



Iowa Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators

MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 2017

- 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 Spykerman at 10:11 am, at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames, Iowa.
- II. Roll Call- Board and Directors
 - Zack Spykerman – President –Present
 - Jeff Haler – 1st Vice President –Excused
 - Greg Siembieda- 2nd Vice President- Present
 - Paul O’Connell – Secretary/Treasurer - Present
 - Brian Greer – Director of Investigation – Via Conference Call
 - G. Terry Smith – Director of Insurance – Present
 - Kimberly Shepherd – Director of Prosecution – Excused
 - John Ticer – Director of Detection – Present
 - Daniel Roberts – Director at Large, West – Excused
 - Melaine Whitchelo- Director at Large, East – Present
 - Alan Clark – Past-President – Present
- III. Meeting with Jamie Courtney, Sales Manager for the Gateway Hotel
 - a. Jamie will set up an online code to be used for reservations and get that to Sec/Treasurer O’Connell.
 - b. Wifi is available throughout the entire hotel with no password. Can hardwire into internet in the lobby for registration table.
 - c. We will get a key for the “South Meadow” room so we can lock items in there when we need to.
 - d. If Jim Kenkel wants to come in early and test equipment he can.
 - e. Tuesday evening- the bar/restaurant on site will be open.
 - f. Wednesday evening- from 6-8 pm, will provide 2 drink tickets to each person and appetizers will be provided for Presidents Reception.
 - g. The “Iowa Breakfast” was chosen for Wednesday and Thursday morning to be available from 6:30-8:30 am.
 - h. The “Continental” breakfast was chosen for Friday morning to be available from 6:30-8:30 am.
 - i. The Wednesday lunch will be the “Tailgate Grill” buffet.
 - j. The Thursday lunch will be a plated lunch with options coming from Jamie.
 - k. Friday there will be a board meeting following the conference and will be with lunch.
- IV. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report – Paul O’Connell



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1. Minutes: Motion to accept the February 24, 2017 meeting minutes by Director Ticer, 2nd by Director Whitchelo. Motion passed.
 2. Finances: Paypal- \$57.66, Savings- \$25, Checking- \$9,103.31, CD's- \$31,387.88, 2nd Checking- \$2.96, Savings- \$10,000.13
- V. Officer & Board Reports
1. President – Zack Spykerman: Attended the ITC. Attended the AGM Presidents reception and nothing earth shattering was brought up. Agreed to become a Sergeant at Arms for the IAAI. GMRC will be doing more burn cells this year.
 2. 1st VP – Jeff Haler: Received a question about the scholarship
 3. 2nd VP – Greg Siembieda: No Report.
 4. Secretary/Treasurer – Paul O’Connell: Attended the ITC and had a great experience.
 5. Director West – Dan Roberts: No Report.
 6. Director East – Melaine Whitchelo: Had a couple of requests for Lunch ‘n Learns. Will work with Justin Wade for a future training.
 7. Director of Detection – John Ticer: Had a Lunch ‘n Learn in NW Iowa 2 weeks ago. Number of attendees was disappointing with 12, including the instructors. For the Iowa CFI, people need to be signing off on recertification reports.
 8. Director of Prosecution – Kim Shepherd: No Report.
 9. Director of Investigation – Brian Greer: No Report.
 10. Director of Insurance – G. Terry Smith: No Report.
- V. Committee Reports
1. Site Selection Committee – Clark /Haler: Need to start looking at locations for 2019 and 2020. Numbers are always better when the conference is in central Iowa. Suggest going no farther east than Iowa City or Cedar Rapids. Director Greer with get with Clark and Haler on suggestions from the Iowa City/Coralville area.
 2. Financial Review Committee – Shepherd: No Report.
 3. Awards – Siembieda: Need to work on awards for Blackburn and Nelson. Sec/Treasurer O’Connell will send an email about the other awards.
 4. CFI – Smith: No Report.
 5. Chaplain – Hartzler: No report. Terry Olson’s grandson passed away. Mick Landers passed away. O’Connell to send cards.
 6. Historian – Clark: No Report.
 7. Communications – Siembieda: O’Connell to get Seminar information and minutes posted to website. Spykerman is working on figuring out the Twitter password. O’Connell and Siembieda have been keeping tabs on the Facebook account.



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Sec/Treasurer O'Connell will send an email to membership looking for someone who would like to maintain the social media accounts.

8. Firefax – Nelson/Whitchelo: Director Whitchelo will get with Nelson and will be co-chairs. Due up to have articles to Whitchelo by May 15th are Sec/Treasurer, Past-President, Directors of Insurance, Investigation and Prosecution. O'Connell will send an email to remind everyone.
 9. Constitution/Bylaws – Hutcheson: No report.
 10. Ethical Practice, Grievance & Appeal – Shepherd: No report.
 11. Membership – O'Connell: 107 members including 4 new members since 2016 seminar.
 12. Nominations – Roberts: No Report.
 13. Past President's Council – Grier: No Report.
 14. Scholarship – Haler: No Report. No applications received yet per O'Connell.
 15. Training – Spykerman:
 - i. Lunch 'n Learns:
 1. Ticer – Ticer reported above.
 2. Alternative Fuel Vehicle class – 55 students in the class.
 - ii. Expert Witness Testimony class:
 1. Having at GMRC in October 2017.
 2. Iowa Chapter IAAI and GMRC will set it up.
 3. Still will be a 3 day class.
 16. Iowa CFI- Nothing new.
- VI. Old Business
1. Two week Arson School – Iowa Chapter IAAI donated \$100 towards party.
- VII. 2017 Seminar
1. Seminar topics-updates
 1. Litigating Fire Losses: What Origin and Cause Consultants Should Know- The contract is signed and is a flat fee of \$4500 for Thursday class.
 - ii. Interviewing- O'Connell
 1. Confirmed with Chief Quinn and is booked. No fees.
 - iii. Lipo Battery Fires/Drones- Spykerman
 1. Hartzler will have about on hour on Tuesday night. Hutcheson and Council Bluffs FD will have another hour on Tuesday night.
 - iv. Social Media- Ticer
 1. Booked, speaker from Virginia. Need to cover flight, hotel, per diem and transportation. Wednesday afternoon.
 - v. Mental Health and Fire Investigations- Ticer



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1. Minnesota Fire Marshal's Office will be speaking. Wednesday morning.

VIII. New Business

1. IAAI Annual General Meeting
 - i. CFITrainer.net did not get the grant. Costs \$60,000 to maintain each year.
 - ii. 9,033 members, 2161 CFI's, 1644 FIT's, 29 enhanced chapters.
 - iii. There is a new Training Manager for IAAI.
 - iv. 655 attended ITC in Las Vegas.
 - v. Foundation had 64 scholarship applications, 5 scholarships were given out.
 - vi. Fundraiser for the 2018 ITC for a motorcycle.
 - vii. Only 1338 members voted for elections.

IX. Good of the Chapter - None.

X. Adjournment

1. Next meeting will be Friday, June 9, 2017 at the DCI Lab in Ankeny.
2. Motion to adjourn at 1:36 pm by Director Ticer, 2nd by Director Smith. Motion passed. Sec. O'Connell will send an email notification.

Respectfully submitted,

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