

Meeting Minutes
IDAHO LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIREFIGHTING AND EMS
MEDAL OF HONOR COMMISSION

Friday, May 7, 2010
11:30 A.M. MDT

Idaho State Police Headquarters
Cafeteria Round Room
700 S Stratford Drive
Boise, Idaho

Attorney General Lawrence Wasden, chairing the meeting called the meeting to order at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Secretary Kriss Bivens Cloyd took roll. The following commissioners were present:

Lawrence Wasden, Attorney General
Bob Wells, Office of the Governor
Larry Plott, acting Executive Director, POST
Dia Gainor, EMS Bureau Chief
Blair Olsen, Jefferson County Sheriff
Doug Borah, Idaho State Peace Officers Assn.
Joe Rice, Chief, Soda Springs Police Department

The following Commissioners were absent:

Ron Anderson, Meridian Fire Chief
Dean Ellis, Idaho Falls Fire Chief

Others present: Bob Cooper, Attorney General's Office
Wayne Rausch, Latah County Sheriff
Kriss Bivens Cloyd, Commission Secretary taking minutes

Chairman Wasden asked if there were any changes to the proposed February 23, 2010 minutes. Bob Wells noted that the February 23, 2010 minutes did not reflect that he was in attendance. Chairman Wasden made a motion to amend the minutes to reflect Commissioner Wells' attendance. Commissioner Greg Bower seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden called for discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Wasden asked for discussion regarding the nomination process and for suggestions on improving the process.

Chairman Wasden suggested that the nomination forms request the nominating agency to have a person present or available via conference call when the Commission meets to review the nominees. Chairman Wasden stated that it was beneficial to the Commission to have a representative available

to answer questions regarding the incident as additional information may be needed to determine if the nominee is qualified to receive the Medal of Honor.

Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing no comments, he called for a motion to adopt the change to the nomination form. Bob Wells moved to adopt the change and Commissioner Greg Bower seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden called for discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion or suggestions to improve on the nomination process.

Commissioner Bob Wells said he would be willing to help solicit donations to offset the cost of framing the photos and citations and the medals for the recipients. The cost for the medals is \$78.75 each, which includes shipping and handling. The approximate cost for framing the 8 X 10 photo and the citation is \$170 each. He also suggested the meeting to review and select the Medal of Honor recipients could be held at the Bureau of Homeland Security to use the full video conferencing equipment. This would allow the agencies submitting Medal of Honor nominations to participate via video conference.

Commissioner Blair Olsen suggested it would be helpful to have Chairman Wasden attend the professional association meetings to encourage nominations. He also suggested that a notice be sent quarterly to the agencies encouraging them to submit nominations.

Commissioner Doug Borah suggested the selection meeting be scheduled and the date, time and place be provided to the nominating agencies when the Call for Nominations are sent out in November.

Commissioner Dia Gainor stated she did not recall receiving the Call for Nominations. She requested that the Call for Nominations and the application form be provided in PDF format via e-mail for ease in forwarding it to the association members. Commissioner Gainor further requested that the State Fire Marshal be included in the Call for Nomination to ensure that all firefighting agencies are notified.

MEDAL OF HONOR CEREMONY:

Chairman Wasden thanked the Commission for the comments and input. He asked for discussion to improve the Peace Officers Memorial/Medal of Honor Ceremony.

Commissioner Dia Gainor asked that the program for the ceremony be changed to reflect the entire name of the honor. She suggested that it should read the Idaho Law Enforcement, Firefighting and EMS Medal of Honor.

Commissioner Doug Borah suggested that all of the Medal of Honor Commission members be either on the stage or seated together in the front row.

Commissioner Bob Wells suggested that the ceremony be held in conjunction with the POST Graduation and the date of the ceremony be provided to the Governor so he could be in attendance.

Commissioner Larry Plott suggested we discuss with Jessica Galloway, Executive Director of the Peace Officers Memorial, to provide wireless microphones to the officers calling out the names of the fallen officers.

Chairman Wasden discussed a designated staging area and larger platform for the Committee. He also suggested that (1) the lectern be placed at the side of the stage allowing the audience to see the medal presentation more clearly; and (2) a separate table to display the framed photos and citations in front of the stage.

Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion to enhance the Medal of Honor Ceremony. There was no further discussion.

The Commission, having concluded all of its business, adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:30 p.m.