



Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association

February 19, 2014

President Brode called the 979th meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Station 47, Farmington Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Ladies Auxiliary of the station, Vice President Dempsey conveyed our thanks to the Auxiliary. Ronnie Vincent, President of the Farmington Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President Dempsey gave the response.

Roll Calls: Officers: 10 present, 4 absent; Companies: 18 present, 1 absent; Past Presidents: 15 KCVFA, 8 DVFA, and 12 Fire Company Presidents.

Introduction of Guests:

DVFA –Richard Toulson, officers of the DVFA met for a short meeting with the Governor on January 2nd. We are looking at trying to get our paid people on the states benefit program. Information coming from the EMS Task Force is tremendous and thanks to all those involved especially Senator Ennis. We contribute to the state by way of possible salaries in the amount of \$20 million. The governor stated he would like to sit down with us again once the report is finalized. We are running our ambulance service state-wide to a deficit of \$8.5 million. We met with the JFC and after a very lengthy report of things that need to be addressed. We are also looking at legislation with private insurance monies coming to us before going to other places. Senator Ennis will elaborate on this; he is a member of the JFC. CFSI, May 1st we are asking for maximum participation. Senator Coons had a press conference that we do not need to worry about Affordable Care Act as Volunteers we are not counted as employees. EMS Task Force Report is on the website. www.dvfassn.com. Earle Dempsey, Recruitment & Retention we are having a lot of things happening under PSA and advertising of all kinds to include a Facebook presence. Please ask everyone to check it out and like the page. We are asking for Company representatives for Recruitment so that we may pass on names and information as we get it. Firefighter of the Year applications for the Counties with promises of trips to FDIC, CFSI and other events the winner for Kent County was from Magnolia Deputy Chief & V.P. Buck Dougherty. Lastly, during 2nd week of April there will be a State Wide recognition of Delaware Volunteer Firefighters on April 8th with a meeting Legislative Hall and April 13th asking for Open House at all companies from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

State Fire Chief's Association – Jeff Denison, Thanks for the recognition.

State EMS Association – Mike McMichael, next meeting will be with the State Chiefs March 27th at Station 74 Delmar.

DVFA Ladies Auxiliary – No Report

State Fire Police Association – Alvin Schmick, thank you for the recognition.

DVFA Conference – John Stevenson, all contracts are out for the rooms and if you have one get it back in.

State Fire Prevention Commission – Ron Marvel defer to Marvin Sharp, met yesterday for a quiet meeting. One public hearing gentleman failed to file his EDEN reports. Also the company was brought under investigation because they did not have a QA/QI = Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement. This is an important issue so make sure the rest you have something in the works or in place.

Delaware State Fire School – No Report

State Fire Marshal's Office – No Report

Legislature – Representative Bob Outten, thanks for the recognition. Senator Bruce C. Ennis, issues of paid employees do have access to state benefits. A women EMT was in the plan at Brandywine 100 but when she went to Belvedere she could not get on the plan even though she was a member at Brandywine 100. I will brief Governor on what is going on. Copy of the EMS Task Force report for every company is out here and I want to thank all the members of the committee. It is also on the DVFA website. www.dvfassn.com/documents/83/20140219093209.pdf Self-insured companies are not paying the gross premium tax. Therefore what use to be \$200,000 is down to \$46,000 is because of self-insurance. There are many different methods being considered to re-coup the loss. Consider also that the State is also self-insured.

Kent County Fire Chief's Association – No Report

Kent County Fire Police Association – Les States, our next meeting is March 18, 2014 at Houston.

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Kent County Ambulance Association – Decontamination letters' will be reviewed, next meeting at Station 53.

Kent County Ladies Auxiliary –Debra Lawhead, March 22nd through the 28th need help with the food drive. We need vans all week March 25th we will be at Hartly.

Kent County Levy Court – Terry Pepper, happy to say that things are looking good and there will not be a tax increase. Next maybe we will be looking at \$700,000 and \$15,000 for Special Operations by April 28th. Anyone need anything contact me.

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 – No Report

Sussex County Volunteer Firemen's Association – No Report

State Recruitment and Retention – Tucker Dempsey, see DVFA report section.

Mutual Relief – Robert Yerkes, AD&D policy make sure you fill out the forms.

DEMA – Glenn Gillespie, thank you for the recognition.

NVFC – No Report

Special Guest – Drew Slater, representing John Carney talked about matching grants from USDA and an In house Grant Fair for the Fire Companies.

Rev. Bob Hudson is now the Delmarva Firemen's Association 1st Vice President and stills maintains office of the Chaplin.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried for approval of the minutes of the previous meeting as printed.

Deceased Members: None

Report of Officers – All submitted in written or electronic form. President Brode, at the end of January there was a need for more smoke detectors a special thanks to Jeff Denison.

Treasurer's Report –Treasurer Robert Yerkes report of ending balances as of February 1, 2014: Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – \$10,236.81; Money Market – \$23,591.06; Checking Account – \$8,683.25; Smoke Detector Fund – \$326.60; Total of all CD's – \$17,467.12; Total funds – \$49,741.43 A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report as read.

Written Correspondence – 1st letter, from the Citizens' Hose Fire Company designating their primary and alternate delegates to the KCVFA. 2nd letter from the Dover Fire Company designating their primary and alternate delegates to the KCVFA. 3rd letter from the Houston Volunteer Fire Company announcing their entry into the ambulance service and asking for assistance and expertise.

Report of Committees

C.I.S.M. – Blake Bowers, was deployed for Carlisle. Any incident where a death takes place please call and if, in doubt call us. This is only for the ones involved in the incident. Confidentiality law we are here to help. Call Kent Center they have contact information.

Honor Guard – Blake Bowers, 1st meeting is set for March 19th at 6:00 p.m. at Felton anyone interested in serving should attend. It will involve Flag Duties, Funeral's, ceremonial events, ect... available to all Kent County Stations.

Fire Advisory – Marvin Sharp, We wanted information by January 31st and we have only 3 reports. Funding support needs maximum participation in uniform or Fire Company Shirts at Levy Court on April 22nd

F.O.Y. – Paula King, F.O.Y will be announced at Appreciation Night and doors open at 5:00 p.m.

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Payment of Bills – \$9.20 – Robert Yerkes (Stamps), \$850.00 – Muriel Gillespie (Money for Banquet Door Prizes), \$225.00 – Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (2014 Dues), \$118.00 – M & M Trophies & Awards (Ladies Auxiliary of the Year Plaque); A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Bruce Ennis, Cyclist events, Poker Run Registration need coordinate Poker Rooms at 6 to 7 Fire Companies to benefit Wake-Up for Delaware.

A motion was made and seconded, and defeated to have dinner prior to the meeting start and start meeting at 7:00 p.m. Discussion on the motion was the logistics of many Fire Companies to get people to work the dinner. Some are just getting out of work and would not be able to help with an earlier dinner time.

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to pay the bills for the Banquet on Saturday.

Good of the Association

Al Metheny, Oyster & Ham dinner March 1st 3 to 7 p.m.

Ed Angwin, Be advised that Little Creek Road will be closed.

50-50 – Ed Angwin Conference Souvenir – N/A

The next meeting will be at Felton Fire Company, Station 48– March 19, 2014 (Military Appreciation Night)

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to adjourn at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pablo Reyes, Jr., Secretary