



## Iowa Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators

### MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 2015

- I. Call to Order- The monthly meeting of Officers and Directors of the Iowa Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators was called to order by President Grier at 10:11 AM at the Iowa DCI Lab in Ankeny, Iowa.
- II. Roll Call- Board and Directors
  - John Grier – President –Present
  - Becky Nelson – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President –Present
  - Zach Spykerman- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President- Present
  - Paul O’Connell – Secretary/Treasurer - Present
  - Greg Siembieda – Director of Investigation - Excused
  - G. Terry Smith – Director of Insurance – Present
  - Kimberly Shepherd – Director of Prosecution – Present via conference call
  - Jeff Haler – Director of Detection – Present
  - Jeff Hutcheson – Director at Large, West – Excused
  - Kurt Blackburn – Director at Large, East – Excused
- III. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report – Paul O’Connell
  1. Motion to accept previous minutes & post to website from the March 6, 2015 meeting by VP Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Haler. Motion passed.
  2. Finances: Checking \$38,037.48, Savings \$25, CD’s \$16,054.90, Paypal \$345.96. Motion to accept the financial report by VP Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Smith. Motion passed. Motion to move \$15,000 from checking to another CD by VP Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Smith. Motion passed.
- IV. Officer & Board Reports
  1. President – John Grier: Discussed the Iowa Fire Investigator with Quigle and Novak. Registered to attend the ITC in Chicago. Sent a letter to Past Presidents about a proposed change to scholarship application requirements.
  2. 1<sup>st</sup> VP – Becky Nelson: Invited by Kenkel to come to IFSTB during 2 week school for the auto fires portion. An article will be coming about that in the next Firefox.
  3. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Zach Spykerman: Went to the IFSTB for 2 week school and helped with burn cells. Spoke to the class about IAAI membership.
  4. Director West – Jeff Hutcheson: No report.
  5. Director East – Kurt Blackburn: Report from Director Shepherd that May 27<sup>th</sup> is a Lunch ‘n Learn in Davenport on “Search and Seizure”.



## Iowa Chapter

### International Association of Arson Investigators

6. Director of Detection – Jeff Haler: No report.
7. Director of Prosecution – Kim Shepherd: Will be presenting at the Lunch ‘n Learn.
8. Director of Investigation – Greg Siembieda: No report.
9. Director of Insurance – G. Terry Smith: Eight are registered for the Expert Witness class.

#### V. Committee Reports

1. Site Selection Committee – Clark/Nelson/Haler: VP Nelson would like to be removed from this committee due to work constraints. President Grier will look into who to add to this committee. There will be expenses associated with this committee in the future for site visits and planning.
2. Financial Review Committee – Shepherd: No report.
3. Awards – Siembieda: Board discussed awards needed this year for are Crooks and May. VP Nelson will do an article for the Firefax to push the Presidential Award.
4. CFI – Smith: Bryan Shupe passed his CFI. There are 13 listed CFI’s in Iowa.
5. Chaplain – Hartzler: no report
6. Historian – Clark: VP Nelson will get the History to Sec/Treasurer O’Connell to get added to the website.
7. Communications – Siembieda: no report
8. Constitution/Bylaws – Hutcheson: No report.
9. Ethical Practice, Grievance & Appeal – Shepherd: No report.
10. Membership – O’Connell: Six new members since last annual meeting. 140 renewals for the year so far.
11. Nominations – Blackburn: No report.
12. Past President’s Council – Chapman: No report.
13. Scholarship – Haler: The Board discussed the current applications received so far. One came from Alaska and will be removed from the pool. President Grier received responses from Past Presidents in support to move forward with adding “Online Learning” to the scholarship application. VP Nelson will work on rewriting the language in the Scholarship application and email out to the Board.
14. Training – Spykerman: Dan Roberts in Council Bluffs would like to host a Lunch ‘n Learn. Expert Witness class is April 27-29, 2015 at the IFSTB. The plan is to host this class every year now.

#### VI. Old Business.

1. 2015 Conference: See attached schedule. Director Shepherd will work on busing options for the Thursday afternoon. Otherwise all classes and speakers are booked.



## **Iowa Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators**

2. 2016 Conference: VP Nelson will get ahold of Ken Ward and Dan Roberts to set up a meeting.
3. Iowa Fire Investigator & IAAI CFI: Discussion on how to proceed from here.
4. Scholarship- Past Presidents: See above.

### **VII. New Business**

1. Peace Officer Course for Fire Investigators: President Grier brought forth that the Board of ILEA is looking into a shortened course for Fire Investigators specifically.
2. May 12<sup>th</sup> Training by Iowa Fire Marshal Office: The U.S. Attorney- Northern District and the Iowa State Fire Marshal are sponsoring a class called "Arson Investigation & Prosecution Fundamentals". Motion to give \$200 to the class for snacks and breaks in support from the Iowa Chapter IAAI, Inc. by Director Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Haler. Motion passed.
3. ECT Certification: Discussion to not have this during the 2015 Seminar. It is a one day practical exam after all pre-requisite courses are completed. All the courses can be completed on cfitrainer.net for this certification. GMRC has offered to be the host site at its new facility which will be opening in June 2015. Any CFI's can complete the practicals and become an ECT facilitator.

### **VIII. Good of the Chapter:**

1. Vote for the International IAAI Board positions. Support both Chris Van Vleet and Jeff Hutcheson from the Iowa Chapter when voting.

### **IX. Adjournment**

1. Next meeting will be TBD. If anything drastic comes forward, a conference call may be in order.
2. Motion to adjourn at 11:54 am by VP Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Spykerman. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul O'Connell  
Iowa Chapter IAAI, Inc.  
Secretary/Treasurer



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# 2015 IAAI Class Schedule

**Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup>**

**PM** 6-8:00 The National Insurance Crime Bureau with Brandon Ruediger, NICB

**Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup>**

**AM** 8-9:00 Opening Ceremony  
9-12:00 Social Media and Technology in Investigations: A Case Study  
Jim Morris, Will Ripley and Kim Shepherd

**PM** 1-2:00 Building the Fire/Prosecutor Relationship; Mike Walton & Mike Hayman  
2-4:00 Collaborative Investigation  
Lonn Abeltins, IFIC  
4-5:00 Putting it all together: Working as a team  
A panel discussion with Morris, Ripley, Shepherd, Walton, Hayman and Abeltins  
5:30-6:30 Sectional Meetings

**Thursday September 17<sup>th</sup>**

**AM** 8:00-10:00 Vehicle Fires Part I, Trace Lawless  
10:15 – 11:00 The Importance of Photography Paul Hartman and Bart Howard, Davenport Fire Department  
11:00 to 11:45 Board Meeting/ Breakouts  
BUS LEAVES AT NOON

**PM** 12:30-2:30 at the Training Center:  
Vehicle Fire Investigation with Trace Lawless and a drone demonstration  
3:00-3:30 Follow-up with Photography  
3:30 -5:00 Using the 3-D Imager  
Kris Mayer, Davenport Police Department

**Friday September 18<sup>th</sup>**

**AM** 8:00 – 9:00 Haz-Mat with Ron Burchette  
9:00 – 12:00 Meth Labs and other Hazards  
Sgt Kevin Smull, Lt. Brent Biggs and Special Agent Matt Allers



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