

Billings County Rural Fire Prot. Dist. and the City of Medora is getting ready to host the 2023 ND Firefighters Convention in Medora on June 1,2 &3. Here is a list of hotels and campgrounds along with a short bio and learning topics from our keynote speaker. If you have any questions in the meantime feel free to contact the Billings County Fire Chief, Kyle Shockley @ 701-690-0041.

#### **Views From The Other Side Of The Desk:**

Leading in any organization is a challenge. Leading and all career, all-volunteer, or combination staff adds its own unique challenges to mix. Realizing that not all members have the same motivations and that generally speaking, firefighters cannot stand change or the way things are, you may quickly find yourself struggling to tread water in the leadership world. This program will examine those things that you wish someone would have told you before taking a leadership role in your department as well as some of the things you need to know if you are looking to lead down the road. As we come up through the ranks it is common to have questions about rules, procedures, and tactics. This is not a bad thing, as it is necessary to question things to improve them or realize they are fine the way they are. However, as we climb the rungs of the leadership ladder, we often find that the view will change and that things look very different from the other side of the desk.

#### **Shaping your Volunteer Fire Department to Fit Today's Expectations:**

Is your Volunteer fire department struggling to maintain relevance in our changing society? Does your current service delivery model meet the needs and expectations of your community? Are you struggling to recruit, train, and retain members? Each day, it seems that the news feeds contain a story about a volunteer department closing its doors, in financial trouble, or even worse legal trouble. There seems to be a nationwide panic about the critical shortage of volunteers. Does it have to be this way? In this class we will: examine how industry and society trends impact today's volunteer fire service, take a hard look at the way we've always done it, as well as share and develop alternative ways to recruit, market, lead, train and manage our departments and members.



**Brandon Fletcher** is the chief of the Gilt Edge (TN) Fire Department and a 22-year student of the fire service. He is a second-generation firefighter with a background as both a volunteer and career firefighter. Chief Fletcher holds a bachelor of science from the University of Tennessee Martin, is a graduate of the Texas A&M Fire Service Chief Executive Officer program, and is a designated Chief Fire Officer and Chief Training Officer through the Center for Public Safety Excellence. He is also a member of the Institution of Fire Engineers, serves on the Fire Service Occupational Safety and Fire Officer Professional Qualifications NFPA technical committees, and is a commissioner for the Center for Public Safety Excellence Commission on Professional Credentialing.