



## Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association September 18, 2013

President Pridemore called the 975<sup>th</sup> meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Station 43, Cheswold Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Ladies Auxiliary of the station, Vice President Ryder presented our thanks to the Auxiliary. James R. Roy, Jr., President of the Cheswold Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President Ryder gave the response.

**Roll Calls:** Officers: 10 present, 3 absent; Companies: 16 present, 3 absent; Past Presidents: 14 KCVFA, 9 DVFA, and 10 Fire Company Presidents.

### **Introduction of Guests:**

**DVFA** – Richard Toulson, Congratulations to the Conference Committee for a job well done, especially for the short term in getting everything done. Site selection committee will have report back at the December meeting. Fallen Firefighter's Foundation we will be leaving from around the Bridgeville area on October 6<sup>th</sup> and Dagsboro is also running a buslet's have a good showing for one of our own. EMS Task force being headed up by Senator Bruce Ennis and is looking for other departments with ambulances having problems, more on that in the future. November 17<sup>th</sup> there will be a surplus equipment workshop at the Delaware State Fire School. Warren has been working with Senator Coon's office to obtain surplus equipment from DOD and Federal Surplus, a good opportunity to get equipment. Company meetings only 3 companies left in Kent County for 30 minute presentation from Warren Jones and we can make it shorter if need be. If there are any problems with Conference please let us know we are having a wrap-up meeting.

**State Fire Chief's Association** – No Report

**State EMS Association** – Mike McMichael on behalf of President Humphrey's and Jennifer Knox, we want to congratulate all our award winners. M. J. O'Connor, Ralph Neal, Ed Lewis, and Denise Dill four outstanding individuals very well deserved of the awards. Special thanks to the Georgetown American Legion Ambulance 893 on making a trip to Rockland, Maine to Pennsylvania on their own dime.

**DVFA Ladies Auxiliary** – No Report

**State Fire Police Association** – No Report

**DVFA Conference** – John McKenzie, Thank God it's over. We have a meeting next week. It went off without a hitch except for two minor items. October 21<sup>st</sup> is the wrap-up meeting.

**State Fire Prevention Commission** – Charlie Boyer, meeting yesterday with two public hearings and unfortunately they were fined. Delmar was 3 days late in getting audits in and Belvidere has not turned one in since 2010.

**Delaware State Fire School** – No Report

**State Fire Marshal's Office** – Grover Engel, we are up to 9 fire fatalities in the state number 8 was in the Hartly Fire district without a working smoke alarm, number 9 in the City of Wilmington district. Out of a total of 9 fatalities only two had working smoke alarms. We are in process of filling Juvenile intervention position. Many Open Houses' going on we will try to make the events.

**Legislature** – Representative Trey Paradee, all agree on support for fire service I want to be accessible to you. Call me anytime even on my cell phone. Senator Bruce Ennis, HB 149 was enacted, stated that insurers can make direct payments to Volunteer Fire Companies. Highmark in a letter sent to Middletown, will have no direct impact on in and of itself on self-insured accounts may not receive direct payments. Dave Lawson, I am in the book and I return phone calls.

**Kent County Fire Chief's Association** – No Report

**Kent County Fire Police Association** – Richard Schwalb, next meeting in Felton October 15<sup>th</sup>

**Kent County Ambulance Association** – Jason, next meeting is at Station 50 Harrington

**Kent County Ladies Auxiliary** – Doris, next meeting at Carlisle September 24<sup>th</sup>

**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

**Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association**  
**September 18, 2013**

**New Castle County Volunteer Firemen's Association** – Dan Burris Thanks for the recognition.

**Sussex County Volunteer Firemen's Association** –No Report

**State Recruitment and Retention** – No Report

**Mutual Relief** – Ken Ryder, Mutual Relief at the conference discussion as to the approval of renewing our contract and AD&D policy there will be more coming as we get more information out. It goes into place on January 1, 2014. Robert Yerkes will be taking Joe Zeroles place.

**DEMA** – Glenn Gillespie, Thanks for the recognition

**NVFC** – No Report

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

**Deceased Members:** Station 44 & Ambulance 64 – Michael Ryan, Station 45 – William R. (Bill) Bowers.

**Report of Officers** – All submitted in written or electronic form. President Pridemore, Robert Yerkes is recovering slowly and should be out and about in next 3 weeks. September 21<sup>st</sup> is POW/MIA Flag Day, all companies should display their flags to show support for men and women in service. Thanks to the all the companies that participated in the conference and congratulations to Station 44 on the Governor's Cup and to Lorraine Madden for her 50 years of service. We are in the black for the Silhouette fund raiser.

**Treasurer's Report** – Reported by Pablo Reyes, Jr. – Treasurer Robert Yerkes report of ending balances as of September 1, 2013: Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – \$10,234.67; Money Market – \$29,762.07; Checking Account – \$39.97; Smoke Detector Fund – \$6,806.00; Total of all CD's – \$17,455.93; Total funds – \$47,257.97 A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report as read.

**Written Correspondence** – 1 letter read, from the New Castle Volunteer Firefighter's Association to Vice President Joe Biden voicing concerns over planned funding cuts for the Wildland Firefighting initiatives in the United States.

**Report of Committees**

Fire Advisory Board – Marvin Sharp met Monday night discussing 2 or 3 options and are waiting to get up with Dr. Dobbins and talk to him. Brief conversation with Senator Ennis of things he may not have been aware of. A lot going on very quickly hopefully we will have something next month.

Fire Prevention Committee – Ken Ryder, all packets are distributed and hopefully out to all the schools. October 18<sup>th</sup> companies must have their entries back. November 1<sup>st</sup> the companies must have their 1<sup>st</sup> place winners to the county chair. There was a duplication of topics between Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> and it will be correct that going forward.

Appreciation Night – Murielle Gillespie, The banquet will be February 22, 2014 at the Felton Fire Hall. Tickets will be given out at the next meeting and cost will be \$23.00 per person and we are asking all companies to donate \$50 for door prizes.

Nominations Committee – Al Metheny, nominations were closed last month with elections under proper order of business. The nominees are so they will not have to be repeated are: Harold K. Brode for the office of President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Ken Ryder, Jr., 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Earle Dempsey, Treasurer – Robert Yerkes, Jr., Secretary – Pablo Reyes, Jr., Director – Ralph Satterfield, Director – Richard Deputy. That concludes report of the nominations committee for this year.

**Payment of Bills** – \$300.00 – William Hall (Firefighter Silhouette); A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills.

**Election of Officers**

A motion was made, and properly seconded, and carried to have President Pridemore cast a ballot for all the unopposed nominations of officer's to the 2013 to 2014 office's. President Pridemore congratulations you won by one vote.

**Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association**  
**September 18, 2013**

**Unfinished Business**

Logo Committee: President Pridemore in communication with Roger's Sign hopefully we will have something about costs by the October meeting.

Senator Bruce Ennis, BLS Task force HB 215 – FY14 Grant and Aid bill the General Assembly recognizes fact there needs to be additional funding for BLS. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a task force be assembled. Task Force is not new, in 2001 another task force was made and I never got a notice for a meeting. Many companies provided information on average loss per year. Companies providing care are not getting sufficient monies to cover cost. Ambulance transport for just 12 miles cost \$2600 and another person got a bill for \$2700. There is no way you can justify costs that high and at our next meeting in October we would like to have representation from the ambulance service.

**New Business**

Harold Brode, A motion was made, seconded, and carried to allow Secretary Reyes to purchase toner for copier that has lasted for 8 years at the cost of \$154.00.

**Good of the Association**

Warren Jones, about the flag for the MIA/POW it is September 20<sup>th</sup> not the 21<sup>st</sup> set for every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September.

Wilmington Manor, lost 50 year life member Raymond Ingram with viewing and full firefighter's funeral please contact Steven Michaels (Redman) for more information 302-293-0161.

Blake Bowers, In accordance with the National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation would like your churches to ring their bells on October 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> anytime during the day. The bells at Emmitsburg will ring their bells at the beginning of the service October 6<sup>th</sup>. Al Metheny, 4 new 800 MHz radios will be going to each company thanks to the Homeland Security. Radios are in the process of being ordered.

Glenn Gillespie, Dover Air Force Base Air Mobility Museum there was a 9/11 ceremony that was tremendous. There is a memorial on the west side of the museum which took 4 years in the planning and construction. It is worth your time to go and look at it. Website is [www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/467093/dover-afb-firefighters-unveil-911-memorial.aspx](http://www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/467093/dover-afb-firefighters-unveil-911-memorial.aspx)

50-50 – N/A

Conference Souvenir – N/A

*The next meeting will be at Harrington, Station 50 – October 16<sup>th</sup> "Installation of Officer's"*

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pablo Reyes, Jr., Secretary