

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY FIRE INVESTIGATION TASK FORCE

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

A meeting of the General Membership of the Brown County Fire Investigation Task Force was held on March 7, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., at Howard Fire Station #1, 2456 Glendale Avenue, Green Bay, WI.

Present: Brad Neville, Steve Zich, Dan Kerkhoff, Tom Hendricks, Eric Johnson, Joe Gabe, Fred Laitinen, Rob Gering, Randy Lind, Kevin Tielens, Norman Heraly, Kevin Krueger, Greg Steenbock, Ryan Meader, Dave Steffens, Derek Wicklund, Terry Rottier, Jim Stupka, John Schweitzer, Brad Muller

Item #1. Adoption of Agenda.

Motion was made by Kerkhoff and seconded by Zich to adopt the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Item #2. Review Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Motion was made by Hendricks and seconded by Zich to approve the minutes from the meeting on December 6, 2012. **Motion carried.**

Item #3. Report of Task Force Activities.

Muller reported that the Task Force responded to the following fires since the last meeting:

1632 Louise St., Green Bay (vehicle/under investigation)

It was also noted that the Task Force was called out on December 29, 2012, to Schwartz Street in Green Bay for a fire involving a juvenile. The Task Force was also called out to a vehicle fire in New Franken.

A civil trial was held in reference to the Alive & Kickin' Pizza Crust fire. Unknown what the outcome was. Rottier reported that the Parkview Road fire will probably be left as undetermined.

Item #4. Information from Board of Directors Meeting.

Muller reported that the Bylaws and Operating Guidelines were revised. The Board of Directors voted to reduce the number of members on the Board of Directors to seven (7). The Board also approved an increase in the number of investigators from 12 to 15 and a reduction of interns from 24 to 20. Muller has applications available for anyone interested in becoming an investigator. Muller also stated that letters will be sent out to all Brown County fire and police departments informing them that there are investigator openings. Muller also noted that fire investigation reports will now be kept on file with the jurisdiction where the fire occurred if that jurisdiction has

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a police department. Muller stated that he is working with Keith Deneys from the Sheriff's Office in getting the BATS program set up.

Item #5. Old Business.

Notify Muller if you have any changes in your phone number or email address. The \$5 dues for 2013 are due.

Let Neville know if you are interested in any of the officer positions for the upcoming election in September. Muller will bring up at the next Board of Directors meeting about getting the new coordinator approved in May so that that person can be trained before Muller resigns in September.

The IAAI spring conference is June 4, 5, and 6, 2013.

The fire investigation van will still be stored at the Bellevue Fire Department for now.

Item #6. New Business.

Muller stated there hasn't been much activity regarding a new vehicle. He stated that the Pulaski Fire Department held a 9-pin tournament and are pledging about \$5,000 to the Task Force for a new vehicle. Muller is asking that anyone wanting to donate money for a new truck do so in the form of a pledge, so in case a new truck doesn't pan out, they will get the money back.

Muller stated that he will do some training soon for the new investigators.

Gabe mentioned that IAAI is looking at formatting the fall conference the same way as the spring conference to have a better turnout, which would be holding it during the week as opposed to the weekend.

Item #7. Juvenile Firesetter Business.

Gabe reported that there were seven juveniles since the last meeting—one from Ashwaubenon, one from Bellevue, and the rest from Green Bay. He stated that there are also five pending.

Item #8. Other Matters.

No other matters were discussed.

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Item #9. Set Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting.

The next meeting is set for May 30, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., at Ashwaubenon Fire Station #1, 2155 Holmgren Way, Green Bay, WI.

Item #10. Training.

Joe Gabe gave training in reference to what he learned at the National Fire Academy.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Laurent
Recording Secretary