



Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association

July 20, 2011

President Gillespie called the 951st meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at Station 54, Little Creek Volunteer Fire Company. Following dinner served by the Ladies Auxiliary of the station, Vice President Pridemore presented gratuities to the auxiliary. Richard Hand, President of the Little Creek Volunteer Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President Pridemore gave the response.

Roll Calls: Officers: 14 present, 0 absent; Companies: 16 present, 3 absent; Past Presidents: 15 KCVFA, 10 DVFA, and 8 Fire Company Presidents.

Deviation of Business: Rod O'Neal, spoke briefly about the Roland Trader Scholarship Fund background. Two sons Ross & Tom and their families started the fund in 1994. On behalf of the KCVFA we would like to thank them. Committee members met and stated this has been the best year for Scholarship Fund applicants. Two scholarships were presented with only one present. The High School graduate winner Brandon was absent and had representatives from Magnolia accepting on his behalf. College student winner Amy Morris was present and Amy thanked the association.

Introduction of Guests:

DVFA – Bill Tobin, addressing Marvin Sharp and association about an issue concerning BLS. Last month at chiefs meeting a special meeting was held with the Commission, DVFA Officer's and Ambulance associate. Dr. Megargel was trying to represent himself as being in total control with everything concerning BLS. He does not want anyone to have any say but him. Last Wednesday we had a meeting in the Fire School with the Commission and Ambulance Association. He was preparing to go for legislation to shut-down Fire Commission and Fire Companies down without having a say. Bottom line 1999 law was passed that Commission has control of the BLS protocol and BLS Card. Stand we took was to take his rules for 2011 and separated medical protocol to him and anything BLS to Commission. Wrote him a letter and waiting for reply next step if need be is to go to the governor. Senator Ennis HB322, clearly the Fire Commission had purview of the Emergency Medical Service BLS it was never Public Health. New protocol for BLS and on the cover page there is a sign-off by members of commission, Board of Medical Practices, EMS administrator, and Delaware State Fire Commission. A member with a criminal record asked for hearing to get EMT-B Card and was approved by Commission. Bill Tobin, DVFA and the Commission have dug into trenches to fight this thing once and for all; one person should not have sole control. We will have an Executive Secretary of the Corporation of record it will take place at September conference. Get your letters in to DVFA if interested. Warren, as a reminder 911 event is on September 11th 1st event a Memorial, 2nd event Stair Climb. If interested in participating please apply online at www.firehero.org or www.regonline.com/register/checkin.aspx?eventid=990099. Frampton, August 1st reformation meeting, and budget meeting is August 3rd.

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

State Ambulance Association – Ed Angwin, DIMES program is still a work in progress. 2 things keep popping up are patient refusals and cancellation of ALS. Conference deadline for signing up is September 1st.

DVFA Ladies Auxiliary – Penny Rodimak thanks for the recognition.

State Fire Police Association – Charlie, everyone should have their letters last month for submitting Fire Police of the Year.

DVFA Conference – John McKenzie, we are ready for September as mentioned before registration deadline is September 1st and there is a no-show policy in place. Go online print out your form and send it in. Approximately 20 seminars are scheduled.

State Fire Prevention Commission – Marvin Sharp, met yesterday hearing audit extension requests, one department received extension and 2 others are under \$100 a day fine. Another hearing for an apartment complex that redesigned based on future regulation being in place. First time in a long time I have voted for an exception.

Delaware State Fire School – No Report

State Fire Marshal's Office – No Report

Legislature – Senator Ennis, SB55 – permissible use of traffic signal preemption devices to permit emergency vehicles to return into fire stations and SB67 – authorize the placement of memorial signage for certain emergency personnel killed in the

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line of duty were both signed by the governor. SB103 – summarized it allows for fire company boiler inspections to be exempt from a fee by showing certification of boiler, passed as part of bigger bill. HB195 – Grant-in-Aid bill passed with Fire Companies showing approximately a 20% increase. DVFA Officer, on behalf of DVFA and members, Senator Ennis thanks to people like you for making all this happen.

Kent County Fire Chief's Association – Phil Pennington, our next meeting is Aug 10th at Station 55.

Kent County Fire Police Association – Alvin Schmick, next meeting at Station 56.

Kent County Ambulance Association – P.J. Gosch our next meeting a joint meeting with the chiefs is Aug 10th at Station 55.

Thanks for all the support.

Kent County Ladies Auxiliary – Pat Paolini thanks for the recognition.

Kent County Levy Court – No Report

Kent County Emergency Dispatch Center – No Report

Kent County Emergency Management Agency – No Report

Kent County Emergency Medical Services (Paramedics) – No Report

New Castle County Volunteer Firemen's Association – Robert Sutton, thanks for the recognition.

Sussex County Volunteer Firemen's Association – No Report

State Recruitment and Retention – No Report

Mutual Relief – Joe Zerolles, forms for conference registration are online everyone should try to have someone there.

DEMA – Glenn Gillespie thanks for the recognition.

NVFC – No Report

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

Deceased Members: Station 53 – Samuel Sonny Burrows

Report of Officers – All submitted in written or electronic form (Summary of President Gillespie, thanks to the Fire Advisory board for putting together a funding proposal.)

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Robert Yerkes reported ending balances as of July 1, 2011: Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – \$8,951.84; Checking Account – \$779.98; Money Market – \$21,618.91; Smoke Detector Fund – \$6423.00; Total of all CD's – \$19,944.66; Total funds – \$42,343.55

Written Correspondence – 4 letters read, 1st letter from Clayton Fire Company, Inc. supporting the nomination of John M. Pridemore for the office of 1st Vice President, 2nd letter from Frederica Volunteer Fire Co. endorsing Steve White for the office of President, 3rd letter from Harrington Fire Company, Inc. nominating Harold K. Brode for the office of 2nd Vice President, 4th letter from Hartly Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. endorsing J. Allen Metheny for the position of DVFA Treasurer. 5th letter not read handed to me by nominating committee endorsing Jeff Dennison as Director.

Report of Committees

Constitution & Bylaws, John Pridemore speaking for Kevin Wilson – is still a work in progress and they are making progress. Fire Prevention, John Pridemore – next meeting August 15th at Station 49 and we will attempt to have Fire Prevention Packets at the next association meeting in August. Also, each company needs to identify their primary point of contact for the committee. Law & Legislative, John Pridemore speaking for Kevin Wilson – we would like to thank all the legislators for their assistance. Website, John Pridemore speaking for Kevin Wilson – website is up and running the address is www.kcvfa.com go ahead and look at it and there is still a lot of work on uploads.

Fire Advisory Board, Marvin Sharp – showed a very nice presentation credited to Ed Welch. June Fire Advisory held in Harrington and the following week some group members went to Kent County government building and met with Terry Pepper,

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Petit de Mange and someone from County Finance. After presentation to the association there was some discussion and he answered some questions with regards to plan. Jim Cabbage suggested an accountability clause should be stated. President Gillespie thanked the Fire Advisory Board for working on a funding plan.

Nominating Committee, Jim Cabbage – making 1st round of nominations next month and anyone running for office get your letters in to the secretary or committee.

Payment of Bills – \$900.00 – Clayton Fire Company (Website work balance due); \$600.00 – Carlisle Fire Company – Life Ring Project (Life Ring Station); \$289.00 – Clayton Fire Company (Name change charge); \$76.00 M&M Trophies & Awards (2 plaques for scholarship winners); \$25.00 – Delaware Net, Inc. (Website work); A motion was made, seconded, and carried for payment of bills.

Unfinished Business

NONE

New Business –

Harold Brode, a motion was made, and seconded to have KCVFA endorse the Fire Advisory Board proposal for funding from the Kent County Levy Court. Question on the motion, Senator Bruce Ennis, stated that Kent County has taken a lot of pride for reducing taxes by a penny in this climate .03% increase to County taxes. As a delegate I think we should go back with the proposal to our companies. Bottom line I think this is a good proposal but I would like to take it back to our company. More discussion followed. Marvin Sharp is asking for 100% participation. A motion was made and seconded, and carried to table original motion until next month to allow presentation to home companies.

2nd Vice President will forward electronic Fire Advisory Board Funding proposal presentation to all Kent County Companies.

*A motion was made and seconded, and carried to endorsing Al Metheny for the office of DVFA Treasurer.

*A motion was made and seconded, and carried to send a letter to DVFA supporting Al Metheny for the office of DVFA Treasurer.

Good of the Association

Marvin Sharp, remember Rev. Bill Downing his wife is ill with a brain tumor.

Glenn Neese, let everyone know what we do by selling ourselves on what we do. In the end we will reap the benefits.

Senator Bruce Ennis, Brode made a good point, he said to put the idea in their head and feel them out. Sussex has adequate public utilities what that means if you are a developer there is an impact fee ½ of 1 percent, it may be they can raise that impact fee. In this economic climate it is not going to be an easy sell.

*A motion was made and seconded, and carried to revert back to New Business.

John Pridemore, Hero Blood drive we are asking all companies to continue to support it.

President Gillespie, appointed Chuck Coverdale and John Pridemore to be our liaison for participation in 911 stair climb.

50-50 – Ronnie Vincent

Conference Souvenir – Marvin Sharp

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.; Rev. Paul gave the benediction.

The next meeting will be at Station 55, Magnolia – August 17th

Respectfully submitted,



Pablo Reyes, Jr., Secretary