



Kent County Volunteer Firemen's Association

May 20, 2009

Past President's Night

President Mike Rains called the 928th 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 Snell presented gratuities to the auxiliary. President Joe Zeroles of Farmington Fire Company gave the address of welcome; Vice President Snell gave the response.

Roll Calls: Officers: 12 present, 1 absent; Companies: 16 present, 3 absent; Past Presidents: 12 KCVFA, 5 DVFA, and 8 Fire Company Presidents.

There was a short deviation of normal business for Representative Bob Outten to present an award to Past President Joe Zeroles.

Introduction of Guests:

DVFA – Warren Jones, Ambulance checks were a little short. Insurance Commission was sent a letter and asked for a meeting. Grant & Aid could be as much as a 15% deficit. We will be presenting scholarships at the DVFA June meeting.

State Fire Chief's Association – Mike Rains, next meeting will be Jun 25, 2009. Joe Zeroles, golf is on the same day at DAFB contact Joe for more information. Jeff Denison, Thanks for the recognition.

State Ambulance Association – No Report

DVFA Ladies Auxiliary – Thanks for the recognition, conference information is on the website

State Fire Police Association – Robert Yerkes stated that Charles Walls is the newly elected President.

DVFA Conference – Elmer Steele, No Report check the website for more information.

State Fire Prevention Commission – Marvin Sharp, protocols will take two times to get them done. JSC said how cooperative the Fire Service was. Realign commissioners terms so one goes off each year. Self inspections on apparatus, what is the failure to comply statement, all the same it has to go through the legislative process. Work must go through the DVFA & Fire Service. Standards meeting happened for the 1st time on Monday and lasted 2 hours. We need to build modules and nothing is cast in stone, still need more input.

Delaware State Fire School – No Report

State Fire Marshal's Office – Grover Engle, Fire Team USA – advocates for residential sprinklers. Jun 16 & 17 a seminar at the Fire School targeting Fire Chiefs and others, invitations are out to all involved. Presented changes to the commission on regulation 209. Regarding gated communities and high rises to decide if going out for a public hearing.

Legislature – Representative Bob Outten, Thanks for the recognition, No Report

Kent County Fire Chief's Association – No Report

Kent County Fire Police Association – No Report

Kent County Ambulance Association – Ed Angwin at the last fire police meeting letters were given out and we need responses from those that got the letters.

Kent County Ladies Auxiliary – Thanks for the recognition, our next meeting is at Houston.

Kent County Levy Court – No Report

Kent County Emergency Management – Al Metheny, all is quiet, thanks for the recognition.

Kent County Emergency Dispatch Center – No Report

Kent County Emergency Medical – 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 – Joe Zeroles, renewal of policy, note at the conference.

DEMA – No Report

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

Deceased Members: Station 51 – Gerald Theirwechter

Report of Officers – Submitted in written form.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Robert Yerkes reported ending balances as of May 1, 2009: Roland Trader Scholarship Fund – \$5,777.87; Checking Account – \$149.16; Money Market – \$12,798.82; total of all CD's – \$18,561.46; total funds – \$31,509.44

Written Correspondence – Received 2 letters, both from Kent County Fire Chiefs Association, one is in reference to their April meeting asking that we take action in regards to an Administrative vacancy in the Levy Court. The second letter is from their May meeting referring to the vacancy of the Director of Emergency Management again not being filled by the Levy Court for at least the next 12-18 months. The letter was asking the associations meet with the Fire Advisory board to work with Levy Court on filling the position.

Report of Committees –

Texas Holdem – Bill signed into law with significant changes, 1 change is that you must be 18 years old to work bingo.

Mike Rains – Assigned Frank King as Ladies Night chairman, and Paula King takes the vacant spot.

Payment of Bills – \$1000.00 – Roland Trader Scholarship, (Past Presidents Gift): A motion was made, seconded, and carried for payment of bills.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – Williams – (question about \$4000.00 dues to DVFA) A motion was made and seconded, and defeated to send a letter to the DVFA asking for a \$1000.00 reduction in dues. Joe Zerolles – A motion was made and seconded, and carried to donate \$1000.00 on behalf of the Past Presidents to the Roland Trader Scholarship Fund. A motion was made then tabled until the next meeting to rename the Roland Trader Scholarship to the Kent County Fire Service Scholarship. Kevin Wilson – A motion was made and seconded, and carried to send a letter in support of the Fire Chief's Association letters to Levy Court.

Good of the Association

Jeff Denison – still need information from the companies on how SAFE Delaware detectors saved lives in a fire. Contact Jeff Denison for more information. Glenn Neese – Reflects on companies with growing resentment of older members. It comes down to retention, spout retention and work on retention at all companies. We need leaders to take a lead on retention. Camden Wyoming is going to put in a newsletter on how we are funded. We need to educate the public on costs of fire service and how the dollars \$\$\$ are being used. Gillespie – reiterated that the Fire Prevention Program (Smoke Detectors) information requested by Jeff Denison is IMPORTANT and companies need to provide the information. All data is important and when requested please provide it in a timely and responsible manner. We need data to report and police ourselves. Gillespie – J. Allen Metheny has been a tremendous individual to have. There was a standing acknowledgement of his accomplishments.

50-50 – Mrs. Jackson

A motion was made and seconded, and carried to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.; Chaplin Paul gave the benediction.

The next meeting will be at Station 48, Felton.

Respectfully submitted,



Pablo Reyes, Jr., Secretary