



Fire & Life Safety Educators of Colorado  
Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2008  
Hosted by Denver Fire Department at  
the Rocky Mountain Fire Academy



Meeting Called to Order: 0913

### McEvoy Minute

**Mr. Dorrell** ~ He's still trying to heal from October and a lower than expected audience at a community event. NMFR also hosted the Pink Ribbon Tour.

**Ms. Moore** ~ She attended the National Fire Academy's pilot course on evaluating programs. It was an intense experience that should integrate more hands-on activities when it is offered next time.

**Ms. Holmberg** ~ She implemented a Walk to School Day Program at Clayton Elementary that was successful.

**Ms. Leeka** ~ The schools loved her *Deal or No Deal* safety game, replete with suitcases. Third graders in 17 elementary schools participated. She also conducted 17 poster contests, which has created a need for 17 pizza parties before the end of the academic semester.

**Ms. Kutchen** ~ She developed a fire safety bingo game for her district's 3rd graders. Among the challenges was creating 123 different slogans for the bingo balls and tolerating countless puns and leading questions from co-workers regarding the game's supplies. She learned that smaller audiences are better than larger ones, but schools often limit her ability to spend adequate time with each classroom.

**Ms. Potton** ~ She now works at South Metro and "I jumped in and started teaching."

**Ms. Woodward** ~ She works with two elementary schools; one has the primary grades while the other has the intermediate grades. She uses FLSEC supplied curricula for each grade level. Elk creek postponed its annual open house to October and nearly 500 people attended. They had a kids' combat challenge and sprinkler demonstration in addition to demonstrations by the operations folk.

**Ms. Hoskins** ~ She's a proud mom and was responsible for the smorgasbord of food.

**Ms. Thorson** ~ The ICC approved residential sprinklers for new construction but home-builders are expected to fight its implementation. She also has questions for its implementation, including the consequences of delinquent payments leading to the cutting off of water service and how that could effect a sprinkler system. She doesn't teach in schools, but is responsible for programs for the elderly and high-rise residents, and she teaches extinguisher use. Denver Fire is cutting the Public Education budget in 2009.

**Mr. Pringle** ~ "This may be a shock to you, but I've been insanely busy," he said, noting his involvement in a children's safety village, safe routes to school programs, a senior citizen game called The Price is Life, the recent SafeKids Conference and the NCFMA Conference. He also is planning to partner with "Lindsey" of the *In an Instant* DVD to spread the good word about fire and burn prevention.

**Ms. Driskell** ~ She taught 5,600 students in K-2 classrooms, conducted a poster contest and wants to develop a characterization program to provide "opportunities to reach larger audiences." She's also had over 40 juvenile firesetter contacts this year.

**Mr. Love** ~ He is developing a characterization program, too. He's satisfied with the 5K race and looks forward to expanding it next year. He is working with Volunteers of America to develop a home inspection program. He thanked the NCFMA team for its conference and noted his on-the-job training with a recent disease outbreak at Poudre's academy. An activation of a deluge system at a local Hilton also kept him hopping in the PIO role.

**Mr. Durre** ~ He explained the growth of the Northern Colorado Fire Marshal's Association Conference, thanked the FLSEC members who instructed at the event and shared his enthusiasm about working with FLSEC in the future.

**Mr. Phillips** ~ He reviewed his 32-year career in the fire service and shared his vision for how the National Fire Sprinkler Association could assist FLSEC. He also dispelled some of Ms. Thorson's worries about the sprinkler code, noted that the NFSA has many training opportunities and distributed goodies to the throng of listeners.

**Ms. Joslin** ~ See the Training Section of these minutes.

**Mr. Shepard** ~ He admitted to falling in his own home, which inspired him to help VOA prevent falls in other homes. "It helps to have someone with field experience," he joked.

**Ms. Blunt** ~ October was rough as she and her crews performed a fire safety skit for grades 1-3. She's finding success using Survey Monkey to receive feedback from the teachers in those classrooms.

**Ms. Taylor** ~ October was less hectic than expected because she now has four educators to share the classes. She also cancelled the annual poster contest, preferring to spend the time co-teaching and bonding with her new coworkers.

**Mr. Pribble** ~ His October was nice and quiet because he didn't send a letter to his district's teachers calling their attention to his fire safety programming, assuming they would remember from previous years. Au contraire! A pair of open houses and juvenile firesetters needing attention will keep him busy in November.

**Mr. Jensen** ~ He enjoys working at South Metro in his new role and is developing a fire prevention and reaction program for places of worship and looks forward to developing an urban interface risk reduction program for his new home district. He also thanked Mr. Durre and Mr. Pringle for the NCFMA opportunity and noted all the FLSEC members who instructed courses, including Mr. Love.

#### **Minutes from Sept. 12, 2008 ~ Approved**

#### **Treasurer's Report of November 14, 2008**

We have \$5,539.45 in checking and \$27,121.15 in savings for a combined total of \$32,697.34 in all accounts. Approved as provided.

#### **Report from Related Organizations**

Colorado State Fire Chiefs ~ CSFCA Leadership Conference is Dec. 4-6. FLSEC to have a presence at a booth to showcase FLSEC's activity book, conference and other values offered to the state's fire service. Email Ms. Taylor if you want to attend.

Fire Marshals of Colorado ~ No report.

Northern Colorado Fire Marshal's Association ~ Mr. Durre extended warm thanks to FLSEC for its support of the conference, noting that "You bring quite a bit of energy to a room." Mr. Pringle also recognized FLSEC's instructors and said the extra people who attended, presumably for the life safety education track, "overloaded the water supply system."

Emergency Services Public Information Officers of Colorado ~ Mr. Pribble recalled that speakers discussed the joint information center employed during the Democratic National Convention at the October meeting of ESPIOC. "It was interesting," he said, "because many major news stories never went public." A former AP journalist spoke at the November meeting. Mr. Pribble also said the fire service could be well-represented on ESPIOC's new board following next month's elections.

SafeKids Denver Metro ~ Ms. Holmberg said the group has produced new fire prevention brochures, has created new teams and is recruiting members.

Executive Board (EBoard) ~ Ms. Taylor said revising the by-laws was the topic of a recent meeting.

National Fire Academy ~ Ms. Moore provided additional details about her course and recommended applying for the class when it returns to the schedule.

### **\*\*\*By-Laws Amendments**

Mr. Pringle moved and Ms. Kutchen seconded approving the amended by-laws as presented to members more than seven days prior to the meeting. During the ensuing discussion, Mr. Jensen reviewed the significant changes proposed by the E-Board to address representation on the board of directors, a new membership level, adding a fifth member of the board and that position's responsibilities, requirements for a quorum and eliminating all reference to sub-groups as well as changing the organization's name to reflect FLSEC and grammatical issues.

Members also discussed input from Ms. Potton regarding which officers can sign contracts, checks, deeds and similar documentation and the responsibilities of non-officer board members.

The A-Members in the room — Ms. Blunt, Ms. Driskell, Ms. Leeka, Mr. Love, Ms. Kutchen, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pibble, Mr. Pringle, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Thorson and Ms. Woodward — approved the amendments unanimously.

The membership also instructed Mr. Jensen to make the appropriate changes as discussed in the meeting and submit the amended version of the by-laws for the January 2009 meeting.

### **Team Reports**

#### Publications/Media/Curriculum:

Mr. Jensen reported that Phase 1 of the activity book is complete. He thanked the team members and the FLSEC members who assisted with distributing the books. Additional activity books are available for the prices listed on the order form distributed prior to the meeting and attached to these minutes. Phase 2 will get underway at a Dec. 10 meeting at Westminster. Contact Mr. Jensen for details.

#### Conference:

Mr. Pribble reported that the 2009 Fire & Life Safety Educators Conference of the Rockies will be at the Winter Park Mountain Lodge April 22-24 because the rates are better than in Breckenridge. Mr. Jensen noted that the call for speakers is open as is the call for sponsors, and the committee is growing the conference's offerings in injury prevention and crime prevention. Mr. Pribble said the committee will meet soon.

#### Awards:

Also Ms. Moore was unwilling to share, Mr. Pringle announced that nomination forms are available for FLSEC's educator and program of the year awards. He had received three nominations already. The banquet will be March 13 at a site to be determined.

#### Certifications:

Ms. Taylor reported that she, Mr. Pringle and Ms. Driskell taught the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I course at the NCFMA Conference and now the team looks forward to revising the course and its test bank to reflect updated research, techniques and theories.

### **Election of Officers and At-Large Director**

#### **President**

Ms. Taylor was nominated and elected unanimously by the A-Members (or their official designees) in attendance.

#### **Secretary**

Mr. Jensen was nominated and elected on a vote of 10 Yea and 1 No by the A-Members (or their official designees) in attendance.

#### **At-Large Director**

Three FLSEC members were nominated for this new position: Mr. Pringle, Ms. Driskell and Mr. Dorrell. Mr. Pringle was elected by a simple majority of votes by the A-Members in attendance.

## **Old Business**

Ms. Potton worried that the Southeast Educators Conference had poached topics from our 2008 conference, but Mr. Pribble admitted to poaching course themes from other conferences, too.

Our **2009 Meetings** will be:

January 9 ~ Littleton

March 13 ~ TBD based on the site of the banquet

May 8 ~ North Metro

July 10 ~ Open, but hopefully in Southern Colorado

September 11 ~ Thornton (Date may change to accommodate memorials)

November 13 ~ Poudre

## **New Business**

Don't forget to submit your membership dues!

Ms. Taylor requested that the membership contact her regarding the Idea Bank's proposal to produce a DVD featuring false alarms as a stand-alone course. Members agreed that the issue was worthy of mention in existing programs, but they probably wouldn't buy a DVD dedicated solely to that topic.

Ms. Taylor also announced that the E-Board would be meeting with Pat Mieszala, a public education advisor for the NFPA on Nov. 19. Members were asked to contact Ms. Taylor if they wished to attend the meeting.

## **Door Prize**

Won by Ms. Moore

## **Training**

Volunteers of America is partnering with fire and EMS agencies, particularly in Loveland and Fort Collins, to find senior citizens who need help making their homes fire and fall resistant. Ms. Joslin and Mr. Shepard explained that fire service personnel alert VOA to addresses and VOA crews perform the work. They hope to increase these partnerships to reduce the risk to senior citizens across the state. The home improvement work includes installing smoke alarms, even for residents with visual or audible impairments. She also distributed materials that outlined the Volunteers of America Snow Buddy program (in which volunteers shovel snow for the elderly) and elaborated on the Safety of Seniors Handyman Program. Contact Joslin and the VOA at [mjoslin@voacolorado.org](mailto:mjoslin@voacolorado.org) or 303-297-0408 x13130 for information on The Safety of Seniors Handyman Programs.

## **Members in attendance**

Dawn Blunt (Greater Brighton), Jeff Dorrell (North Metro), Angela Driskell (Thornton), Einar Jensen (South Metro), Pam Kutcheon (North Metro), Sherrie Leeka (Westminster), Patrick Love (Poudre), Katie Moore (Littleton), Colleen Potton (South Metro), Scott Pribble (Arvada), Scott Pringle (Loveland), Tracey Taylor (South Metro), Debra Thorson (Denver) and Elizabeth Woodward (Elk Creek).

## **Guests in Attendance**

Holger Durre (Northern Colorado Fire Marshals Association), Tracey Holmberg (Swedish Medical Center), Joyce Hoskins (Mom Squad), Melissa Joslin (Volunteers of America), Terry Phillips (National Fire Sprinkler Association) and Burley Shepard (Volunteers of America).

## **Quotes of the Month**

"This is what I have to put up with." ~Mr. Dorrell

"I love my partner!" ~Ms. Kutchen

"It is like a hangover!" ~Ms. Moore

“Did you have your helmet on?” ~Ms. Taylor

“Not in the house!” ~Mr. Shepard

“A firefighter will always volunteer to be my grandma.” ~Ms. Blunt

“Because if you’re on a ladder, you *should* be holding a baby!” ~Mr. Pribble

“Did you guys go bowling, too?” ~Mr. Pringle

“We’ll leave the eggs, but I’m keeping the tray.” ~Ms. Thorson

“Einar, I’ll give you all the diapers you want if you leave out the comments about my Bingo Game!” ~Ms. Kutchen

**Meeting Adjourned** at 1150

Respectfully Submitted by Einar Jensen, Secretary