

2019 WSCFF Convention Resolution

1 SUBJECT: Retiree Association
2 RESOLUTION #: 19-02
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5 WHEREAS: A common and unified voice representing retired fire fighters, EMT's, and
6 paramedics has become increasingly important as issues that affect our retirees and
7 their families are made known and shared across our great state; and
8

9 WHEREAS: Retirees need the means to access and share information, and the ability to provide
10 input to our organization; and
11

12 WHEREAS: The WSCFF Constitution and Bylaws provides a limited means for retirees to
13 gather at convention, and defines the dues related to be an active retired member;
14 and
15

16 WHEREAS: The WSCFF Executive Board recognizes that the creation of a Retiree Association
17 would provide a better means to represent and support our retirees and their
18 families; now therefore be it
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20

21 RESOLVED: That the WSCFF Constitution and Bylaws be amended by removing Article V,
22 Section 7, and Article XII, Section 6; and be it further
23

24 RESOLVED: That the WSCFF Constitution and Bylaws be amended to add Appendix E as
25 follows; and be it further
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27 RESOLVED: That should the IAFF require changes to Appendix E to be approved, the WSCFF
28 Executive Board shall have the authority to accept and adopt the IAFF-required
29 changes.
30

31 APPENDIX "E", WSCFF RETIREES ASSOCIATION 32

33 ARTICLE I, NAME

34 The name of this association shall be the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters Retirees Association,
35 hereinafter referred to as the "retiree association."
36

37 ARTICLE II, PURPOSE

38 Section 1

39 The purpose of the retiree association is to provide retired WSCFF members a unified voice, improved
40 access to and sharing of information, the ability to engage with and give input to the WSCFF on issues
41 impacting retirees and their beneficiaries, and the ability to connect and network with each other and the
42 active membership.
43

44 Section 2

45 The retiree association shall, in consultation with the WSCFF leadership, promote the good and general
46 welfare of all retired fire and EMS personnel.
47

2019 WSCFF Convention Resolution

ARTICLE III, MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

All retired members of WSCFF affiliate locals shall be eligible for membership in the retiree association. Dues for active retirees shall be established at 25% of the annual per capita, rounded to the nearest dollar. Active retiree association members may provide input and participate in retiree association events and retiree association elections

Section 2

Former WSCFF members, non-dues-paying retirees, spouses, widows or widowers of retirees shall be given membership as associate members. Associate members will receive communications from the WSCFF.

Section 3

Membership in the WSCFF Retiree Association does not convey any membership rights in or of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

ARTICLE IV, REPRESENTATION

Section 1

The business of this organization shall be the responsibility and at the direction of the WSCFF Retirees Association Advisory Board (advisory board), which shall be elected by the members of the retiree association. The advisory board shall have the ability to discuss, promote, and advocate for the retiree association. The advisory board may meet up to four (4) times per year.

Section 2

The advisory board shall consist of seven (7) members, including the WSCFF Vice president who will serve as the chair, and six (6) members at-large.

Of the six at-large members, three shall be LEOFF 1 retired members, and three shall be other WSCFF retired members. If a group is unable to fill one of their allotted seats, that seat will then be made available to the other group.

The six at-large members shall select one member to serve as the vice chair.

Section 3

Active retiree association members shall be entitled to attend all meetings, seminars, and conventions of the WSCFF upon payment of any fees or registrations. The Retiree Association Chair shall submit the names of six (6) members who will represent the retiree association at the WSCFF Convention.

At conventions, they shall be allowed to form a Retiree's Advisory Committee provided that at least six (6) retirees are in attendance. Said committee shall have the privilege of submitting advisory resolutions to regular committees.

Retiree Advisory Committee members shall have the right to speak on retiree resolutions that have been brought to the convention floor. Retiree Advisory Committee members or active retirees shall not participate in any convention votes, unless they are a delegate of their own local.

Section 4

The initial board shall be appointed by the WSCFF President and Secretary-Treasurer; elections will begin in 2021.

2019 WSCFF Convention Resolution

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2 The advisory board shall be nominated and elected by a majority vote of the membership. Elections will
3 be held via secret ballot.
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5 Three (3) members-at-large shall be elected on even-numbered years; three (3) members-at-large shall be
6 elected on odd-numbered years. All board members shall serve two-year terms.
7

8 The vice chair shall be elected annually from the advisory board.
9

10 Nominations for the advisory board shall be in writing and have the consent of the nominee. Nominations
11 will take place in the month of April. Nominations shall be mailed or emailed to the WSCFF office. After
12 the nomination period closes, confirmed candidates will have their names added to a ballot.

13 A. Elections will be held during the month of May and may be done by mail or electronic voting.

14 B. The election time frame will be announced when nominations are open, however the voting period
15 will not be less than two weeks.

16 C. The vote count will take place at the WSCFF Office.

17 D. Each candidate has the right to appoint a vote count observer.

18 E. The votes will be formally announced via email and posted on the WSCFF website.
19

20 **Section 5**

21 Newly elected advisory board members shall assume office at the WSCFF Annual Convention in June of
22 each year.
23

24 **Section 6**

25 Members of the advisory board shall not be financially compensated for their services on the board;
26 however, they will be reimbursed by the WSCFF, for approved expenses incurred while conducting the
27 business of the association.
28

29 **Section 7**

30 Vacancies on the advisory board shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining board members at the
31 next regular or special meeting of the board after the vacancy occurs. The appointee shall serve until the
32 next annual election.
33

34 **Section 8**

35 The chair shall preside at all the meetings.
36

37 **Section 9**

38 The vice chair shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the chair and shall perform such other duties
39 as may be assigned by the board or the chair.
40

41 **ARTICLE V, OFFICERS' POWERS AND DUTIES**

42 **Section 1**

43 The chair of the retiree association shall be the WSCFF Vice President who shall report directly to the
44 WSCFF President and at times may be requested to provide reports to the WSCFF Executive Board.

45 A. The chair shall attend and preside at all meetings of the association.

46 B. The chair, in consultation with the WSCFF President, shall interpret all policy matters as set forth by
47 the advisory board and shall be responsible for the administration thereof.

2019 WSCFF Convention Resolution

1 C. The WSCFF President shall be the principle spokesperson for the retiree association.

2 D. In the event of a tie vote, the chair will serve as the tiebreaker.

3 4 **Section 2**

5 The vice chair, in the absence of the chair, shall perform the duties of the chair, and when so acting shall
6 have all the powers granted to, and be subject to all the restrictions imposed upon, the chair. In the
7 absence of a vice chair, the advisory board shall elect a vice chair pro-tem, who shall possess all the
8 powers and perform the duties of the position.

9 10 **Section 3**

11 Officers and directors shall turn over to the WSCFF all association records and property when vacating
12 their offices.

13 14 **ARTICLE VI, WSCFF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

15 The WSCFF shall assume the following duties and responsibilities on behalf of the association:

- 16 1. Represent the interests of retired members and their families.
- 17 2. Serve as the editor of any association correspondence.
- 18 3. Maintain the complete and accurate records of all proceedings of the association.
- 19 4. Maintain all written communications.
- 20 5. Maintain an accurate roll of membership.
- 21 6. Assume responsibility for disseminating all notices in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws.
- 22 7. Complete financial reporting.
- 23 8. The WSCFF Trustees shall review the books related to the association.

24 25 **ARTICLE VII, BYLAWS**

26 **Section 1**

27 These bylaws shall be in force and in effect from the date of the Appendix E's approval into the WSCFF
28 Constitution and Bylaws.

29 30 **Section 2**

31 Proposed changes to these bylaws shall be brought forth by the advisory board and presented
32 as an early or committee-generated resolution at the WSCFF Annual Convention. Changes to the bylaws
33 shall be announced in the Council Connection Retiree Association section.

34
35 SUBMITTED BY: WSCFF Executive Board

Committee	Action Taken	Recommendation
Constitution & Bylaws	Amended	Do Pass as Amended
O & P		Do Pass as Amended
Ways & Means	\$.16 per capita equivalent	
Floor	Amended	
Floor	Adopted as Amended by 2/3 Standing Majority	

ASSIGNED DESIGNATION: WSCFF President/Vice President/Secretary-Treasurer