rudy Ruiz. In regards to Fire Officer I & II, Frank Dalton retired, and Steve Kimple has taken his place. George Brown is currently heading the Weekend Fire Officer I & II programs, and a Fire Officer III has been developed, and is available. Rudy Ruiz is in charge of that program. We have created a career ladder as a guide to/for junior officers. The Foundation offers all of the programs that are listed on the career ladder.

The Ohio Fire Executive Program is a great experience and benefit to junior officers. Something new that we are doing is offering a one-year membership to the Association upon graduation. Dr. Ashley is retiring at the end of this year.

We are in our 11<sup>th</sup> year of receiving \$50,000 from the Dominion Foundation. This money goes toward OFE scholarships; Fire Officer I, II, III scholarships; Blue Card scholarships; Seminars; and Resource Symposium.

We have applied for the Safer Grant, and haven't received any news yet. We are asking for a three-year cycle to offer 1 Fire Officer I class in each district.

We are in a partnership with the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program. We went to OOGEEP to let them know that we have been having challenges getting volunteer Chiefs to come to Conference. They gave us a grant for \$15,000 for this year to have Chiefs from NE, SE, and SC attend Conference. We had 13 Chiefs attend Conference this weekend with the donation from OOGEEP.

**Election Report—OFCA Past President Chief Bill Shaw, EFO, OFC:**

We had 230 votes. For the At-Large Director position, there were 5 candidates, and Chief Joe Kitchen was the successful candidate. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position, we had 2 candidates, and Chief Jonathan Westendorf was the successful candidate.

**Motion to accept the results of the election and destroy the ballots; 1<sup>st</sup> by Chief Bill Wilkins, OFC, Defiance Fire and Rescue Divisions; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chief Paul Mullen, Oregon Fire & Rescue. Motion carried.**

**Ohio Cares—Dr. David Keseg, MD, FACEP, Medical Director, Columbus Division of Fire:**

Dr. Keseg discussed cardiac arrests and how to improve the survival rate. He discussed the efforts in Ohio to allow services free of charge for how well you are doing with cardiac care. This is an ongoing effect now in Ohio to keep this going. How can you improve treatment? The Department of EMS is funding this for the whole state.

**Executive Director/Legislative Agent Report—Michelle Fitzgibbon:**

**Legislative Update:** We have been very active this year, and are working on identifying connections with OFCA members and legislators. We have about half.

House Bill 49, Biennial Budget: This passed on June 30<sup>th</sup> and became effective on July 1<sup>st</sup>. All of the dollar pieces passed on July 1<sup>st</sup> and policy provisions have 90 days. The Governor vetoed 42 items and the House overrode 11 items. We're waiting on the Senate to concur. The House left open 31 items and have until December 2018.

Continuation of Moratorium of Fireworks: 9/15/18—extended 9 months. The legislative is tired with dealing with this issue, and are doing a study committee to get this issue a resolution, instead of coming back every 5 years.

Manufactured Homes Commission issue: This passed, and abolished. Transition to the Department of Commerce.

House Bill 27, Workers Comp. Budget: Changes to the firefighter cancer bill—which has upset several members, but the only reason why this passed in December was because the chairman agreed to. The presumption change is from 20 to 15.

Senate Bill 103, Sheriffs issue: For the BSSA, this is a priority item. Senator Coley gave sponsor testimony in June. They Senate is on a break until September/October, when they will have opposition testimony.

Next month, we will be having a webinar on how a bill becomes a law and doing district roundtables with Chiefs and legislators. We need to continue to build relationships with our legislators.

#### **9:24 AM—Break for District Caucuses**

#### **10:15 AM—Resume Business Meeting**

##### **Division of Emergency Medical Services—Executive Director Mel House:**

Mel House went over a couple highlights with the Division of EMS. They have an online system to certify. This is a 3-year implementation process. They have an identify manager to ensure they are certifying the right people. The grant program needs based movement for the agencies in need. The number one priority is training. This is available February 1<sup>st</sup> with an April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Changes include July 1 – June 30 grant performance period, now in 2 parts. Get the award June 30<sup>th</sup> to spend the money by December 30<sup>th</sup>. If money is not spent by January, then it goes back into the pot to be reallocated to February with a March 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup> spending period. The EMS Board priorities include pediatrics simulation training and giving four economic hardship grants out. He discussed the fire training rules effective January 1, 2018 and discussed also that grant funding is available.

##### **State Fire Marshal's Office Update—State Fire Marshal Jeff Hussey, CFO, OFE, OFC:**

In the late stages of the SFM search, and will have a decision in the next couple weeks. Our goals are to continue to build relationships and for leadership—this is critical to deliver changes. We have new additions to the SFM office in Code Enforcement, Testing and Registration, Forensics Lab, Fire & Explosions, and Fire Prevention. Our academy is in the top 5 academies in the nation. We are finishing up the 2017 Fire Code, and will have stakeholder meetings next week.

##### **State Fire Sub-Committee—Chief Phil McLean:**

The rule revision bar has been raised for charters to produce better training with all rules and guidelines. There are 6 modules for what you need to know on the streets, and following the NFPA curriculum closely. For the CE process, need to make sure that all firefighters are following rules for training/CEs and that they are really trainings.

##### **Ohio Department of Agriculture Dangerous Wild Animal Program—Dennis Summers, DVM, DWA/CDB Veterinarian and Dave Hunt, ODA Enforcement Agent:**

He said that they need help with referrals when going on a call, etc. Many agencies aren't aware of the Dangerous Wild Animal law. Also, may be in contact with the fire/police to let them know of venomous animals in case they need an anti-venom.

**Crash Course Village—Shelby Howell, Director of Operations:**

Shelby presented a video on the Crash Course Village.

**L.O.D.D. Overview Response—Deputy Chief Ron Terriaco, OFE:**

The LODD provides funeral details, either doing the whole funeral or assisting a department in whatever they need. They meet with the family and the departments, and provide in any way they can.

**Old Business:**

No old business to report.

**New Business:**

No new business to report.

**Announcements:**

Certain written committee reports can be found on the Conference page on the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association website.

**Business Meeting concluded at 11:43 AM.**