

## OSFA Legislative Resolution 20-03

*Whereas* volunteer members of the Oklahoma State Firefighters Association met in El Reno in February to discuss and determine the issues facing the volunteer fire service; and

**Whereas** these issues were narrowed to the top three issues affecting volunteer firefighters in the State; and

**Whereas** the OSFA is the largest representative organization for volunteer firefighters in Oklahoma; and

**Whereas** funding is always an issue when operating a fire department of any size; and

**Whereas** the cost of operations, training, equipment, and maintenance are particularly challenging in small and rural departments and with volunteer departments; and

**Whereas** the operational grants provided by the state barely keep the fuel in the trucks much less keep the doors open and barely provide enough to keep firefighters safe; and

**Whereas** other sources of funding through the state, grants, counties, and donations continue to be spread farther and result in less funding while costs continue to rise on an annual basis;

*Therefore* **Be It Resolved** that the delegates at the 126<sup>th</sup> Annual OSFA Convention show the overall support of the organization toward our volunteer members; and

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Volunteer Fire Services Committee, the Legislative Committee, and the Safety and Health Committee all research, develop, and propose implementation of additional funding and the sources for that funding to help provide the proper resources for all fire departments in Oklahoma; and

**Be It Further Resolved** that these committees report back to the 2021 Volunteer Caucus and the 2021 OSFA Convention on their recommendations.

Respectfully submitted:

By unanimous vote of the members present at the OSFA 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Volunteer Caucus, Chair Travis Fortune