

# OSFA CONSTITUTIONAL RESOLUTION 20 - 01

*Whereas* the purpose of the OSFA shall be to create, maintain and perpetuate a fraternal spirit among its members; and

**Whereas** the further purpose is to assemble in convention and there devise ways and means of improving the fire fighting service by appropriate discussion, lectures, debates and mutual exchange of ideas; and

**Whereas** the purpose is also to cooperate with the various state departments and agencies, and

Whereas it is further to suggest helpful legislation and to educate its membership and improve the service and to enhance the value and dignity of their profession and to be instrumental in promoting improved conditions for the firefighters of the State of Oklahoma; and

**Whereas** the services provided by the OSFA have far exceeded the original purpose and continue to grow; and

**Whereas** the cost of doing business has continued to increase along with the cost of living; and

Whereas the last dues increase for the organization was implemented 15 years ago in 2005 to the current level of \$56 per year per member; and

**Whereas** the Association has been and continues to be extremely diligent and prudent with the member's dues; and

**Whereas** the Association has created a Financial Advisory Committee made up of members from all walks of the fire service and from all areas of the state; and

**Whereas** the Financial Advisory Committee's purpose is to ensure the financial integrity of the Association, Oklahoma Firefighters Museum, and the Oklahoma Fallen and Living Firefighters Memorial; and develop strategies to continue the financial strength of the Association, Museum, and Memorial while maintaining the minimal burden upon the Association's members;

*Therefore Be It Resolved* that the Financial Advisory Committee begin studying the following articles of the OSFA Constitution to determine the financial requirements of the Association balanced against the ability to remit of the membership:

## *ARTICLE 8 – MEMBERSHIP DUES*

*Section 1. Active members as defined in ARTICLE 2, Section 2 of this constitution and Active NonPension Members as defined in ARTICLE 2, Section 3 of this constitution shall submit annual dues in the sum of fifty-six dollars (\$56) per member of which three dollars (\$3) will be placed in the firemen's museum and memorial account to be used for continued maintenance and possible future expansions of the memorial and/or museum.*

## *ARTICLE 2 — MEMBERSHIP*

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*Section 1. The membership of this Association shall consist of Active Members, Active Non-Pension Members, Active Life Members, Honorary Life Members, Associate Members, Pension Members, Honorary Members, Honorary Associate Members, and Limited Members. All members will pay dues in accordance with Article 8 of this constitution.*

*Section 2. Active Members: All members of fire departments, participating in the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System, who are not receiving pension benefits, shall be eligible for active membership in this Association upon the payment of the annual dues for every member of that department as provided by Article 8, Section 1 of this constitution. They shall have the right to attend the annual conventions, to take part in the discussion of and participate in all deliberations of the Association and shall be entitled to vote, through their delegates, on all matters coming before the Association convention. The basis of Active Member representation shall be determined according to Article 9, Section 1, of this constitution.*

*Section 3. Active Non-Pension Members: All members of fire departments, not participating in the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System and who are still active on their fire department, shall be eligible for active non-pension membership in this Association upon the payment of the annual dues for every member of that department as provided by Article 8, Section 1 of this constitution. They shall have the right to attend the annual conventions, to take part in the discussion of and participate in all deliberations of the Association and shall be entitled to vote, through their delegates, on all matters coming before the Association convention. The basis of Active Non-Pension Member representation shall be determined according to Article 9, Section 1, of this constitution. Active Non-Pension Members may run for the Executive Board and serve fully in that capacity if duly elected. There may only be one Active NonPension Member representative on the Oklahoma State Firefighters Association Board at any given time.*

**Be It Further Resolved** that the OSFA Financial Advisory Committee complete their study by March 2021 and submit a report back to the 127<sup>th</sup> OSFA Convention in June of 2021 containing their recommendations for action by the delegates present at that convention.

Submitted by: The OSFA Financial Advisory Committee, Chair Mike Kelley