

February 28, 2026

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the Oelwein City Council,

As you may be aware, the Oelwein Fire Department has been selected to host the 2027 and 2028 Iowa Firefighters Association Annual Conventions. We are honored to bring this distinguished event to Oelwein and are excited for the opportunity to showcase our community, our public safety agencies, and the surrounding area.

This weeklong event is expected to draw participants from across the State of Iowa, with the possibility of attendance from neighboring states as well. The convention will provide a meaningful economic impact to our community, as attendees will patronize local businesses, dine at local restaurants, and utilize various services throughout their stay. Participants will be accommodated in a temporary campground organized and managed by the Oelwein Fire Department.

On Saturday of the convention week, the state competitions will be held in the downtown district. This event is anticipated to generate significant foot traffic, offering additional opportunities for local retailers and restaurants. We also plan to invite area organizations and food vendors to participate. The contests will take place for the majority of the day, further contributing to community engagement and economic activity.

Throughout the week, additional events will include golf and bowling tournaments, both of which traditionally attract strong participation from convention attendees. In addition, Co-Ed, Women's, and Old Timers Waterball competitions will be held during the convention.

Members of the Oelwein Fire Department are diligently working on the planning and organization of this event. We look forward to collaborating with the City Council, the City of Oelwein, and the many volunteers who will contribute to making this convention a success.

Thank you for your continued support and for allowing us to host this important event in our community.

I have included a few items of reference for your review.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Derifield
Convention Committee Chair

Denny Haar
Convention Committee Co-Chair

Matt Baerg
Treasurer

Kate Derifield
Secretary

Sean Emery
Board Member

Zach Shannon
Board Member

Jason Hoveland
Board Member

Tim Palmer
Board Member

Paul Millhouse
Board Member