



Fire & Life Safety Educators of Colorado
Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2009
Hosted by North Metro Fire Rescue
North Metro Fire Rescue Training Facility



Meeting Called to Order: 9:02 a.m.

Special Guests ~

Division Chief Keith Brown: “Thank you all for adventuring here down Weld County Road 11,” he told the group. Despite his interest in the agenda’s reference to the national anthem and the Rockies, he had to miss our meeting for another one. He did thank us profusely for holding our meeting at the district’s newest facility.

Deputy Fire Marshal Curtis Thomas: Although Pam allegedly provided him with a how-wonderful-Pam-is speech, he went with his own presentation. He’s a former public educator and appreciates the work we do. He also appreciates that we chose their facility for our meeting and thanks us all for attending.

McEvoy Minute ~

Ms. Trost ~ She is in the middle of Muster planning and opening life jacket loaner boards at several apartment complexes. The local Kiwanis clubs are funding seven additional boards for West Metro’s ongoing campaign to keep pools safe.

Ms. Reed ~ She’s the lead instructor for a car seat technician course on the horizon. She also bragged about a new and popular program Ms. Potton is delivering in South Metro.

Mr. Stovall ~ He thanked FLSEC for the scholarships that allowed three of his personnel from Englewood Fire to attend the Fire & Life Safety Educators Conference of the Rockies. Based on classes they attended, they are excited about implementing a new seatbelt campaign and partnering with Safe 2 Tell to reach their middle school and high school audiences.

Ms. Norconk ~ She thanked the organization for her scholarship and suggested that she may need to be harnessed as she tries to implement all the programs and ideas she encountered at the conference in Englewood. She is investigating a carbon monoxide alarm program and thanked Mr. Jensen for his emails.

Ms. Harrington ~ She is coordinating Cunningham’s EMS Open House and a countywide life safety education booth for the Arapahoe County Fair on July 22-26.

Ms. Schroeder ~ She thanked FLSEC for the scholarship to attend the conference and is now considering which programs she can implement in Aurora.

Ms. Leeka ~ Westminster’s 13-week citizen’s academy has only three weeks remaining. She also had an open house draw far more people than anyone anticipated.

Mr. Higdon ~ Acting as a substitute for Gary Fletcher, he said Southwest Adams County will be participating in the Brighton Culture Festival this summer.

Ms. Kutchen ~ She has been presenting bicycle safety programming at North Metro’s elementary schools and they are helping with the Senior Day Fairs area high schools are using in lieu of the snowed-out proms.

Ms. Saito ~ A firm believer in volunteerism, she tried recruiting attendees to help with West Metro’s Muster. She also praised her contacts in the Kiwanis organization.

Ms. Woodward ~ She said a recent urban interface program organized by a volunteer had weak attendance, but a safety Fair on May 30 should have a better turnout.

Ms. Thai ~ Because Longmont has had an increase in its juvenile fire starts, she’s been busy with her new duties as a juvenile firesetter intervention specialist. “I had to do it before I understood it,” she said of the difference between taking the class and implementing the program.

Ms. Potton ~ She warned attendees of the consequences of sending letters to each fifth-

grade teacher in a district as large as South Metro's announcing a new brain injury course. If all the teachers respond positively, a given life safety educator has a major workload on her hands.

Ms. Moore ~ She is working with Littleton's Dive Team to present "Stewie the Duck Learns to Swim" this month. She also has been attending several more career days than usual, as a speaker, not as a listener.

Mr. Prather ~ Milliken's life safety programs are in a holding pattern as the fire district transitions from a volunteer chief to a career chief. He requested help developing a babysitter program and found assistance from Ms. Trost and Ms. Taylor.

Mr. Percival ~ Pueblo has been "busier than heck" with new commercial construction. He's looking forward to having a new Blackberry and using the pen he bought at a gas station. He's also preparing for the Wild Wild West Fest.

Mr. Micheli ~ Despite perceiving himself only as Pueblo's "B" Member, he also looks forward to the Wild Wild West Fest and the State Fair.

Mr. Koppes ~ He bragged about being Windsor-Severance's "A" Member and announced that his district's pizza smoke alarm program, lovingly stolen from Loveland, was a great success. His district is opening a pair of new career stations and he's preparing for the June Open House. Additionally, he mentioned that he has received a blitz of requests from 1st grade teachers for presentations.

Mr. Jensen ~ He passed around a photo from the High Country News showing a baby hawk trying to swallow a small rodent feet first and warned attendees about the risks of biting off more than they could chew. He also is revamping a fire drill program (and its documentation for South Metro) for daycare centers and schools and is working with Ms. Harrington on the Arapahoe County Fair. Thus far, both large and small agencies are partnering enthusiastically to deliver consistent messages during the fair. FLSEC members who want to help, should contact him or Ms. Harrington.

Ms. Taylor ~ Simply learning to delegate responsibilities within South Metro's four-person life safety education unit has been challenging, she said. She and Mr. Jensen are staffing the district's open house for its 17th station and she's excited to represent Colorado again at the NFPA Conference.

Ms. Blunt ~ Greater Brighton is preparing for several large community events that are an annual tradition in her district.

Mr. Pringle ~ He is picking up the pieces from losing half his staff with Loveland Fire. He has scheduled eight juvenile firesetter session already in May, and has conducted more JFS sessions this year than he did in all of 2008.

Minutes from March 13, 2009 ~ Approved as amended

Mr. Jensen also noted that FLSEC now has over 70 individual members from a record number of agencies. He thanked everyone for participating in the organization.

Mr. Jensen read a card from SafeKids Denver Metro thanking FLSEC for the conference.

Treasurer's Report of May 8, 2009 ~

We have \$7,223.47 in checking and \$27,230.61 in savings for a combined total of \$34,454.08 in all accounts. Report approved as presented.

Report from Related Organizations

Colorado State Fire Chiefs ~ Ms. Taylor attended the recent Board of Directors meeting and learned that the state's legislative session ended on May 8. Although that process is over, she said several bill-signings would be on the horizon and our friends in the CSFCA encouraged FLSEC members to attend in uniform when appropriate to help make the bill-signing ceremony more meaningful. The CSFCA Board also discussed the Chaplains association, which operates under the chiefs' umbrella, and reminded members of an upcoming chaplains' training. Ms Taylor also discussed the Great Colorado Fire Drill and how the chiefs could help with its implementation.

Fire Marshals Association of Colorado ~ A representative of UL attended the general meeting and discussed the testing process, Ms. Woodward reported. The membership also discussed resi-

dential sprinklers.

Mr. Percival reported that FMAC's ad hoc residential sprinkler committee, which is chaired by FLSEC Member/South Metro Division Chief Michael Dell'Orfano, is developing a statewide marketing plan for residential sprinklers. Mr. Jensen suggested this campaign might have a place at the Arapahoe County Fair; Mr. Stovall and Ms. Woodward said their districts have demonstration trailers that show residential sprinklers in action.

Northern Colorado Fire Marshal's Association ~ Mr. Pringle said the committee, which now includes Mr. Koppes, is starting the planning process for this conference, scheduled for the first week of November.

Emergency Services Public Information Officers of Colorado ~ Mr. Pribble said the recent media mixer was well-attended and that the May training would consider the PIO's role with a line of duty death.

SafeKids Denver Metro ~ Ms. Saito said the recent partnership with KUSA generated five interviews that successfully taught parents and other viewers the "why" behind safety laws such as booster seats and bicycle helmets. Angela Driskell did the home escape planning segment. KUSA Anchor Kyle Dyer is a good safety advocate on that network. Safe Kids Denver Metro is celebrating its 10th Anniversary on June 28 from 1-4 p.m. at Bear Creek Lake State Park.

Executive Board (EBoard) ~ Ms. Taylor reviewed the April 13 meeting in which the Executive Board spelled out some of the duties of the At-Large Board Member including acting as a liaison between FLSEC's teams and the board, especially regarding grant writing, serving on the Conference Team and still being available for other duties as needed in the future. Mr. Pringle asked that all Teams submit a list of their rosters to him at their earliest convenience. The Board also started drafting a mission statement for FLSEC.

NFPA ~ No report

Team Reports

Publications/Media/Curriculum:

Great Colorado Fire Drill ~ Mr. Jensen said no news had been received on the grant front, but the Team is meeting May 26 at SMFR to begin planning the train-the-trainer sessions and completing the materials we'll be providing each agency regardless of whether FLSEC wins the grant. He said that each FLSEC member agency would be expected to promote home escape planning in their communities and designate Fire Prevention Week as a time to perform those escape drills.

Conference:

"We had the conference," Mr. Pribble reported. "Nobody died and everything is good." He added that the conference was teetering on breaking even, which far exceeded his mid-winter expectations. He asked that people send photos of the conference to him and he read a letter from Scentsy (one of the sponsors) in which the representatives asked to be included in the 2010 conference as well as other events supported by FLSEC members. The Conference Team was meeting in the afternoon for its official debrief.

Awards:

Mr. Pringle thanked everyone for attending the banquet and thanked the Team for putting it all together. He reviewed the survey results and said most surveys reported the locale and price were satisfactory. Ms. Moore appreciated the feedback on the noise from the caterers because, from her seat, she didn't notice the noise. They also welcomed the newest Team members, Mr. Pribble and Ms. Kutchen.

Certifications:

The **Fire & Life Safety Educator II** course remains part of the Northern Colorado Fire Marshal's Association Conference. Stay tuned for updates.

Ms. Taylor reported that she still is trying to set a meeting with Theresa Staples and the Division of Fire Safety to clear any misunderstandings and settle the **recertification and test bank**

questions concerning the Fire & Life Safety Educator I, II and II courses as well as the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist courses.

Old Business

Ms. Taylor asked that member agencies submit an agency patch to her for the **FLSEC membership display board** and asked for photos of members providing life safety education in their communities. She will, with an approved motion from the membership, print those photos until the cost reaches \$50 to update the display board. Email those images to tracey.taylor@southmetro.org.

Mr. Jensen circulated a sign-up form to staff the **Salute to Seniors Event** at the convention center on June 3. All the slots are filled. The attendees discussed what types of goodies should be distributed and offered several ideas. A motion carried to give Mr. Jensen authority to spend up to \$2,500 to buy appropriate handouts for the elderly audience based on the feedback from the discussion. He will email the people who signed up to finalize plans for the booth and set-up.

South Metro Fire Rescue is offering a **car seat technician course** in May, but no additional information is available.

Because Mr. DiPaolo was not present, the discussion about a possible FLSEC **summer retreat** was tabled.

Mr. Pribble reported that he is singing the **National Anthem** at the Colorado Rockies game on August 24. Our colleagues in SafeKids Denver Metro have vowed to attend; we agreed to try to attend as well both to applaud Mr. Pribble's skills and to celebrate Mr. Dorrell's birthday.

Mr. Pringle was recognized for earning the "**Firefighter of the Year**" award from the Loveland's Elks Lodge. Mr. Englehardt had mentioned the award at the last meeting, but Mr. Pringle had left to finish setting up the banquet.

Our Remaining 2009 Meetings are:

July 10 ~ Colorado Springs

September 18 ~ Thornton The membership decided postponing the meeting one week would be appropriate, if Thornton can adjust its schedule. We are sorry that members will have to choose between FLSEC and the FMAC meeting.

November 13 ~ Poudre

Training ~ At approximately 10:40 a.m. we temporarily interrupted the meeting for a tour of North Metro's state-of-the-art training facility. Upon returning, we found a catered BBQ lunch awaiting us, which we consumed while finishing the rest of the meeting. The break also provided an opportunity to present Ms. Moore with flowers and a cake for her 30th birthday.

New Business

Options for our **new mission statement** were circulated by Mr. Jensen. Members are welcome to submit feedback and ideas to the Executive Board as we finalize our official mission statement.

The Executive Board suggested creating a team to handle FLSEC's special events, but Ms. Moore and other members instead suggested splitting the Publications Team, which had become the catch-all group. The resulting discussion led to a **Publications/Curricula Team**, which remains the coordinator for the Great Colorado Fire Drill preparations, and a **Media/Public Relations Team** that will deliver FLSEC's messages — including the GCFD — to our audiences more effectively and consistently.

Members interested in joining the slimmer and trimmer Publications Team should email Mr. Jensen at einar.jensen@southmetro.org. In addition to the members who signed up for the Media/Public Relations Team at this meeting — Ms. Taylor, Ms. Trost, Ms. Reed, Mr. Percival, Mr. Micheli and Mr. Pribble, anyone interested in participating should contact Mr. Pribble at scott.pribble@arvadafire.com.

Mr. Jensen informed members that FLSEC would have its **25th Anniversary** in 2010 and suggested that we start brainstorming ways to celebrate that feat both, as Ms. Taylor suggested, internally and externally.

Ms. Leeka explained her dismay that a **KUSA segment** featured the science guy igniting a combustible liquid in his hand and worries that kids will try to repeat the experiment. The membership agreed that given a nearly statewide increase in the juvenile firesetting caseload FLSEC should respond to this segment with such information and ask KUSA and other media partners to be more responsible in the future and model safer behaviors. Mr. Jensen volunteered to write the letter — as secretary — if Ms. Leeka provided him with information on when the segment aired and if other members such as Mr. Pringle, Ms. Thai and others provided information on the increasing number of JFS incidents.

Mr. Micheli shared his ideas for the Pueblo Fire Department's exhibit at the **state fair** this year and asked members to participate. The fair runs from August 28 to September 7. Members asked that he use the opportunity to promote the Great Colorado Fire Drill.

Door Prize ~

Mr. Micheli won the gift certificate from Fox Pro Media for a Workplace Safety package and Ms. Moore won a gift card from Bed, Bath & Beyond.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:15 p.m.

Members in attendance

Dawn Blunt (Greater Brighton Fire), Deanna Harrington (Cunningham Fire), Pete Higdon (Southwest Adams County Fire), Einar Jensen (South Metro Fire), Kerry Koppes (Windsor-Severance Fire), Pam Kutchen (North Metro Fire), Sherrie Leeka (Westminster Fire), Gary Micheli (Pueblo Fire), Katie Moore (Littleton Fire), Madeline Norconk (Englewood Fire), Woody Percival (Pueblo Fire), Colleen Potton (South Metro Fire), Dean Prather (Milliken Fire), Scott Pribble (Arvada Fire), Scott Pringle (Loveland Fire), Mandy Reed (South Metro Fire), Susan Saito (West Metro Fire), Diane Schroder (Aurora Fire), Kraig Stovall (Englewood Fire), Tracey Taylor (South Metro Fire), Stephanie Thai (Longmont Fire), Micki Trost (West Metro Fire) and Elizabeth Woodward (Elk Creek Fire).

Guests in Attendance

Battalion Chief Keith Brown and Deputy Fire Marshal Curtis Thomas (North Metro).

Quotations of the Month

"The fun never ends." ~Mr. Pringle

"Katie and I were cursing the drivers." ~Ms. Saito

"You'd look like a troll doll." ~Ms. Schroeder

"I just went for more meat." ~Mr. Koppes

"Is it whipped cream or buttered cream?" ~Ms. Trost

"Eat more chicken!" ~Ms. Kutchen

"I ate the Wonka Bar." ~Mr. Jensen

"His poster on the butt safety would be ideal." ~Mr. Micheli

"If you can provide the budget, I can provide the fun." ~Mr. Pringle

"That was a bugle throw down!" ~Mr. Pribble

From Salute to Seniors

"It was a fleeting moment of genius." ~Ms. Blunt

From The Publications Team

"I don't poop, but if I did it would come out with bows." ~Ms. Kutchen

From The Conference Team

"You make a very nice turkey." ~Ms. Potton

"You should taste it!" ~Mr. Pringle

Respectfully Submitted by Einar Jensen, Secretary