MAINE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES COMMISSION

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Frances Perkins Meeting Room**

**Department of Public Safety**

**Monday, May 6, 2019**

***(Unanimously Approved on Monday, June 3, 2019)***

***Thanks go to Chief Mike Thurlow for taking minutes in my absence. Chief Thurlow’s notes from the meeting follow:***

**Discussion Items:**

* Susan wasn't here and didn't send out an agenda - she is tied up with the judiciary committee public hearing.
* Joint conference - went well, great attendance, most vendors ever.
* Public Safety Commission Mike Sauschuck stopped to introduce himself.
* Best practice award went to Gorham Chief Lefebvre for his sprinkler ordinance work.  The recognition worked as he has received many inquiries from departments looking to copy his work
* T&E Subcommittee
  + 8 grant applications received as of the application deadline (5 existing / 3 new sites)
  + Initial review committee meetings scheduled for 5/7 & 5/13
  + Discussed funding of the grant and when the funds will be available.  Chief Thomas to check with state finance.
  + Tentatively scheduled a 7/8 fire commission meeting to act on the subcommittee recommendation with the goal of announcing the grants at the MFCA summer meeting on 7/11.
* Recruitment & /Retention committee - they weren't successful with the federal money they thought was coming to the states.  None is coming, they are using it for research & development
* Chief Thomas read the definition of a firefighter and fire department from state law.

Officer elections:  Chief Thomas moved approval of the current slate of officers, so voted.  Vicki asked to step down from the Secretary position.  We will look to fill that vacancy at a future date.

* Old Business
  + LOSAP bill LD1014 is on the appropriation table, unsure of final funding amount.  They need at least 500k in initial seed money to make it economically viable to establish the program so individual communities can choose to participate at the local level.
* New business
  + Legislative update

        LD353 - lowering the code standards for group homes.  AG's office instructed the SFMO to support this due to ADA and fair housing issues.

        PFFM looking for commissions support on a new Healthcare bridge law LD1674 that has been crafted to improve the original bill that provides retirement to Medicare age.  This prevents raiding the fund and makes other improvements to the original bill that they have noticed over the years.  Joe Thomas moved to write a letter of support on 1674 and 1674.

* Ron Green suggested we not cancel the April commission meeting which we did this year due to the conference.  There is too much legislative activity to skip our meeting.  Joe Thomas can forward on a weekly basis, the legislative info from the revisor's office.
* Treasurer's Report -
  + MFCA beginning balance 2,039.63 (includes refund of Hall of Flags deposit)
  + Need approval for reimbursement to Dan for Best Practice Award plaque 89.95
  + Ending balance 1,949.68
  + LOSAP Committee 3,500.00
* Next meeting is 6/3 with tentative July meeting on 7/8