



Fire & Life Safety Educators of Colorado
Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2008
Hosted by Castle Rock Fire Rescue



Meeting Called to Order: 9:05 a.m.

Opening Remarks: Chief Art Morales of Castle Rock Fire Rescue opened our meeting with some inspirational insights and anecdotes of his time in fire prevention leading to his current position as chief. “I wouldn’t be chief today if it wasn’t for fire prevention,” he said. “Remember that you probably save more lives than firefighters.”

McEvoy Minute ~

Mr. Jensen ~ He’s planning for Evergreen’s Safety Fair, scheduled for Oct. 4, and planning to provide Fire Prevention Month school visits without the presence of Evergreen’s firefighters now that several officers and the chief consider the visits a lower priority for their limited time as volunteers.

Ms. Harrington ~ Cunningham Fire also is conducting an open house on Oct. 4. She’s still “getting her feet wet” and learning from others how to build her programs.

Ms. Reed ~ She’s been moving, personally and professionally, and getting ready to hire Parker South Metro’s new educators.

Mr. Dorrell ~ He and Ms. Kutchen are preparing to bring their fire prevention messages “to the people” at a week-long display at Flatirons Mall in the near future. One of the expected events is a kids combat challenge.

Ms. Trost ~ During Fire Prevention Week, West Metro will meet with a different audience each day as a way to organize their activities and improve their message saturation. The chosen audiences include building managers and senior citizens.

Ms. Driskell ~ Thornton has a new chief who supports education, she said, and she’s preparing to implement new programs for her community’s elderly customers and its middle schools. The Fall Festival also is on the horizon.

Mr. Micheli ~ He’s from Pueblo, which is “south of Colorado Springs,” and he’s working on a state fair exhibit sans prevention bus. Instead he’s developing a museum-ish display that endure 11 days of weather and foot traffic.

Ms. Moore ~ She has one more kids academy this summer and she’s developing a playground safety program to curb the rise of playground falls in Littleton.

Ms. Leeka ~ She attended the National Fire Academy two weeks ago and said nice things about FLSEC among her classmates and planted seeds of interest for the 2009 conference. In October she only works with 3rd graders, but pursues fire prevention throughout the year like the rest of us.

Ms. Pottton ~ She and her cohorts attended the anniversary of a local ranch that helps special needs kids experience outdoor activities and used the opportunity to teach them about injury and fire prevention. Her area safety day is in September.

Mr. Siemek ~ Attending his first meeting with a new membership, he described his efforts to use a mini-fire truck mounted on a golf cart to attend community events and initiate safety conversations with kids. Wheat Ridge’s annual Carnation Festival is in August. He wants to learn the tricks of this trade better, too.

Mr. Pringle ~ As a jack-of-all-trades in Loveland, he has somehow found time to work with the NCFMA Conference Committee to develop a life safety education track. As a result, he hasn’t spent much time thinking about Fire Prevention Month.

Mr. Dellorco ~ “I don’t really know what’s going on with this job,” he admitted, having worked in law enforcement prior to hiring on with Denver and moving into the investigator’s ranks a couple years ago. He’s now in charge of Denver’s juvenile firesetter program and yearning for information on how to conduct it effectively.

Mr. Love ~ Admitting that “two weeks vacation really puts you behind,” he’s preparing for the National Night Out and adjusting his plans for October, turning a scheduling nightmare into something new by inviting school groups to PFA facilities. He is planning a 5-k run in October to raise money for Poudre’s smoke alarm program. He already had a dozen JFS contacts in July.

Ms. Blunt ~ She’s not satisfied with the NFPA’s official Fire Prevention Week theme “Prevent Home Fires” because it’s too broad so she’s developing a different slogan for her fire district. She’s also preparing for the kids’ day at the Adams County Fair.

Mr. Pribble ~ He’s spending more time at community events this year to increase his agency’s visibility in Arvada. Upcoming events include the Harvest Festival and the Festival of Scarecrows in which he’ll be dressing a ‘crow in bunker gear.

Mr. Russell ~ He’s had more juvenile firesetter contacts recently than he cared to admit. He’s also had a pair of cigarette-in-the-flower-planter fires. The bureau is re-organizing and he expects to have fewer fire inspections and more time for public education, including at the upcoming Douglas County Fair. He also reviewed his success in developing and implementing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan in “The Bowl,” an urban interface basin with nearly 500 homes.

Ms. Taylor ~ She shared a trio of names suggested for Parker South Metro and discussed the hiring process for the new educators there as the agency whittled 58 applicants into six finalists. The budget process is dominating her world until the end of August.

Minutes from May 9, 2008 ~ Approved

Treasurer’s Report of July 11, 2008

We have \$5,445.67 in checking and \$32,081.36 in savings for a combined total of \$37,527.03 in all accounts. Report approved as provided.

Report from Related Organizations

Colorado State Fire Chiefs ~ No report.

Fire Marshals of Colorado ~ No report.

Northern Colorado Fire Marshal’s Association ~ Mr. Pringle said it’s preparing for its conference November 3-7 at the Sylvan Dale Ranch near Loveland and its newer members are mending fences with FMAC after years of no longer knowing what caused the ill will in the first place.

Emergency Services Public Information Officers of Colorado ~ The State Office of Preparedness offered a great training at the July 10 meeting. Lloyd Smith encouraged PIOs to certify as Terrorism Liaison Officers, according to Ms. Trost, and he encouraged them to tie into the statewide database of preplans and community “target” backgrounds so that anyone in the state could adequately respond to an incident anywhere else in Colorado and sound like a local. The database and trainings are FREE; contact him at lloydsmith@cdps.state.co.us. He also described Colorado as having an unusually high number of terrorism cells, including biker gangs. Mr. Pringle shared a story of interacting with the UMF Gang at a recent event. Firefighters are often the first contact with these terrorists because they’re “invited inside” homes while law enforcement needs a warrant. Contact Smith or local law enforcement to determine the appropriate reporting procedure for such contacts.

Executive Board (EBoard) ~ “We’re actually making progress,” Ms. Taylor confided, in the by-laws revamping and handbook creation.

Ms. Taylor and Ms. Moore also reviewed their recent attendance at the NFPA World Expo in Las Vegas, thus violating the what-happens-there-stays-there rule. Ms. Moore attended with an NFPA scholarship, which she encouraged everyone to apply for in 2009, while Ms. Taylor was Colorado’s official representative in a special pre-conference workshop. Among the topics at the confer-

ence were the changing characteristics of older Americans (including the growth of centagenarians), the Chemistry of Fire Program, working with schools from the perspective of a school administrator, and strategies utilized by the single life safety educator working for Las Vegas Fire to reach her schools (emailed lessons, for example). For information about these topics, contact either attendee. The 2009 conference is in Chicago.

Team Reports

Publications/Media/Curriculum:

Mr. Pringle said the Team interviewed six new artists but chose to work with Loveland's artist because of the limited timeframe. The new activity book, 24 pages developed specifically for the 4-8 year old audience, will be printed in Loveland and we'll arrange for delivery at a committee meeting. Each FLSEC member agency is entitled to 1,000 books at no cost and additional copies for a rate just above cost to begin generating funds for Phase 2 of the project, which is a book for the 9-12 year old audience. Non-member agencies will be able to purchase books, too, at a greater rate. Mr. Love offered a flatbed truck to assist with delivery to the September FLSEC meeting.

Please email Mr. Pringle with your input on the members' rate based on your agency's ability to pay for the books. Note that the member rate will be much less than that charged by companies across the country.

Please email Mr. Jensen your estimates on how many books your agency will want above the initial 1,000.

Conference:

Mr. Pribble reported that the 2009 conference will be organized into tracks to encourage more people to attend from EMS and law enforcement as well as to make the accumulation of continuing education toward Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I, Fire & Life Safety Educator I, EMT, Car Seat Technician, Public Information Officer and other qualifications easier and more explicit. Requests for speakers will be mailed this fall.

Awards:

No report.

Certifications:

This Team met with the Division of Fire Safety recently and has developed criteria to teach both the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist (JFS) I and Fire & Life Safety Educator (FLSE) I, II and III courses. As a result, the Team decided to offer FLSE I later this summer and JFS I at the NCFMA Conference in November.

In fact, the FLSE I course will be taught August 18-20 at Westminster Fire Public Safety Center, 9110 Yates, Westminster, CO, 80241. Register with Instructor Mandy Reed at m.reed@southmetro.org. Buy the IFSTA manual before attending class and bring a check for \$20 made payable to the Division of Fire Safety so that you can test.

The level II and III courses will be offered by 2010.

Additionally, continuing education courses will continue to be part of the annual conference hosted by FLSEC.

Election of Officers -- None

Old Business

Our Remaining 2008 Meetings are:

September 12 @ Greater Brighton

November 14 @ North Metro

A. **Letterhead and business cards** are done.

- B. FLSEC will be part of the **senior citizen fair** in Denver next summer.
- C. FLSEC will attend the **Fire Rescue International** expo August 14-16 in Denver as part of the Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association booth. FRI also needs volunteer staff; contact Paul Cooke for details of those opportunities.
- D. The membership decided not to pursue the sale of **flameless candles** beyond our current stock.

New Business

1. **Boulder Blimp** has an inflatable house available for life safety education programs. Stay tuned for information on this company.
2. At the urging of Ms. Moore, FLSEC agencies will promote the **Great American Fire Drill** program. We chose Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. as the official fire drill time for member agencies. Check out www.nfpa.org for tips on the event and stay tuned for information from FLSEC, too.
3. August 5 is **National Night Out** and a great opportunity to promote the Great American Fire Drill, suggested Mr. Siemek.
4. After filing the paperwork, FSEC is officially “**doing business as**” FLSEC.
5. A competitor for writing manuals based on NFPA standards has invited our members to help write those manuals. **Bill Larkin** will be at FRI to meet with prospective contributors.
6. The membership agreed to email Tracey with their desired tickets for the **Sept. 12 Rockies game** that will benefit the Colorado Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Tickets cost \$20. If you reserve ‘em, you’re responsible for paying for them.
7. Loveland Fire found that **disposing of ionization smoke alarms** is as easy as tossing them in the trash.
8. Ms. Moore is seeking ideas for a **safe skateboarding** program.
9. Mr. Jensen distributed CD-ROMS on **sudden cardiac death**.
10. Ms. Leeka said Water World is seeking fire service contributions to the annual **belly flop** contest and Hot Times Cool Cars is on the horizon.
11. Ms. Trost reported that West Metro’s **Life Jacket Loaner Boards** have been a raging success at Bear Creek Reservoir and they received a grant from Wal-Mart to extend the program to pools at the district’s apartment complexes.
12. Mr. Love asked for information about the **exploding smoke alarm** phenomenon.
13. Mr. Love also shared a **customer service** telephone call from the Independence Day holiday that suggests we have a ways to go in terms of fireworks safety message dissemination. Ms. Trost said that West Metro distributes fireworks safety cards to all fireworks vendors in Jefferson County; the cards are mandated additions to any fireworks sales in that district.

Door Prize

Won by Mr. Love

Meeting Adjourned: 11:58

Members in attendance

Dawn Blunt (Greater Brighton Fire), Anthony Dellorco (Denver Fire), Jeff Dorrell (North Metro Fire Rescue), Angela Driskell (Thornton Fire), Deanna Harrington (Cunningham Fire), Einar Jensen (Evergreen Fire Rescue), Sherrie Leeka (Westminster Fire), Patrick Love (Poudre Fire), Gary Micheli (Pueblo Fire), Katie Moore (Littleton Fire Rescue), Colleen Potton (Franktown Fire), Scott Pribble (Arvada Fire), Scott Pringle (Loveland Fire Rescue), Mandy Reed (Parker South Metro Fire Rescue), Paul Russell (Castle Rock Fire Rescue), Thomas Siemek (Wheat Ridge Fire), Tracey Taylor (Parker South Metro Fire Rescue) and Micki Trost (West Metro Fire Rescue).

Guests in Attendance

Chief Art Morales (Castle Rock Fire Rescue), Dakota Potton and Tyler Blunt.

Quotes of the Month

“We are not broke.” ~Ms. Blunt

“Bah, beh, bah, bah, buh, bah.” ~Dakota Potton

“You can put a vibrator under the pillow.” ~Ms. Taylor on a new smoke alarm technology

“Uh oh!” ~Tyler Blunt

“Let’s do it on Halloween!” ~Ms. Trost

“I’m a large shadow.” ~Mr. Pribble

“It doesn’t get dark until November. They changed the time.” ~Ms. Reed

“Mandy, you can go back to the gumdrop rainforest.” ~Mr. Jensen

“You’re only limited by your imagination. Don’t give up... ever.” ~Chief Morales

Respectfully Submitted by Einar Jensen, Secretary