



Missouri Fire Fighters Critical Illness Pool

MINUTES

2:00 p.m. – 2:28 p.m. CT Tuesday February 11, 2025

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Roll Call for a Quorum

Present:

Greg Brown – Fire Fighters Association of Missouri,
(*Chair*)

Mike Snider – Lee’s Summit Fire District

Kirk Lair – Central Jackson County Fire Protection
District (*Secretary/Treasurer*)

Scott Frandsen – Mid County Fire Protection District
(left at 3:10 PM)

Tom Vineyard – O’Fallon Fire Protection District

Legal counsel:

Carl Scarborough – General Counsel

Others:

Joseph DePaepe – McGriff, a Marsh & McLennan
Agency LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Jenniffer J Alvarado – McGriff, a Marsh & McLennan
Agency LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Paula Lowder – McGriff, a Marsh & McLennan Agency
LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Alex Terlecky – , a Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC
Company (*Administrator*)

Sherry Sweet – Behavioral Health Program Manager

Eric Rose – IAFF Local 42

Absent:

Sara Jahnke, Ph. D – Dir. & Senior Scientist, Center
for Fire Rescue & EMS Health Research at the
National Development & Research Institutes

Cory Hogan – Local 2665 Professional Firefighters
of Eastern Missouri (*Vice Chair*)

1. Approve November 2024 Minutes – Approved

Scott Frandsen made a motion to approve the MFFCIP’s November 2024 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Kirk Lair and then unanimously approved by the board.

2. Behavioral Health Program Update

Sherry Sweet explained that she had sent out a program update to the board a few weeks ago and, in the interest of time, would just be discussing a few of the highlights from that document and any major developments that have occurred since it was sent out.

Since the program's launch in July of last year, they've issued a few grants for inpatient treatment, the regional clinicians, and peer support teams. Regional clinicians and the regional coordinators each have a monthly get together so that they're able to keep in contact frequently.

The program has had six deployments of their peer support teams. Two of those were in 2024 and the rest have been in early 2025. As word gets out about the program, it is being utilized more frequently. Some of the areas the team has been responded to are remote and have no other resources that would have been available to provide aid.

As of this morning, the behavioral health wellness app had 242 users. The team is continuing to push out information about the app at all their events, training sessions, and more.

Regarding the FFAM Partnership, they have only picked up 15 individual members thus far. However, it has proven to be a good marketing opportunity for reaching departments. Ms. Sweet said that she had spoken to Larry Jennings over the weekend and that he would be willing to help them through this process again in 2025, so it will be marketed again in the fall.

Ms. Sweet said that she had updated several of the flyers and brochures so that they contain up to date information about what cancers the program covers and what services are available.

As part of the team's marketing push, they launched a Facebook page for the MFFCIP in January which has gotten 9,000 views so far. They also had the Detect Together event on January 22. Although there was not a lot of interest, they will likely host it again a few times every year since it doesn't cost anything to put on.

They launched an Introduction to Peer Support Teams training about two weeks ago. The response has been positive, and the regional clinicians did a wonderful job teaching together. The next training session is February 20 in Joplin, MO and currently has 21 students signed up for it. At the last regional coordinator meeting, they finalized the process for requesting a training.

Ms. Sweet showed the board a list of the conferences and trainings they will be present at for the remainder of 2025. She also thanked the board for sending her to Nashville in March for a mental health training.

a. Regional Program Budget Breakout

Ms. Sweet showed the Regional Program Budget to the board and invited questions from board members.

3. New Member Approval as of 10/31/24 – Approved

Kirk Lair made a motion to approve the induction of 10 new member organizations and 15 individuals sponsored by the FFAM. The motion was seconded by Scott Frandsen and then unanimously approved by the board.

Total Membership as of 01/31/2025:

4,194-FT; 222-PT; 488-Vol; total 4,904 covered Firefighters from 129 members.

4. Update on Prospective Members in Process as of 01/31/25

The board briefly reviewed the list of prospective members. No further action was taken.

5. December 2024 Interim Financial Statement – Approved

Joseph DePaepe walked the board through the December 2024 interim financial statement, operating bank reconciliation, MM bank reconciliation, and investment report. Mr. DePaepe also noted that the December 2024 financials would need to be adjusted due to the Pool Administrator Fee changes.

Tom Vineyard made a motion to acknowledge that the board received the December 2024 Interim Financial Statement. The motion was seconded by Kirk Lair and then unanimously approved by the board.

6. Cancer Claims Activity Review as of 01/31/25

Joseph DePaepe reviewed a list of 44 claims that had come in totaling \$988,079.58. One board member asked if, after a member files a claim, they get a response from the McGriff team to assure them that their claim was received or if the process just starts from there without notice. Mr. DePaepe said that anyone who submitted a claim should be contacted by their team within 48 hours of the third-party administrator receiving the claim.

Greg Brown added that Dr. Sara Jahnke was looking into the latest cohort studies for some of the cancer types that the MFFCIP is paying out but doesn't officially cover so that the board can have more information when making decisions about how to handle those types of cancers in the future.

7. 2025 Draft Budgets

- a. Behavioral Health Program**
- b. Cancer Program**

Mr. DePaepe noted that the board has not yet approved a budget for the Behavioral Health or Cancer Program. Included with the documents for this meeting is the budget that he brought to the board in November. The financial auditor is requesting an approved budget, so someone needs to go through and make whatever changes are needed to get this passed soon.

Greg Brown said that, over the next few weeks, he'll reach out to Kirk Lair, Cory Hogan, and anyone else interested in being contacted to go through the budget and come back with recommended changes.

8. 2025 Meeting Dates and Times

Greg Brown presented the following meeting dates and times to the board for 2025. Mr. DePaepe noted that these dates had been presented and approved in November 2024. Ms. Sweet asked if the September 2025 meeting was the one in-person meeting that would be conducted that year and Mr. Brown confirmed that it was.

- a. 2:00 p.m. CT Tuesday February 11, 2025
- b. 2:00 p.m. CT Tuesday May 27, 2025
- c. 2:00 p.m. CT Tuesday September 23, 2025
- d. 2:00 p.m. CT Tuesday November 4, 2025

9. Legal Updates

10. Other Discussion Items

Tom Vineyard asked if anyone was still using the Galleri cancer tests. Mr. Vineyard said that his department had used them last year, but that since then information had come out that they may not have been as accurate as advertised.

Mr. Brown said that he knew several departments stopped using it, but Dr. Sara Jahnke said that it was still a viable testing option. Mr. Vineyard asked if the departments who were still using it were doing so on an annual or bi-annual basis. Mr. Brown said that, before he left Eureka Fire Protection District, they were using it on a bi-annual basis.

11. Next Regular Meeting: May 27, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. CT (Virtual)

12. Motion to Adjourn – Approved at 2:28 p.m.

Tom Vineyard made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Scott Frandsen. The motion was then unanimously approved by the board.

Respectfully submitted:

By: _____

Kirk Lair

Recording Secretary

The Missouri Fire Fighters Critical Illness Pool approved the foregoing minutes on _____.

By: _____

Greg Brown

Chair