

2018 Montana Fire Trustee Association Conference

Questions facilitated by Speaker Don Cox

This question was asked to trustees: If you could ask your Fire Chief one critical and important question, what would it be?

Answers:

1. What changes in strategic direction do you see coming? (No change is not a good answer)?
2. Should we consider using non-traditional fire fighters? Or utilize volunteers from another organization?
3. How do you prioritize the tasks you work on?
4. What is your succession plan?
5. Why don't we have any women on the department?
6. What is our biggest internal risk?
7. Who would you recommend to replace you due to retirement or medical issue.
8. What have you done to cover your position, in your absence?
9. What can the Board of Trustees do that would be most helpful to you and the Department?
10. What does the fire department need for equipment?
11. How many hours do you actually put in each month?
12. Are you comfortable that the fire fighters you send into the community are properly trained and can operate safely on the scene?
13. What do we need to do to get all the radio equipment up to speed?
14. Do you promote officers because of their training and experience or do you promote them because they've been there for a long time and you really like them?
15. Do all the firefighter have all the training they need and they do the training in the right way?
16. Who is in place if you die suddenly or experience a personal emergency that prevents you from functioning in your role?
17. What can we do to make your job more _____?
18. How are you monitoring the training and skills of each of your fire fighters?
19. How are you assigning duties to fire fighters based on knowledge and skill levels?
20. You seemed overwhelmed. We are concerned!
21. Are we truly getting the necessary response to our EMS and fire calls?
22. How can I help you do your job better?
23. What are our policies and expectations/ as a trustee for me?
24. Chief, are you working on a social media policy?
25. What can we do to help you?
26. Why are fire trucks red or why are some other colors?
27. What should I do if no officers respond and I'm the senior fire fighter?
28. What may fire or EMS personnel do we truly need to be sufficiently staffed?
29. Do you have the human resources you need with the training they need to do the job you are expected to do?