

IAFC SWD Board Meeting Notes  
Baton Rouge  
17 October 2023

1. The Board met with FEMA Region 6 Administrator to discuss grants and other issues.
  1. Difficult to get answers about why grants were denied
  2. 7 percent of all SAFER/AFG went to IAFC SWD fire departments though our SWD has a much higher percentage of US total population. Pennsylvania departments seem to be getting a very disproportionate share of SAFER and AFG grants. These comments are from Las Cruces NM Deputy Chief Daniels based on his research.
2. Discussed moving to hiring a management firm for the IAFC SWD due to workload.
3. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Hardin reported that the Arkansas State Fire Marshal has now moved into a separate independent state office.
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Daniels
  1. Would like to keep a list of members handy that participate in SAFER grants program and AFG.
  2. Lexipol
    1. Offered to teach SWD webinar for free in November - Failing to lead.
    2. May help provide instructors for the annual conference in Denton next October.
5. Roy Robichaux, IAFC Board Rep
  1. Moving ahead on IAFC strategic plan. Moving faster than planned
  2. IAFC President John Butler present in the board meeting.
6. Roberson, Immediate Past President
  1. He will continue as SWD rep to EFO Section
  2. EFO symposium week after easter at NFA
  3. New training committee at IAFC – SWD will have a rep. Complete revamping of the IAFC Program Planning Committee (see attached)
    1. ODP and PPC now combined.
  4. Columbia Southern now connected with NFA.
7. Treasurer report
  1. 30,000 of amount to be expended on conference but will be better than last November.
  2. Lexipol contract may restructure to retention instead of new sign-ons only.
8. Arkansas Report
  1. Working to spool up interest in SWD statewide in IAFC SWD.
9. Louisiana Report
  1. Not much to report
  2. New governor sworn in Saturday night.
  3. Stole TFCA model for the Fire Chiefs Academy and will roll out next year.
  4. Wildfire magnitude never before seen in Louisiana this season. Worst rainfall ever in LA--4 inches in 10 months

## 10. New Mexico

1. NM Fire Chiefs conference was held in September.
2. NMFCA has new president after long time president stepping down.
3. NM Insurance funding to fire service through grants. Comes from levy on fire insurance premiums. About 30 million back to FDs every year in NM. <https://www.nmdhsem.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/How-it-Works-05272022.pdf>
4. NM LODD benefit increased to 1 million. Now better than Texas. (perhaps TFCA can pursue with Texas Leg. Next year?- Vance's comment)
5. Full presumption passed for cancers for NM fire fighters.

## 11. Oklahoma

1. Emergency Management is in transition in state.
2. Working on Fire chief minimum standards.
  1. Optimistic for a pilot class for new chiefs

## 12. Texas Report

1. Discussed the Denton IAFC SWD conference in October 2024.
2. TFCA Annual in Waco in 2024.