



## Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association

February 19, 2020

President O'Neal called the 1044<sup>th</sup> meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Station 56, Marydel Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Auxiliary members of the station,

The meeting was called back to order at 7:29 pm by President O'Neal.

Vice President Manley presented the gratuities and conveyed our thanks and appreciation to the Auxiliary members of Station 56. Les States, President of Marydel Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President Manley gave the response.

**Roll Calls:** Officers: 10 present, 3 absent;  
Companies: 18 present, 2 absent; Past Presidents:  
13 KCVFA, 7 DVFA, and 6 Fire Company Presidents.

### Introduction of Guests:

**DVFA** – President Jay Jones said that an email went out today with a proposed draft for the oversight of the fire service to the Fire Commission. There will be a special meeting on 4-5-2020 at 10:00 am at the DSFS to vote on this measure. Jay asked all who are going to CFSI to take advantage of all of the seminars that are offered.

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

Ken spoke about the recruitment & Retention Task Force. Ken stated that they will be meeting at Leg Hall on 3-15-2020 at 10:00 am. The website is being rebuilt. For the new president's and chief's, please fill out the officer's form from the fire commission. On the CFSI Dinner on 4-30-2020 at 7:00 pm in Washington, D.C. at the Hilton, the Clayton Fire Company will be honored. The forms for the CFSI Dinner are on the DVFA website. As Jay Jones, the DVFA special meeting will be held on 4-5-2020 at 10:00 am to vote on the draft legislation. Ken spoke about the DVFA scholarship. The forms are on the DVFA website. They have been emailed to all of the companies. With me tonight is Secretary Elmer Steele, Treasurer Terry Whitham, Director Jim Wozniki and President Jay Jones.

**State Fire Chief's Association** – Andy Hall was reported that the next meeting will be at Station 15 on 1-30-2020. We are having a national speaker at the

meeting. Cocktails at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

**DVFA Ladies Auxiliary** – Deb Loghead thanked the association for the recognition and everything is going well.

**DVFA Conference** – Joe Zeroles reported that the next meeting will be at Dover Downs on 3-16-2020.

**State Fire Police Association** – No report

**State Fire Prevention Commission** – Ron Marvel stated that Alan Robinson JR will give the attached report. Here tonight is Bill Betts, Ron Marvel and Alan Robinson JR.

**Delaware State Fire School** – No report

**Legislature** – Senator Bruce Ennis stated that they are not in session at this time. Bruce spoke about the 800 mhz radio system. Bruce said that the fire service was not on the replacement for the radios. Bruce said that there is no new legislation. The presumption bill is still in committee.

**Kent County Levy Court** – Terry Pepper spoke about the new paramedic station on RT 8. It has been designed and will go out for bid by this fall. They have purchased the property next to the west. Levy Court will be increasing the funds for the Kent County Fire Companies this year.

**State EMS** – Albert Schrack thanked everyone that attended the three county protocols open house. Our next meeting will be on 3-7-2020 at 9:00 am at the DSFS. We are hosting a quarter auction fund raiser. If you have anything that you can donate for this event, it would be appreciated. The monies from the quarter auction will be used to acquire speakers for the two days at conference.

**State Fire Marshal's Office** – No Report.

**Kent County Fire Chief's Association** – Shirley Pennington stated that the next meeting will be on 3-11-2020 at Station 57 at 7:00 pm.

**Kent County Fire Police Association** – Leon Hyde stated that the meeting schedule got changed. Our next meeting will be on 3-17-2020 at 7:00 pm at

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Station 55. With me tonight is our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Irv Ross, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Bill Carrow, Secretary Randy Wood, Chaplain Robert Yerkes, Past Officers Joe Zerolles & Les States and Assistant Secretary Nosh Williams JR.

**Kent County Emergency Medical Services Committee** – No Report

**Kent County Ladies Auxiliary** – President Sandy Robinson thanked the association for the recognition. With me tonight is Past President Deb Loghead, Secretary Christine Davila and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Tara Wilbur. Our next meeting is 3-24-2020 at Station 47. This meeting is our basket fund raiser.

**Kent Center Dispatch Center** – No Report

**Kent County EMS (Paramedics)** – No Report

**New Castle County Volunteer Firemen's Association** – Mike McMichaels said that their next meeting is on 4-9-2020 at Station 18.

**Sussex County Volunteer Firemen's Association** – Thanks for the recognition. It was stated that the next meeting will be on 2-25-2020 at 7:00 pm at Station 73.

**State Recruitment and Retention** – No report

**Mutual Relief** – Steve White said that their next meeting will be on 2-20-2020 at Station 49. Steve said that everyone is paid up. Steve said that he received a phone call last week that someone has passed away last year and they were unaware of the death benefit. We have offered to come to any company to explain the benefits.

**DEMA** – No report

**Delmarva Firefighter's Association** – Elmer Steele stated that the information that was sent out was incorrect. Elmer said that the convention will be on 4-30-2020, 5-1-2020 & 5-2-2020 in Berlin, MD. The packets were mailed out by Berlin Fire Company and the packets were incomplete. If you received the packet, please go on the Berlin Fire Company website and print off the forms that your packet is missing. The paperwork needs to be returned by 3-1-

2020. They need at least 25 registrations for the parade for it to be held. If the parade is cancelled, the apparatus will be displayed in the parking lot and trophies will be awarded.

**ICHIEFS** – No report.

**NVFC** – No report

It was motioned, seconded and carried to approve the KCVFA meeting minutes for January 2020.

**Deceased Members:** It was reported that there were two deceased members. Robert Riddagh from Station 44 and Melvin Wyatt from Station 50. Prayers were spoken by our Assistant Chaplain Rich Walton.

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

Report from 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Manley. The bylaws have been changed and a copy is in each folder for the companies. It was stated that a binder was given to each company last year and the new bylaws should be put in that binder.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report for January 2020 is attached. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the Treasurer's Report.

**Written or Email Correspondence:** We received two letters changing their delegates & alternates.

**Report of Committees:** President O'Neal stated that next month is Military Appreciation. Shirley Pennington asked any company that has new members in the military, please let her know so we can get them on the list.

Roland Neeman Appreciation Dinner will be on 2-29-2020 at Station 48. The doors will open at 5:00 pm and dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. After dinner, the program will take place and the Firefighter of the Year will be awarded as well as the Auxiliary Member of the Year. There will be some special presentations as well. After that there will be an auction, door prizes and a 50/50. There will be three auctioneers this year.

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Firefighter of the Year - The committee has met and the winner will be presented at the Roland Neeman Appreciation Dinner.

Firefighter Helping Hands - President O'Neal stated that they had a meeting. There was a lot of discussion. The information will be sent out to the Kent County Presidents one compiled. We received information from New Castle.

Recruitment & Retention Committee. Theresa stated that the committee are delivering cakes to all of the Kent County Fire Companies. We are starting at the North end of the county and working South. Last week, while I was picking up the cake, I was approached by a person who was bashing the Kent County Fire Companies. This is to thank the fire companies for what they do for the citizens of Kent County.

Resolutions – Bruce Ennis stated that there is one to be presented at the Appreciation Dinner.

Scholarship Committee – It was reported that the packets will be out by 3-1-2020.

Sunshine Committee – Rich Walton said that they have a presentation. Rich said that we need to take care of our members.

**Payment of Bills:** Shirley Pennington reported that there are bills for February 2020 to be paid tonight. They are attached to the minutes. It was motioned, seconded and carried to pay the bills.

**Unfinished Business:** NONE

### **New Business:**

Kevin Wilson stated that over the years this association has talked about changing the meeting schedule from monthly to quarterly.

A motion was made, seconded and carried that the President appoint a committee to look into our meeting schedule and bring the information back to this association.

President O'Neal appointed a committee to look into changing our meeting schedule. The Chairperson will be Kevin Wilson, Steve White, Jeff Dennison and Bob Yerkes.

President O'Neal stated that each company needs to have a harassment policy that each member must attend once a year.

Ralph Satterfield asked about the \$200 that we give to the Auxiliary for the meal. Ralph asked why we are doing this. It was stated that this was voted on at the meeting on 5-15-2019 and this is out of order.

### **Good of the Association:**

Kevin Wilson stated that Nick Sawyer's mother passed away. The services will be on Tuesday at the Torbert Funeral Home from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

President O'Neal said that we need to clean our own houses and we do not need any adverse publicity.

Shirley Pennington asked anyone who wants the Challenge Coin from Station 49, Chris Davila has them with her tonight. Shirley also said that the KCFP Schedule has changed. There was new copies on the front table.

Glen Gillespie stated that today, he went to visit the Assisted Living residence and visited with Dave Snell. Glen stated that Dave has limited mobility and welcomes visitors. This facility is on S State ST in Dover, DE. His room is in room 224. Dave was a past president of this association. Dave's cell number is 302-233-2833. He would like a phone call.


It was suggested that flowers are sent to Dave Snell.

*The next meeting will be at Station 57 South Bowers Fire Company – March 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.*

50-50 – Terry Pepper (he donated his winnings back to the scholarship)  
Benediction was given by Chaplain Rich Walton.

It was motioned, seconded and carried to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth R Steele, Secretary