Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association
October 16, 2019

President Brittingham called the 1041th meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at Station 53, Leipsic Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Auxiliary members of the station,

The meeting was called back to order at 7:50 pm.

Vice President O'Neal presented the gratuities and conveyed our thanks and appreciation to the Auxiliary members of Station 53. Justin Grimminger the Vice President of Leipsic Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President O'Neal gave the response.

It was motioned, seconded and carried to deviate from the proper order of business to install the new officers for 2019-2020.

President Brittingham thanked his officers and the members of the association for their support during his presidency.

DVFA President Jay Jones said that it was an honor to install the officers tonight.

The installation of the 2019-2020 officers was done by DVFA President Jay Jones.

President	Benny O'Neal
1st Vice President	Mark Langford
2nd Vice President	Gerald L Manley JR
Secretary	Kenneth Steele
Treasurer	Shirley Pennington
Chaplain	Rich Walton
Assistant Chaplain	Allan Post - absent
Directors	Chris Davila
	Jeff Eisenbrey- absent
	Carroll Jester- absent
	Ralph Satterfield
	Marvin Sharp
	Jim Wozniki

A presentation from the Levy Court was made to Pablo Reyes for his dedication as the Secretary for 13 years.

A resolution from the KCVFA was presented to Pablo Reyes for his tenure as Secretary for 13 years. Flowers were given to Pablo to be given to his wife.

The commissioners from Levy Court were on hand to present checks from the county to all of the fire companies. It was stated that the total monies have increased from $300,000 to over $900,000 over the years with no increase of taxes.

Past President pins were presented by President O'Neal to Past President Brittingham and Past President Dennison.

It was motioned, seconded and carried to go back to the normal order of business.

Roll Calls: Officers: 9 present, 4 absent; Companies: 18 present, 2 absent; Past Presidents: 12 KCVFA, 10 DVFA, and 8 Fire Company Presidents.

Introduction of Guests:

DVFA – President Jay Jones passed to Ken Ryder to report on the DVFA.

Ken spoke about the Recruitment & Retention Task Force. They met last week for their first meeting. The Chair will be John Mitchell and the Co-Chair will be Senator Bruce Ennis. The first meeting was basically a discussion group. There was a presentation from the DVFA. The next meeting will be on 10-30-2019 at 1:00 pm at Legislative Hall. There will be other items discussed going forward and possibly hold some evening meetings. All of the meetings will be on the public calendar and are open to the public. All are welcome to attend when you have time. Ken thanked everyone who attended the conference this year. There were around 1,500 people that registered this year. the seminars were well attended. There were over 800 people who attended the opening ceremonies and the Memorial Service. There were 44 vendors inside and 23 pieces of apparatus outside. Evaluation sheets were handed out to be filled out by the attendees. They will help us to plan the activities for the next conference. The conference wrap up meeting was held this past Monday night. If you have any suggestions for next year, please contact someone on the conference committee or one of the DVFA Officers. The DVFA is looking at upgrading the DVFA website to make it more user friendly. If you have any input for the website, please contact one of the DVFA Officers. Ken thanked Station 53 members and officers for their hospitality.

President O'Neal called for a recess at 8:24 pm to allow our visitors to leave if they wish.

President O'Neal called the meeting back to order at 8:29 pm.

DVFA – Ken Ryder announced the officers that are here tonight, President Jay Jones, Secretary Elmer Steele, Directors Benny O'Neal, Jim Wozniki, Ken Ryder and Executive Manager Warren Jones.

State Fire Chief's Association – No report.

State EMS – No report.

DVFA Ladies Auxiliary – No report.

State Fire Police Association – Robert Lightcap thanks for the recognition.

DVFA Conference – Joe Zeroles said that they have started on next year's conference.

State Fire Prevention Commission – Alan Robinson said that Commissioners Marvel & Betts are here tonight. Alan read the attached report.

Delaware State Fire School – No Report

State Fire Marshal's Office – No Report.

Legislature – Senator Bruce Ennis said that the General Assembly is not in session at this time. Bruce reported on HCR-50 which deals with the Task Force for Recruitment and Retention. Bruce spoke about SB-126 which allows firefighters presumption benefits. There are several items that are included in this bill. It also includes Fire Marshalls and Fire School Instructors. It did pass the Senate and is currently in the House. Bruce said that in the 149th GA, HB-53 was allowed certain fireworks to be legal in the state. The bill allowed fireworks to be used on 7/4 and 12/31 by the general public. There was a senate amendment put on this bill that required a lookback for three years for injuries. SB-53 was passed this year to deal added another five-day festival for fireworks. On the last day of session, HB-247 was introduced and it removed the lookback provision that was approved. This means that the Fire Marshall's office cannot look back at injuries due to fireworks.

Kent County Fire Chief's Association – No report.

Kent County Fire Police Association – Leon stated that the association is still active and helping in the community. Leon said that their next meeting will be on 11-19-2019 at Station 53.

Kent County Emergency Medical Services Committee – No Report

Kent County Ladies Auxiliary –President Sandy Robinson thanked the association for the recognition. Sandy stated that tonight, they have Past President Shirley Pennington, Past President Deb Lawhead, 1st Vice President Melinda Jackson, Secretary Chris Davila, Assistant Secretary Donna Sivley, Assistant Treasurer Kim O'Malley. Sandy said that the next meeting will be on 11-26-2019 at Station 56.

Kent County Levy Court – Terry Pepper reported that at last night's Levy Court meeting we finalized plans for the new Paramedic station on RT 8 west of Dover. It will be going out for bid. The estimated time for this project is about 9 months.

Kent Center Emergency Dispatch Center – No Report

Kent County EMS (Paramedics) – No Report

New Castle County Volunteer Firemen's Association – Jim Watson brought greeting from NCC. The President could not be here tonight due to his work schedule. With me tonight is Secretary Debra Watson, Past President Warren Jones. Our next meeting will be at Station 26 on 11-7-2019 at 7:00 pm with cocktails at 6:00 pm. We had to cancel the fund raiser at Delaware City on 10-18-2019. Jim said that they have gun raffle tickets for the Delaware Valley Fire Chiefs tonight. They are $5 each or 5 for $20. They also have tickets for pretzels at $1 each. They have four different flavors. There is a Dine & Donate at Chilis at the Christiana Mall on 10/29/2019 from 11:00 am until close. Please see me for a flyer.

Sussex County Volunteer Firemen's Association – Thanks for the recognition.

State Recruitment and Retention – No report

Mutual Relief – Steve White had nothing to report. The payment deadline is 1/31/2020.

DEMA – No report

Delmarva Firefighter's Association – Elmer Steele reported the next meeting will be on 11/3/2019 at Gumboro at 1:00 pm with the committee meetings at 12:00 pm.

ICHIEFS – Bill Betts had no report.

It was motioned, seconded and carried to approve the meeting minutes for September 2019.

Deceased Members: It was reported that there was one death since the last meeting. Milford Pettit from Station 47. Prayers were spoken by our chaplain Rich Walton.

Report of Officers: All submitted or to be submitted in written or electronic form.

2nd Vice President Gerald L Manley JR thanked the association for allowing him to take this role in the organization. Gerald also thanked his friends and family for being here tonight to support him in this endeavor. Gerald said that he will be chairing many committees and hopes to get a lot accomplished in 2019-2020.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Shirley Pennington report of ending balances as of September 30, 2019: *Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – $18,412.36; Special Operations Fund – $17,109.24;* Money Market – $18,011.39; *Smoke Detector Fund – $806.60; Firefighter's Relief Fund – $9,335.15;* Checking Account – $10,075.60; Total of all CD's – $17,681.62; Total funds – $35,626.86 *not including Scholarship, Special Ops Funds, Relief or Smoke Detector Funds*. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the Treasurer's Reports.

Written or Email Correspondence: 2 items. One item was a letter from the Clayton Fire Company designating the delegates and alternates. The other item was a congratulation card from the KCLA for the new officers.

Report of Committees:

Fire Prevention committee – Theresa reported that she received a message from Muriel that all fire prevention packets are due to the fire school by 11-8-2019. The judging will be on 11-10-2019. The awards ceremony will be on 12-8-2019. There will be more information forthcoming. It was reported that the County Banquet will be on 2-29-2019 at Station 48.

Payment of Bills: Shirley Pennington reported that there are two bills to be paid tonight. They are reimbursement to Shirley Pennington for Appreciation Night items for $96.40, Graves Uniforms for officer badges for $254.00, RWM Embroidering for the officer's shirts for $306.82 and Past President expenses for $552.84. It was motioned, seconded and carried to pay the bills

Unfinished Business:

The budget for 2019-2020 was presented by Treasurer Shirley Pennington. It was motioned, seconded and carried to approve the budget.

Past President Michael Brittingham asked about the status of the name change that was brought up at the last DVFA meeting to remove the work volunteer from that name. It was asked to see how much it would cost to do this.

New Business:
None

Good of the Association:

It was asked who to contact for the smoke detectors. It was stated to contact the Fire Marshall's office.

President O'Neal said that the new 2019-2020 Committee list is on the front table. If you would like to be on a committee or get off of a committee, please let one of the table officers know. A copy was put in each folder for the companies tonight.

President O'Neal said that it was an honor to be here and thanks for the support from both of my companies. He said that he is looking for a very prosperous year.

Treasurer Shirley Pennington said that the KCVFA dues letters will go out and they are due by 12-31-2019. She also said that she received the check from the county for the Special-Ops team.

President O'Neal stated that the Pension notices that were returned due to bad addresses are being returned to the individual fire companies to get the correct addresses and update the pension information for these members. Please see Deb Lawhead before leaving to get your pension letters.

Brandon stated that the Fire Police an Auxiliary are doing the Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army on 12-7-2019.

Deb Lawhead stated that the pension return letters have been returned to the proper fire companies.

Jim Watson stated that the NCCVFA donates $150 to Reach Across America. It will be on 12-14-2019.

50-50 – Donna Sivley

Benediction was given by Rich Walton.

The next meeting will be at Station 54 Little Creek Fire Company – November 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn at 9:04 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R Steele, Secretary

Delaware State Fire Commission Report
October 16, 2019

The Commission met on October 15, 2019, at the Fire School in Dover.

- State Fire Marshal Engle reported that DelMarVa Power has donated 1,000 smoke alarms this year.
- Director Newnam reported that National Registry has deleted the age requirement from testing, but the Fire School will continue with the testing age at 18.
- Dr. Matthews reported that the flu is here. Get your flu shot!
- Investigator Truax reported that Prime Care is closing its doors. There is no final date yet. They have contacted other private services to take over their clients.
- Lydia Massey, from the Governor's Office, went over our code. She has cleaned up some of the language and asked us to change the term of office for Commissioners. Currently it is 2, 6-year terms (if desired by the appointee, and, is reappointed by the Governor). We are looking at either 3, 4-years terms or 4, 3-years terms. The maximum will remain at 12 years, if the appointee desires, and, is reappointed by the Governor.
- The Ambulance Regulations should be finalized by February 2020.
- Kent County had no companies listed on the Quarterly Scratch Report.
- The Commission Voted to allow the Fire Marshal to fill a vacancy.
- The Commission voted to accept 2 Consent Agreements (#1914 and #1915).
- The Chairman is going to appoint a committee (3 Commissioners and 3 from DVFA) to look into the matters brought up by the Mill Creek Fire Company last month - the power(s) of the State Fire Prevention Commission. It will probably be more oversight on fire companies and some standards.

The next meeting is November 16, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Robinson, Jr.
Vice Chairman