



**DVFA Officers Meeting
Thursday, February 25, 2016
Ellendale (Sta. 75)
18:30 hours**

DVFA ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

President Joseph Zeroles	(X)	New Castle Director Dan Carrier	(X)
1 st Vice President Ted Walius	(X)	New Castle Director Les Warrick	(X)
2 nd Vice President Richard Perillo	(X)	Kent Director Glenn Gillespie	(X)
Secretary Elmer Steele	(X)	Kent Director Earle Dempsey	()
Treasurer Allen Metheny	(X)	Sussex Clayton Yocum	()
Executive Manager Warren Jones	(X)	Sussex Director Ron O'Neal	(X)
		Past Pres./Director Richard Toulson	(X)

Also in attendance;

LADVFA President Mary Francis Eisenbrey
LADVFA 1st Vice President Lois Pearson
LADVFA 2nd Vice President Lynn Warner
President State Fire Chief's Phil Pennington
Kent County 1st Vice President Allan Post
DVFA Past President Anthony Guzzo

President State EMS Assoc. Jennifer Knox
1st Vice President State EMS Matt Gajdos
Mutual Relief Chairman Steve White
DVFA Assistant Treasurer George Pyott
Conference Chairman John McKenzie

Permanent Memorial Committee: Jim Watson, Dan Burris, Debbie Watson

Meeting was called to order at 18:35 hours by President Zeroles. Pledge to the flag was led by 2nd Vice President Perillo. Invocation was given by Treasurer Allen Metheny.

Since dinner was not ready President Zeroles proceeded with the meeting agenda.

Warren passed out folders with the agenda, etc.

ASSOCIATIONS GREETINGS AND REMARKS:

LADVFA: President Mary Frances Eisenbrey:

- Greetings from the State Ladies Association. Introduced the officers that were with her; 1st Vice President Lois Pearson and 2nd Vice President Lynn Warner

DSFCA: President Phil Pennington:

- Thanks for the invite

DSFPA: President Alvin Schmick:

- Absent

DSEMSA: President Jennifer Knox:

- Thanks for the invitation.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President Joe Zeroles

- Very good turn-out at the JFC hearing at legislative hall. Thanked Warren for the power point presentation that he made.
- President Zeroles turned the meeting over to Jim Watson and Dan Burris to talk about the progress of the permanent memorial. It was stated that almost \$45,000.00 has been collected thus far for this project. There has been an issue with the placement of the monument due to some trees on the North side of the Mall. It has been suggested that we consider putting it on the South side of the Mall on the corner near the State Police monument. This is being worked on and the proper paperwork is almost complete. The committee hopes to have everything completed so that a dedication can take place during the 2016 Conference. Question was raised regarding the proposed cost of this project. It is estimated to cost between \$80,000.00 and \$100,000.00. There are numerous groups, businesses and organizations that have offered money, materials and labor towards this project, so an accurate out of pocket cost is hard to judge at this time. 2nd Vice President Perillo asked about an actual final cost that the companies can be expected to pay. Hopefully they will have a better cost figure by the Executive meeting in March.

At this time (18:55 hrs.) the meeting was recessed for dinner served by the Ellendale Ladies Auxiliary. Meeting reconvened at 19:15 hours.

1st Vice President Walius stated that President Zeroles had a medical emergency at home and has gone to the hospital be with his wife, so 1st Vice President Walius will conduct the remainder of the meeting tonight.

1st Vice President Ted Walius:

- The DVFA Officers met with the Governor last month to discuss our issues and concerns for the coming year. One of the main topics was our fire prevention program in the schools. This is being addressed by Director Dempsey.

2nd Vice President Richard Perillo:

- Good turn-out at the JFC hearing on Monday.

Secretary Elmer Steele:

- Working with the Conference committee on various issues and concerns for 2016. The Conference chairman will give more details under his report.

Treasurer Allen Metheny:

- One (1) company has not paid their pension. They are aware of the \$100.00 a day penalty. Their check will be in the mail tomorrow. Allen will be transferring \$1,945,000.00 on Tuesday to pay our pension bill.

Fire Commission Chairman Dave Roberts:

- Protocol committee is reviewing the current protocols.
- A total of \$1,498,294.00 has been received thus far from the traffic fine legislation and all of that money has been distributed as of this date.
- The Commission de-certified a private ambulance company due to not following the rules.
- Next Commission meeting will be March 15th.

Conference Chairman John McKenzie:

- Conference has been operating in the “RED” for the past 2 years. Working with Dover Downs to find ways to cut some cost, but still put on a good event.
- The Conference committee has come up with a policy for rooms at Conference.
- Elmer has been meeting with Dover Downs to negotiate meal cost. There is a substantial amount that can be saved and still operate within the boundaries of our contract.
- Elmer stated that room contracts for the companies are out. Please review them, make any necessary changes and get them back in ASAP. Please note the 48 hour cancellation policy and the 14 day changes policy. These will be enforced this year, due to some major issues from last year.

Mutual Relief Chairman Steve White:

- All dues have been paid. Did have to re-bill a few companies.
- The power point presentation should be ready next week. Call if you want us to come to your fire house and make this presentation.

Hall of Fame Mark Gott:

- Absent

Firefighter's Memorial Jim Watson:

- Nothing else. Pretty well covered everything earlier

DVFA Foundation Steve Austin:

- Absent

Directors:

Past President/ Director Rich Toulson:

- Really impressed with the turn-out at the JFC meeting.
- Stated that Representative Johnson raised a question regarding the Millville EMS funding.

Kent County Director Glenn Gillespie:

- Nothing at this time

Kent County Director Earle Dempsey:

- Absent

Sussex County Director Clay Yocum:

- Absent

Sussex County Director Ron O'Neal:

- Stated that Sussex County is working on the Millville issue and that a committee is being formed to further pursue the issues.

New Castle County Director Dan Carrier:

- Mentioned CFSI.

New Castle County Director Les Warrick:

- Good presentation at the JFC meeting.

Executive Manager Warren Jones:

- Symposium; Will be on April 9 at the Hyatt Bay Center in Dewey Beach. 29 people have registered thus far.
- JFC follow-up; Setting up meetings with the JFC committee. Will be looking at separating fire and EMS from the standard Grant in Aid.
- CFSI; There are NO registrations as of today. Need to get busy on this.
- R&R, Public Safety School & M&T; Video should be ready in a couple of weeks.
- HB218; Need to be careful of this bill, since it has 27 sponsors listed. The bill pertains to selling of certain fireworks within the State at certain times of the year. The Fire Marshal is against this bill.
- Governors Prayer Breakfast; Is May 5th, the same day as CFSI. Will send out info later to see if anyone is interested.

- Fire Company checks; Warren has asked State Treasurer Simpler if a notation can be put on ALL checks that come to the companies stating what that particular check is for. There seems to be some confusion at times on what the check is for.
- State Fair; The DVFA will be sponsoring the monster trucks at the Fair this year instead of the rodeo. We will have pit passes, etc. More info will be coming out soon.
- R&R Open Houses; May 21st.
- Exploratory Committee; Plan to meet on Sunday, March 13th after the Executive meeting.

Any other business:

- Several questions and concerns were raised regarding the expenses for the Conference. It was stated that Elmer and the Conference committee are working with Dover Downs to work out some viable solutions to some of the cost. The Hotel Chef and the Sales staff have been great to work with and have offered some solutions while still working within the contract that we have.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 20:00 hours

Benediction by Allen Metheny

Respectfully submitted,

Elmer B. Steele

Elmer B. Steele, Secretary

Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Assoc.

Attest to and approved by: Executive Manager Warren Jones
President Joe Zeroles
1st Vice President Ted Walius