



## Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association

January 17, 2018

Vice President Brittingham called the 1021<sup>st</sup> meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at Station 50, Harrington Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Auxiliary of the station, Vice President O'Neal conveyed our thanks and appreciation to the Auxiliary of the station. Ryan Welch, President of Harrington Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President O'Neal gave the response.

**Roll Calls:** Officers: 10 present, 3 absent; Companies: 19 present, 1 absent; *Past Presidents:* 14 KCVFA, 10 DVFA, and 8 Fire Company.

### Introduction of Guests:

**DVFA** – President Richard Perillo, turned the report over to, Bill Betts – Joint Finance Committee meeting is February 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. and Legislative Priorities this year are to have mutual aid back up to 100 percent, also add \$1,000,000 to the revolving loan fund, we also want \$75,000 for leveling up 50/50 monies in Fire Prevention Awards, and check out the Survey Monkey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K7QSY8V>) for your opinion on the symposium and location of future conference. As was stated in the paper the State has adopted the plan for First Net from AT&T and we will be offered a good rate on cell phones. Your Pension billing list is due by January 22<sup>nd</sup> with monies due in by February 15<sup>th</sup> to the Treasurer. Tax Credit information for the \$400 return needs to be in by January 31<sup>st</sup> to the Department of Finance.

**State Fire Chief's Association** – Andy Hall, next meeting January 25<sup>th</sup> 2018 are Fire Station 26 with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker is Chief Dickerson from Lexington, VA. Pleased to announce we have partnered up with First Net and they are giving us a \$5000.00 grant to run the Cardio Kinetics program. We currently have 12 officers going through.

**State EMS** – Mike McMichael, our next meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Fire School. Not sure who is administering the Narcan. They don't care who administers they will document it so they can get us some supplies and looking for a fund to develop that. DFIRs has been revived with no problems yet. Last September PJ Gosch had medical issues and she is now doing much better and back to work.

**DVFA Ladies Auxiliary** – No Report

**State Fire Police Association** – Les States, thanks for the recognition our next meeting will be February 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Fire School.

**DVFA Conference** – Charlie Frampton, our meeting is next Monday night at 7:00 p.m. at Dover Downs.

**State Fire Prevention Commission** – Ron Marvel, we had our meeting yesterday, we got the Red Light monies from the State of Delaware with the following figures of \$34.77 per run for a total of \$2,026,000 in only six months. Fire School Report? To come up with a Weather Policy. Narcan, a Pharmacy in New Castle has given 1000 doses to the New Castle County Firefighters Association. But the Department of Health and Social Services has 600 to 800 doses and trying to figure out in next 3 – 4 weeks on how to make available to Kent and Sussex Counties. If you are a Fire School Instructor and you get a letter from the State that you cannot be a Fire School Instructor anymore because you haven't taught a class in the last six months please call Biff. I have the Red-Light Report for those interested.

**Delaware State Fire School** – No Report

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

**Legislature** – Senator Bruce Ennis, we just went into the 149<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. Last year we had 11 bills related to the Fire and Ambulance Service with 3 that carried over still pending. SB 91, valves for carbon monoxide detectors in any kind of lodging establishment. HB 192 for special license plates for EMT's. HB 243 authorized Fire Prevention Commission to insure Volunteer Fire Companies comply with the Audit Requirements on the findings of the Review Task Force. Another about to be introduced would allow EMT's and Volunteer Firefighter's to administer an antidote for Opioid overdose.

**Kent County Fire Chief's Association** – Mark Langford, thanks for the recognition our next meeting is in Hartly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday next month.

**Kent County Fire Police Association** – Mike Berry, thanks for the recognition our next meeting is February 20<sup>th</sup> in Felton.

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

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**Kent County Ladies Auxiliary** – Sandra Robinson, thank you for the recognition, at our last meeting we collect \$97 for the Helping Hands Fund and have brought a check for the Helping Hands Fund, our next meeting is January 23<sup>rd</sup> in Hartly.

**Kent County Levy Court** – No Report

**KC Emergency Dispatch Center** – No Report

**KC Emergency Management Agency** – No Report

**KC Emergency Medical Services (Paramedics)** – No Report

**New Castle County Volunteer Firemen's Association** – Jim Watson, next meeting is February 8<sup>th</sup> at Delaware City.

**Sussex County Volunteer Firemen's Association** – Ron Marvel, next meeting is January 23<sup>rd</sup> at Station 2 in Lewis.

**State Recruitment and Retention** – No Report

**Mutual Relief** – Steve White, reminder any additions need to be in by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Death Benefit, the person must be an active member at that time. When you go from one station to another it changes. You may not be covered the first year.

**DEMA** – No Report

**NVFC** – No Report

**Delmarva Firefighter's Association** – No Report

**International Chief's** – No Report

*A motion was made, seconded, and carried for approval of the minutes of the KCVFA November meeting as printed. (Typo name correction under Good of the Association Lawson to Lawhead)*

**Deceased Members:** Station 45 – James E. Turner III, Station 44 – Thomas Tucker

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Robert Yerkes report of ending balances as of January 1, 2018: Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – \$13,142.01; Special Operations Fund – \$43,060.28; Money Market – \$19,925.47; Smoke Detector Fund – \$806.60; Checking Account – \$11,384.88; Total of all CD's – \$17,593.68; Total funds – \$48,904.03 not including Scholarship & Special Ops Funds. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the Treasurer's Report.

**Written or Email Correspondence:** 5 letters, 1<sup>st</sup> letter from Citizens' Hose Company appointing their Primary and Alternate Delegates to the KCVFA. 2<sup>nd</sup> letter from Hartly Volunteer Fire Company naming their Primary and Alternate Delegates to the KCVFA. 3<sup>rd</sup> letter from Leipsic Volunteer Fire Company naming their Primary and Alternate Delegates to the KCVFA. 4<sup>th</sup> letter from Rev. Blake Bowers reminding everyone that February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentines Day and to make a special effort to thank our spouses and families. 5<sup>th</sup> letter is from Bowers Fire Company announcing that Jeff Dennison has been relieved of all Bowers Fire Company duties and cannot represent Bowers Fire Company in any County Association.

**Report of Committees:**

County Banquet Night – Murielle Gillespie, some confusion has occurred on the Banquet Tickets this year. To clarify we initially issued invoices for 10 tickets to all Fire Companies. If you wanted more all you had to do was make it for that amount and we would see you got the tickets. Last day we can take money for tickets is February 1<sup>st</sup> to get a hold of me call 302-422-5430 for tickets. Check your folders some invoices were still in them.

EMS Committee – Mike Brittingham, I should have names for the Committee next month and a check in the amount of \$4459.49 and was turned over to Steve White to be earmarked for the EMS Committee.

Fire Prevention Committee – Mike Brittingham, thanks to the Fire Prevention Committee for all the hard work and congratulations to the 5 winners.

**Payment of Bills:** By Treasurer Robert Yerkes, \$68.97 – RWM Embroidery & More (2 Shirts, 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.); \$99.50 – M&M Trophies & Awards (Pocket Badge, B. O'Neal); A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills.

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### Unfinished Business:

None

### New Business:

Vice President Brittingham, a timeline of events with regards to letter from Bowers Fire Company. On December 7<sup>th</sup> I received a telephone call informing me that Jeff Denison was arrested 7 counts of child endangerment and offensive touching. I received a call from his home company explaining the letter you got, which I asked for in writing and received it on December 8<sup>th</sup>. On December 7<sup>th</sup> I had reached out to President Perillo to make him aware of the situation and get his feedback. On December 8<sup>th</sup> I sent an email to Jeff Dennison using the same verbiage as his home Company and I placed him on Administrative Leave (Suspension) pending the outcome of a court trial. I contacted all the officers after that stating we take no position. We would let the criminal justice system do its duty. Everyone is innocent until proven guilty. Following that I turned to the By-laws, they were very vague. Letter required from the home company for the office. It says nothing after you are already a candidate. I turned to Past Presidents and then I went back to the By-Laws Article 5 Section 8 where it is stated "*The Directors shall investigate all matters as assigned ..... affecting the efficiency of the Association, and report their findings and ..... to the Association.*" At the State meeting, I met with the BOD and turned this over to them. Last night I found out from Jeff Dennison that he goes to trial on February 8<sup>th</sup> and as of now they are showing all misdemeanor charges. After talking to the BOD tonight, we decided to wait until February 8<sup>th</sup> and if found not guilty on all charges then go through process of reinstatement. If Jeff Dennison is found guilty then he will turn that information into us and I will turn it over to the BOD and they will report back next month and we will determine as a group/body on what the right course of action to take after that. To make sure we are on the same page come the 8<sup>th</sup> if he pleads guilty or is convicted of any crime it will be turned over to our BOD and they will review and report back their findings on the trial at the next meeting. Then the Association will determine what to do via motion and vote. Vice President Brittingham then tabled it until the February meeting.

### Good of the Association:

Mike Brittingham, thanks to Secretary Reyes for help and Past Presidents of the Association for their help, advice, and keeping things in check, thanks again and appreciation.

Jeff Eisenbrey, Flyers on the table for our Sportsman's Show, I have tickets tonight.

Debra Lawhead, thanks to Camden-Wyoming and Magnolia for coming out to the Kids Winter Carnival.

Ken Ryder, Station 48 Shrimp Feast coming up on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> 5 to 7 p.m. \$45 per ticket.

Mike Brittingham, in your folders are applications and benefits for membership in the National Volunteer Fire Counsel and we (KCVFA) are looking for an Assistant Chaplain.

50-50 – George Pyott

Conference Souvenir –

*The next meeting will be at Station 51, Hartly – February 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.*

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to adjourn at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pablo Reyes, Jr., Secretary