

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.

Revised and Adopted - May 7, 1998

ARTICLE I

SECTION I - Name

There is hereby established in Pinellas County, State of Florida, a non-profit civic association of citizens to be hereinafter known as "The Pinellas County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc." The Association's principal business shall be conducted at such times and places as the membership may determine.

SECTION II - Objectives

- A. Promote methods of fire prevention and protection and provide this information to members.
- B. Participate in any activity in the interest of preventing the loss of life or property by fire or other types of disaster.
- C. Establish a closer bond and understanding between fire organizations.
- D. Promote and encourage participation and cooperation of all fire departments and related services.
- E. Support organized training programs provided by the Pinellas Technical Education Center and the St. Petersburg Junior College's Public Safety Institute. Provide a list of recommended members to act as Advisory Board for PTEC's Fire Academy.
- F. Sponsor and/or support any legislation that will tend to raise the standards of the fire service.
- G. Promote and support emergency medical services and injury prevention programs.

ARTICLE II

SECTION I - Membership

Memberships in the Association shall consist of the following:

- A. Active - Active memberships in the Association shall consist of the chief of the department of any fire fighting agency located within the boundaries of Pinellas County. Each new applicant for active membership must complete an application and be recommended by a member in good standing.

- B. Affiliate - Affiliate members are those individuals who are not eligible to be active members, but who are interested in, and subscribe to the Objectives and Purpose of the Association. Affiliate members shall be entitled to all privileges and benefits of the Association, but are not entitled to vote. Each new applicant for affiliate membership must complete an application and be recommended by a member in good standing.

- C. Honorary - Honorary members are those persons of outstanding prominence who have made a singular contribution to the field of fire protection, prevention, rescue, and suppression. Such member shall be exempted from paying annual dues and are not entitled to vote. Honorary members must be recommended by an active member or by the Executive Board.

- D. Life - Life membership may be bestowed upon a member after ten years of active service to the organization. Life membership may, in some cases, be bestowed to a member with less than ten years active service. Special requests for life membership from members with less than ten years service will be made to the Executive Board, who will consider the request and make a recommendation to the membership. In either case, life membership requires a majority vote of the members. Life members shall be exempted from paying annual dues and are not entitled to vote.

SECTION II - Membership

- A. The membership year shall be the calendar year.
- B. Membership dues for active and affiliate members shall be due and payable on January 1st at a rate approved by the Voting Membership.
- C. All members shall be placed on a mailing list to receive such materials as the Association's officers see fit to distribute.
- D. All members shall receive a membership card and an up-to-date copy of the Constitution and By-Laws.
- E. Any and all members shall have the right to attend regular meetings of the Association, but only active members may vote. Only the chief of the department may vote, if present. Their designated affiliate member may vote, in absence of the chief of the department.
- F. Workshop meetings shall be limited to only Fire Chiefs and invitees of the Executive Board.
- G. Termination for non-payment of dues: Sixty (60) days after the calendar year. Terminated members may be reinstated one time by payment of dues for the current year.

ARTICLE III

SECTION I - Meetings and Locations

- A. Regular meetings shall be held on the first Thursday of each month unless rescheduled by the President due to conflicting holidays or other valid reasons.
- B. The President may designate the location of the meeting with the approval of the membership.
- C. The President may, with the approval of the Executive Board, call additional or special meetings, as deemed necessary.
- D. A general membership "Quorum" shall be a simple majority of those active members present.
- E. For Executive Board voting a simple majority of Executive Officers shall constitute a quorum.
- F. Workshop meetings may precede the regular meetings and shall be limited to the chief of the department.

SECTION I - Elections

All Association officers shall be active members and in good standing with the Association.

- A. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee in February of one (1) member of the Executive Board and two (2) active members of the Association. The Nominating Committee will submit a slate of officers for the coming year to be voted on by the Association.
Nominations may also be presented from the floor at the time of the election, but such nominations shall be in writing for presentation to the Secretary and must carry the signature of at least one (1) active member present.
- C. Officers shall be elected annually in April at the regular meeting and installed at the May meeting.
- D. The officers of the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. shall consist of:
 - 1. President 1 year term
 - 2. Vice President 1 year term
 - 3. Secretary/Treasurer 2 year term
 - 4. Board Member (North County) 1 year term
Representing Tarpon Springs, East Lake, Palm Harbor, Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, Dunedin, and Clearwater
 - 5. Board Member (Mid-county) 1 year term
Representing Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Largo, Indian Rocks, Seminole, Pinellas Park, and Redington Beaches

6. Board Member (South County) 1 year term
Representing Lealman, Madeira Beach, Treasure Island, St. Petersburg, Gulfport, South Pasadena, and St. Pete Beach
 7. Board Member (At Large) 1 year term
 8. Immediate Past-President
- E. In the event of a vacancy occurring among the officers of the Executive Board, the President may appoint an active member to fill the vacancy for that term of office.
- F. Special elections may be held to fill unexpired terms of the Vice President or Secretary/Treasurer. A person serving an unexpired term may be eligible for re-election to the same office.
- G. Voting shall be by active members present and voting.

ARTICLE V

SECTION I - Duties of Officers

- A. Duties of the President: To preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board in accordance with Parliamentary Procedures (Robert's Rules of Order); may call Special Meetings when necessary; to appoint all committees; to enforce the Constitution and By-Laws; and to be responsible for the installation of newly elected officers. The President shall not vote on any question other than the election of officers and members, except in the case of equal division or tie vote when the President's vote shall be the deciding vote.
- B. Duties of the Vice President: To assist the President in the discharge of duties and in the case of the President's absence or disability, or should the office become vacant, he shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the President.
- C. Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer: To call the roll of all members at every meeting and to record the procedures of regular, special, and Executive Board meetings; keep books and file papers pertaining to the office; record and report on all monetary receipts and expenditures; notify all newly approved members of their acceptance and furnish them with membership cards; attend to all correspondence and submit a report at each meeting; and perform all such other duties that are incidental to that office. The bank account shall be established in the signature of the President or Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. No monies shall be withdrawn from any bank unless authorized at a regular or annual meeting except for reoccurring bills which may be approved for regular payment by vote of the membership.

SECTION II - Executive Board

The Executive Board shall be made up of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary/Treasurer, four (4) elected Board Members, and the Immediate Past President and the Spokesperson, as needed. They shall have the authority to make emergency expenditures not to exceed \$100.00.

They shall make a report of their activities and recommendations at each regular meeting which shall be subject to ratification by a majority vote of the membership present and voting.

The Executive Board may appoint, on an as-needed basis, a Spokesperson to serve as temporary Executive Director. This Spokesperson would speak for the Association in the event that policies or positions taken by the Association so significantly conflict with the employers of the Officers, that the President, Vice President, and other Officers cannot speak for the Association. The Spokesperson should be an individual who is knowledgeable in Fire Administration, but does not answer to any Public Official or Public Body. The Spokesperson can be an Active, Affiliate or Honorary member.

The Executive Board shall have the final interpretation of the Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI

SECTION I - Removal of Officers and Members

Removal shall be by a voting majority of three-fourths of the voting membership present at the regular meeting where action was initiated for the following reasons:

- A. Conduct or action which would tend to discredit or lead to disruption of the Association.
- B. Good cause, as submitted in writing by any four (4) signatures of Active members.
- C. Any officer or member who is considered for removal from office shall be granted a hearing before the Executive Board prior to the meeting where the action is to take place.

ARTICLE VII

SECTION I - Committees

The President shall appoint committees as needed for the good and welfare of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION I - By-Law Changes

Any proposed changes in the By-Laws shall be presented in writing to the Association at a regular monthly meeting and shall be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of members present and voting during the next regular meeting.

All members shall be notified immediately, in writing, of the proposed changes.

ARTICLE IX

SECTION I - Order of Business

The order of business at the regular meetings of the Association shall be as follows:

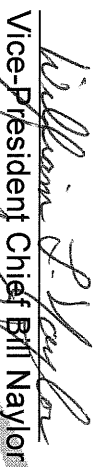
- A. Call to order
- B. Invocation
- C. Introduction of Guests
- D. Roll Call
- E. Approval of Minutes
- F. Treasurer's Report
- G. Correspondence
- H. Unfinished Business
- I. New Business
- J. Committee Reports
- K. Affiliate Reports
- L. Good of the Association
- M. Next meeting place

The President shall determine the order determine the order of business at Special Meetings.

Robert's Rules of Order Revised Edition shall govern all meetings of the association on all points not governed by the Constitution and By-Laws.

Signed this 7th day of May, 1998.


President Chief Scott McGuff


Vice-President Chief Bill Naylor

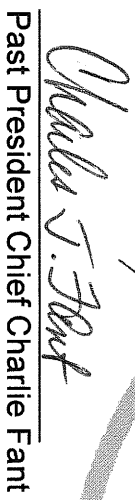

Secretary/Treasurer Chief James Angle


Board Member Chief Rod Taylor


Board Member Chief Vicki Murphy


Board Member Chief Larry Bassett


Board Member Chief Bud Meyer


Past President Chief Charlie Fant

