



Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association

March 28, 2018

President Dennison called the 1023rd meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at Station 52, Houston Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Auxiliary of the station, Vice President Brittingham conveyed our thanks and appreciation to the Auxiliary of the station. Frank Martire, President of Houston Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President Brittingham gave the response.

Deviation of Business: *A motion was made, seconded, and carried to deviate from the regular order of business for two presentations. Another motion was made, seconded, and carried to have an Executive Session to handle a personnel matter with All KCVFA Director's, President of the DVFA, and Table Officer's. (1 no-vote requested to be identified as Deanna Dennison). President Dennison handed microphone over to Chaplain Rev Blake Bowers for the Military Appreciation presentation. Assistant Secretary Shirley Pennington assisted with the presentation as the names were called out by Chaplain Bowers. Secretary Pablo Reyes presented the awards. Chaplain Bowers asked for a round of applause for our newly awarded Firefighter Military Veteran's. There was a total of 23 names added and 2 subtracted from the roster for a total of 345 KCVFA Firefighter Military Veteran's.*

Ray Stevens made a detail presentation using the digital overhead projector on the disbursement of Grant and Aid Funding over an 11-year period. All the companies received a copy of his presentation numbers on one spreadsheet. Some discussion and applause followed. Microphone was handed back to President Dennison.

President Dennison, A motion was made, seconded, and carried to return to the regular order of business.

Roll Calls: Officers: 14 present, 0 absent; Companies: 18 present, 2 absent; Past Presidents: 10 KCVFA, 9 DVFA, and 6 Fire Company.

Introduction of Guests:

DVFA – President Perillo, we had a meeting last Monday with reference to the DVFA Conference, about the Dance on Friday Night. Looking at the December 10, 2017 Executive meeting “the DVFA is looking into sponsors for the dance” the membership has not approved to pay for dance. So, if you would like to do that, it can happen at June's meeting. As of now I will not sign the contract for that dance until approved by the DVFA body. Turned over to Vice President Bill Betts, once again we are still working on legislative items. You have seen an excellent presentation from Ray Stevens that showed what we lost. We are trying to get restoration of Grant and Aid to a full 100 percent. We are trying to get another million dollars into the revolving loan fund. Also looking at Cancer Presumption legislation and the shortage of equalization monies. With other items we are working towards this year, we would like you all to meet with your individual legislators one on one and tell them about our priorities. CFSI is coming up and we currently have a poor turn-out (less than 100 people) if your company hasn't got registration in, it has been extended to April 14th. This year Steve Austin will be getting a very prestigious Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award and there will be a video tribute to our own Lou Amabili. We urge those companies that got a Grant, AFG, or a Safer Grant to attend, this is the organization that helps get these grants through federal legislation. As was brought up by Ray earlier, I attended a press conference on Mid-Sussex Rescue Squad, not good another black-eye for us. We don't condone what they have done. The governor has a bill in to get more teeth into our funding. We need to turn in our reports and have good representation at CFSI.

State Fire Chief's Association – Andy Hall, next meeting is March 29th at Station 89 Slaughter Beach with a guest speaker of Chief Tucker Dempsey. Cardio Kinetics Program has gone off very well, and as a result it has left our funding very low. A couple reports back from some of the members that have benefited by proceeding on for further testing. \$200.00 is about what it cost to send someone for testing.

State EMS – Mike McMichael's, Comment on the Cardio Kinetics Program it is well worth saving a life. April 17th will be our next meeting at the Fire School and hopefully, if all goes well we are going to try on put this on a broadcast podcast on Facebook. We do have a Facebook page thanks to the Past President. I will put information out there.

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Flu! in Delaware it has been a bad year, we had 7500 cases and have lost 32 lives to the Flu. If you have a friend in the Fire Service admit to Christiana Hospital and family is ok with it. I will give them a get-well card and just say Hi.

DVFA Ladies Auxiliary – No Report

State Fire Police Association – Les States, thanks for the recognition. Our next meeting is May 20th at the State Fire School.

DVFA Conference – Charlie, still looking for a chairman for Golf, and make sure you get your information in to the Hotel about your rooms or lose your rooms. Joe Zeroles, Warren Jones did say he needs information from everyone about your registration forms. He will be getting them on the website by the end of April to the 1st week of May.

State Fire Prevention Commission – Ron Marvel, Kent County did get their 10 Narcan packs to go to the ambulances. It is replace-able through DHSS. There is some Fentanyl laced Cocaine going around now. It is a very very bad issue. The Commission accepted changes to the protocols of the Ambulance Regulations for a Delaware EMT to be phased out everybody will have to be an NREMT. It will make it easier for out of state EMT's to come to Delaware. There is a report out for the Auditors office on the Mid-Sussex incident. There is a report that Bill Betts can get you a copy if you want one. It just tends to come back to financials. Senator Ennis and those guys are looking at us and please everyone look after your own houses, put out best practices last year just follow those best practices.

Delaware State Fire School – No Report

State Fire Marshal's Office – No Report

Legislature – Senator Bruce Ennis, winding down for Easter Vacation. The bill for Financial Review Task force reports was released last year. It does not require a new audit, it does require the use of best practices by those handling the money. HB 53 – (“This bill allows ground-based and hand-held sparklers and certain other nonexplosive, nonairborne novelty items...”), pertaining to fireworks, County and State were positioned against it. Delaware is only one of two states that does not allow sparklers or ground type fireworks and do not allow for any aerial fireworks. If you are against bill notify your legislators. Comes back to the floor second week of April

Kent County Fire Chief's Association – Mark Langford, thanks for the recognition our next meeting is May 9th at Leipsic.

Kent County Fire Police Association – Mike Berry, thanks for the recognition our next meeting is April 17th at Hartly.

Kent County Emergency Medical Services Committee – No Report

Kent County Ladies Auxiliary – Sandra Robinson, our next meeting is May 22nd in Leipsic and is a Memorial Service sorry to say we have 21 deceased ladies this past year in Kent County. Now, we would like to present \$1000.00 to the Kent County Roland-Trader Scholarship Fund.

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 – Mike McMichael, next meeting on April 12th at 5-Points Station 17.

Sussex County Volunteer Firemen's Association – Terry Jester, we had our meeting last night in Milton. Sgt. Tony Mendez from collision reconstruction unit did a great job. April 14th is the 75th Anniversary for Dagsboro Fire Department, starts at 11:00. Our next meeting is April 24th at Slaughter Beach with our guest speaker Debbie Lawhead speaking on workmen's compensation and proper way of completing the forms. County Chief's meeting cancelled.

State Recruitment and Retention – No Report

Mutual Relief – No Report

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DEMA – No Report

NVFC – No Report

Delmarva Firefighter's Association – Elmer Steele, our Convention is April 12th, 13th, and 14th at Greenwood.

International Chief's – No Report

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

Deceased Members: Station 49 – Charles Shinefuss, Station 40 – Anna Tharp

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 March 1, 2018: Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – \$13,143.08; Special Operations Fund – \$43,060.28; Money Market – \$20,620.12; Smoke Detector Fund – \$806.60; Firefighter's Relief Fund – \$7,593.00; Checking Account – \$11,359.92; Total of all CD's – \$17,593.97; Total funds – \$49,574.01 not including Scholarship & Special Ops Funds. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Written or Email Correspondence: 2 letters, 1st letter from Carlisle Fire Company appointing their Primary and Alternate Delegates to the KCVFA. 2nd letter from South Bowers Volunteer Fire Company naming their Primary and Alternate Delegates to the KCVFA.

Report of Committees:

Memorial – Chaplain Blake Bowers, next month is annual memorial meeting all names must be in by tonight.

Banquet – Robert Yerkes for Murielle Gillespie, total 2018 Banquet Income was \$10,452.50 and Expenses were \$7,760.99 leaving a net profit of 2,691.51 of which ½ goes to the Roland-Trader Scholarship Fund and other ½ will be deposited to Firefighters Relief Fund.

Payment of Bills: by Treasurer Robert Yerkes || \$6,777.00 – Felton Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary (Banquet Dinners); A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills.

Unfinished Business:

Vice President Brittingham as you heard we had an Executive session this evening. I had to send some stuff to the Attorney's office in reference to a personnel issue and I do not know if it is going to be free, so far it has been free. I don't know if it will continue. I will need some direction, okay to send money? A motion was made, seconded, and carried be allowed to spend money to find out your questions.

Vice President Brittingham, I spoke with Muriel tonight and she stated the Banquet committee did an outstanding job. We had a record number of 288 people attending.

New Business:

Vice President Brittingham, 1st Reading, NEW Bylaw: Section 3 added to Constitution Article III Officers and will read as follows:

Section 3: Removal from office: Any officer of the association who loses membership in their company or department or is no longer in good standing with their company or department or fails to fulfill the duties of their office of this association shall forfeit said office in this association. The forfeiter shall be brought to the floor by the board of directors and approved by a majority vote of the member companies.

Vice President Brittingham, A motion was made, seconded, and carried to send 2 members to CFSI this year.

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Vice President Brittingham, A motion was made, seconded, and carried that KCVFA give the State Chiefs \$675.00 for 3 members to go through the Cardio Kinetics Program.

Good of the Association:

Randy Wood, thanks to all that came out to ring the bell for the Salvation Army. We got \$3209.00 collecting more than the previous year. This coming year we are committed to December 8th, 15th, and 22nd again.

Andy Hall, on behalf of the State Chiefs association we thank you and I will take this to the other two associations in hope they will match it.

Michael Brittingham, Ryan Knowles was here, he had envelopes to give to everyone he was going to personally hand them out if not check your folders for the envelope.

Michael Brittingham, Brad Heller active firefighter, (Abel Heller Medical Fund) letter was requesting funds his 7 year old son is terminally ill and he is home on hospice and expected to pass any day. So, Station 55 and Camden are collecting funds to help pay for the funeral.

50-50 – Jimmy Queen

Conference Souvenir –

The next meeting will be at Station 53, Leipsic – April 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Memorial Service

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to adjourn at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pablo Reyes, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pablo Reyes, Jr., Secretary