



Kent County Volunteer Firemen's Association

April 20, 2011

President Gillespie called the 948th meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at Station 51, Hartly Volunteer Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Ladies Auxiliary of the station, Vice President Pridemore presented gratuities to the auxiliary. Frank Ballek, President of the Hartly Volunteer Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President Pridemore gave the response.

Roll Calls: Officers: 13 present, 1 absent; Companies: 18 present, 1 absent; Past Presidents: 14 KCVFA, 4 DVFA, and 8 Fire Company Presidents.

Deviation of Business: *Disbursement of State Fire & Ambulance checks by the State Treasurer, Chipman Flowers and Insurance Commissioner, Karen Weldin Stewart. A Memorial Service was performed by Rev. Paul with a wonderful ceremony and a reading from Assistant Chaplain Blake and a Bagpiper's tunes recognizing 17 of our fallen but not forgotten members.*

Introduction of Guests:

DVFA – Charlie Frampton, Mr. Tobin would like to thank all who went to Washington with a very good turn-out 180 people.

State Fire Chief's Association – Glenn Gillespie, thanks for the recognition.

State Ambulance Association – Ed Angwin, new ambulance regulations have been passed. Christiana Care is offering FREE ConEd Classes, next meeting – June 23rd 2011 at Station 89, Memorial Fire Company with the State Chiefs. Still looking for letters for the EMS awards.

DVFA Ladies Auxiliary – Penny Rodimak, inspirational memorial service thanks for the recognition.

State Fire Police Association – Dave Snell, working 50th anniversary and next meeting May 22nd at Fire School.

DVFA Conference – Elmer Steele, just a reminder forms will be on the website by May 1st. There is a no-show policy in effect. Mike McMichael, 12 different seminar classes all FREE. Some examples are CIFS, Firehouse cooking, \$\$\$FEMA, Legal Issues, Pension, Workmen's Comp., Weather, and Will's for heroes. We are still taking suggestions for vendors. Next meeting will be at the Sheraton on May 16th.

State Fire Prevention Commission – No Report

Delaware State Fire School – No Report

State Fire Marshal's Office – No Report

Legislature – Senator Bruce Ennis, Karen Stewart indicated good news and bad news, bad news Kent County showing loss of \$6,030 average per company of good news is the every Kent County company that had an ambulance showed an increase of about \$29,000. Checks tonight included 80% of the premium taxes you get and last October you got 20%. We are out of session back in May 3rd. One bill that is to be filed on 3rd SB67 to memorialize individuals that dies in line of duty. We are also working with a Federal delegation for a general order on signage. There was a regulation passed by DelDot for special events if it involves lane changes and directing traffic required 90 days before event. Karen Stewart, we are forming a committee to define or look at mapping issues of city vs. New Castle County. Al Metheny, just paid to DelDot \$317 for 2 signs maybe we can get money back to the DVFA. Glad for the increase but what is reason for increase in Health Insurance? Karen Stewart, Boley and Coley are life a policy's is where the increase came from and Coley is for corporations and Boley is for banks to get it. Coley came roaring up with a 70% increase. Bruce Ennis, recall in 2005 Rescue Ambulance per company got \$41695 then in 2008 \$102,852 last year \$54,608 and last went down to \$41,000 and this year goes up to \$7603.

Kent County Fire Chief's Association – Patrick Olechny, next meeting May 11th at Houston.

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Kent County Fire Police Association – No Report

Kent County Ambulance Association – PJ Gosch, next meeting will be May 23rd at Felton.

Kent County Ladies Auxiliary – No Report

Kent County Levy Court – Harold Brode, everything is quiet.

Kent County Emergency Dispatch Center – No Report

Kent County Emergency Management – No Report

Kent County 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 – No Report

Mutual Relief – No Report

DEMA – Glenn Gillespie, All fire companies FEMA along with National Storm prevention will have conference calls with regards to significant weather coming. Two parts severe weather and critical fires (Delaware). Call after 11:30 659-2234 for more information.

NVFC – Al Metheny, Fire Core training program will be FREE on May 22nd with 2 modules. 1st is explaining benefits of having a Fire Core Program and 2nd is how to set up a Fire Core Program. Forms will be on website shortly.

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

Deceased Members: None, (Memorial Service)

Report of Officers – All submitted in written or electronic form. (*Summary by President Gillespie, thanks to the association for sending us to the CFSI and it was a pleasure watching a Delaware company get its recognition.*)

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Robert Yerkes reported ending balances as of April 1, 2011: Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – \$7,333.37; Checking Account – \$525.96; Money Market – \$25,520.49; Smoke Detector Fund – \$6423.00; Total of all CD's – \$19,844.90; Total funds – \$45,891.35

Written Correspondence – Received 2 letter's, from Delaware Department of Transportation regarding 28 foot road width. 2nd letter from President Gillespie he summarized a response to Carlisle Fire Company about the Fire Advisory Board.

Report of Committees

Constitution & Bylaws, Glenn Gillespie for Kevin Wilson – next meeting April 21st at Station 41

Fire Prevention, John Pridemore – met last Thursday next June 9th at Station 49 also each station needs to identify who your representatives are.

Fire Expo Safe Summer Days, John Pridemore – schedule for June 11th from 10 to 2 be at next association meeting we want to know who will be participating.

Law & Legislative, Glenn Gillespie for Kevin Wilson – tentative date for legislative day

Website, Glenn Gillespie for Kevin Wilson – in work with developer

Payment of Bills – \$852.12 – RWM Embroidery & More (Officer's Shirts); \$26.40 – Glenn Gillespie (Postage); \$35.00 – William Frantz (Memorial Service); A motion was made, seconded, and carried for payment of bills.

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Unfinished Business

Jim Cabbage, County ordinance passed with regards to road widths. DelDot has decided they can supersede. Worked on getting sign issue resolved and someone further up in DelDot made a decision and changed it. I believe legislature should get involved in this. Bruce Ennis, DelDot extra 4 feet cost concerns is about the suburban or municipal streets not major highways. Kent County will keep it at 28 feet. Have other two counties go to their Levy Court and make change to the 28 feet.

President Gillespie, Department of Natural Resources with regards to controlled burnings. Issue was brought up at Chiefs meeting. We would allow chiefs meeting in May to come back and report status of their process with DelDot officials.

New Business –

John Pridmore, A motion was made and seconded, and carried to for the approval of a 2011 budget of \$2050.00 for Fire Prevention Program.

Bruce Ennis, A motion was made and seconded, and carried to send a letter supporting the continuation of a 28 foot width to Kent County Levy Court with copy to DelDot.

Steve White, A motion was made and seconded, and carried to continue with an annual March Military Recognition night.

Good of the Association

Glenn Gillespie, Copies of a CD by the Executive Manager with a presentation to the JFC.

Glenn Gillespie for Kevin Wilson, copies of a flyer for a July 16th Firefighters appreciation night

50-50 – Ed Welch

Conference Souvenir –

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.; Rev. Paul gave the benediction.

The next meeting will be at Station 52, Houston – May 18th

Respectfully submitted,



Pablo Reyes, Jr., Secretary