



DVFA OFFICER'S MEETING November 24, 2008 Elsmere Fire Company

President Warren F. Jones called the November DVFA Officer's Meeting to order at 1830 Hrs at the Social Hall of the Elsmere Fire Co., and welcomed all who were present and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. DVFA Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr. offered the invocation.

Attendance:

President Warren F. Jones
First Vice President Kevin L. Wilson
Second Vice President William F. Tobin
Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr.
Executive Secretary James L. Cubbage, Jr.
Director Alan F. Robinson, Jr., PP
Director Charles Frampton
Director Charles Boyer
Director Michael Rains
Director Roland Walker
DVFA PP E. James Monihan
DVFA PP Ronald H. Marvel

LADVFA President Carol Walton
LADVFA First Vice President Lorraine Madden
LADVFA Second Vice President Janice Marvel
LADVFA Secretary Virginia Yeager
LADVFA Asst. Sec. Joanne Catalino
LADVFA Treasurer Kim Figgs
LADVFA Asst. Treas. Lois Pearson
DSFPA President John P. Fox
DSAA President Robert G. Stineman
SFPC Chairman Marvin C. Sharp
NCCVFA First Vice President Lynn Truitt

President Jones then recessed the meeting for dinner at 1833 Hrs. After Dinner President Jones thanked the Ladies of the Elsmere Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary for the delicious dinner. Elsmere President George Giles welcomed everyone to Elsmere.

The Meeting was reconvened at 1855 Hrs.

President Jones then called on the following members and guests for reports and remarks:

LADVFA: President Carol Walton brought greetings from the LADVFA and introduced her Officers that were present. She wanted to be the first to wish everyone "Happy Holidays".

DSFCA President John P. Fox brought greetings from the State Fire Police Association and advised that his officer's had met on Sunday, November 23rd and discussed the Blue Light issue. He discussed some of the problems that he feels may affect the legislation proposed by Sen. Ennis with wig wag lights being an alternative. PP Marvel advised that he will make a motion at the Executive Committee meeting to allow Sen. Ennis to prepare legislation in his opinion if the DSFCA does not have a resolution to this issue by that time. President Fox advised that the next meeting of the Chiefs will be on January 22, 2009 at the Mill Creek Fire Company.

DSAA President Robert G. Stineman report on the following items:

- With a new Sheriff in Sussex County there has been problems In issuing the new ID cards for the State Fire Police. He advised That they will be issued through an in house program
- There is an ongoing problem at the State Motor Vehicle Inspection Lanes with approval of Fire Police Vehicles and the approval of what Lights may be facing to the rear of the vehicle.
- Requested the support of the DVFA in the penalty section of their By-laws in regards contacting the County Sheriff if a Fire Police Officer violates the Firearms Policy.

Motion by Treasurer Metheny, seconded by First Vice President Wilson that the DVFA send a letter to the Delaware State Fire Police Association supporting their proposal as stated in their letter of February 25, 2008. Motion Carried

SFPC Chairman Marvin C. Sharp thanked the DVFA Officers for their attendance at the SFPC Workshop on November 18th and the support for the proposed certifications requirements for the Fire Service. He advised that the proposed draft will be presented to the fire service on Wednesday, December 10th at the Kent County Fire Chief's Meeting in Milford. If after reviewing any comments, changes or additions should be submitted to the SFPC in writing. He also reported that the new EMS protocols have been adopted and that each EMT will have to complete and pass this the course prior to June 30, 2009.

President Warren F. Jones reported on the following items:

Training Records Reported that he had meet with Sen. Bruce C. Ennis and he has agreed to ask the Attorney General for a **Formal Opinion** on the release of student training records from the Delaware State Fire School.

Media Requests Advised that the News Journal is still working on their major story on the Delaware Fire Service. It appears that the article will run sometime in December. All comments will come from the DVFA President after review by the DVFA Public Relations Consultant.

State Budget Stated that he is very concerned about the financial situation that the State is in and the effect is may have on our Grant in Aid.

New Members of the General Assembly Reported that the DVFA Officers are in the process of trying to arrange meetings in each County with the new members of the General Assembly. There are three new members in the Senate and Ten new members in the House.

Inaugural Parade Advised that he had filed an application for the DVFA to march in the Inaugural Parade on January 20th. We should hear something from the selection committee by mid December.

Health Care Insurance Reported that he is exploring legislation that would allow individual fire company members to purchase Health Care Insurance through the State Health Care Plan.

First Vice President Kevin L. Wilson reported on the following items:

Strategic Planning Summit Reported that the DVFA is planning a Strategic Planning Summit to discuss current issues facing the fire service and time tables and time frames to deal with resolving these issues. The Summit will be on January 25, 2009 at 0900 at Clayton

Driving Simulator Advised that he has met with Sec. Mitchell to discuss the purchase of a driving simulator that could be used in conjunction with the Emergency Vehicle Operators course. Of course at this time funding could be an issue.

DVFA WEB PAGE Stated that several changes are being made and that the committee will be adding some new features such as an antique apparatus sections and new deliveries. Keep checking for more changes in the near future. Treasurer Metheny and PP Monihan thanked Kevin and the Committee for adding the NVFC Banner on the front page.

Second Vice President William F. Tobin advised that a meeting of Sussex County Fire Company Presidents and Chiefs have developed an alternative proposal for a Leadership Counsel that will be shared with other counties to be discussed and reviewed with a possible action at the March 2009 Executive Committee Meeting.

Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr. advised that on advice of our CPA that we have purchased new Accounting Software to assist with the annual audit. He wanted everyone to know that there will be a new look on all of the Financial reports.

CONFERENCE 2009 Chairman Thomas D'Alessandro reported on the following:

Alcohol Policy Advised that a revised Alcohol Policy has been adopted

Scholarship Stated that it is apparent that most of the winners of the DVFA Scholarships are back in school when the awards ceremony takes place at the Conference. Therefore he presented the following motion on behalf of the Conference Committee,

Motion by Conference Chairman D'Alessandro, Seconded by PP Robinson that the Scholarship Committee Awards be moved from The Conference to after the June Executive Committee Meeting Similar to the Fire Prevention Awards. Motion Carried.

Seminars Reported that the committee is looking at having several two hour Town Hall type meetings during Conference to discuss pertinent issues with Leaders of the Fire Service, SFPC, and Elected Officials.

Past President's Banquet Advised that specific guidelines have been adopted for Invitation and Attendance

Vendors Advised that specific changes have been in the Vendors contracts in regards to the use of the DVFA and Conference Logos

Parade Stated that the committee will be requesting bids from several Judging Associations

Golf Advised that the committee will be requesting bids from several area golf courses

DVFA FOUNDATION Vice Chairman Cabbage reported that the Foundation met on Monday, August 18, 2008 at the Kent County EOC. The next meeting will be April 20, 2009. All are Welcome.

Federal Legislative Issues Executive Secretary Cabbage reported for PP Stephen P. Austin. Today, November 24, 2008 the new Federal Highway Administration requirement for anyone working on federally-funded highway must wear a high-visibility vest took effect. They have now exempted firefighters from wearing high-visibility vests when they are actively involved firefighting or dealing with hazardous materials.

FIRE CORP Chairman E. James Monihan advised that the DVFA has again applied and received another \$5,000 Fire Corp Grant that will again be used for advertising. 20 Delaware Fire Companies have signed up to participate in this program.

NVFC DVFA PP Monihan advised that the NVFC has appointed a new Health and Safety Committee. They also have adopted a resolution in regards to the IAFF position on the two hatter issue. He also discussed several legislative issues coming before this lame duck Congress. He will have a detailed report at the DVFA Executive Committee Meeting. The NVFC Board of Directors will be meeting at the office in Greenbelt, MD on January 16 & 17, 2008

MISC ITEM Executive Secretary Cabbage requested that the DVFA Officers review the 2008-2009 Committee list and advise of any changes or corrections.

CLOSING COMMENTS President Jones thanked everyone for their attendance and their participation in the Delaware Fire Service. He wished everyone "Happy Holidays"..

ADJOURNMENT:

***Motion by Director Frampton, seconded by Director Boyer that we adjourn.
Motion Carried.***

Meeting Adjourned at 2025 Hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Cabbage, Jr.
James L. Cabbage, Jr.
Executive Secretary