



**DVFA Officers meeting
Thursday, May 28, 2015
Ellendale (Sta. 75)
18:30 hours**

DVFA ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

President Anthony Guzzo	(X)	New Castle Director Richard Perillo	(X)
1 st Vice President Joe Zeroles	(X)	New Castle Director Wally Poppe	()
2 nd Vice President Ted Walius	(X)	Kent Director Glenn Gillespie	()
Secretary Elmer Steele	(X)	Kent Director Ken Ryder	(X)
Treasurer Allen Metheny	(X)	Sussex Clay Yocum	(X)
Executive Manager Warren Jones	(X)	Sussex Director Steven Deery	()
		Past Pres./Director Charles Boyer	(X)

Also in attendance;

LADVFA President Karen Majewski
LADVFA 1st Vice Pres. Mary Francis Eisenbrey
LADVFA 2nd Vice Pres. Lois Pearson
Fire Commission Chairman Dave Roberts
State Fire Chief's President Steven Maichle
DVFA Assistant Treasurer George Pyott

DVFA Foundation Steve Austin
SCVFA 1st Vice Pres. Ron O'Neal
Mutual Relief Chairman Rich Weaver
State EMS Assoc. 1st Vice Pres. Jennifer Knox
Hockessin President Dan Carrier
Conference Chairman George Lamborn

Meeting was called to order at 18:35 hours by President Guzzo. Invocation was given by LADVFA 2nd Vice President Lois Pearson. Pledge to the flag was led by George Lamborn. Meeting was recessed for dinner served by the Ellendale Ladies Auxiliary. Meeting reconvened at 19:15 hours

Address of Welcome by President Guzzo:

- He thanked everyone for coming tonight

- Gave a brief report on an awards program that he and President Majewski attended last Thursday night for the Delaware Academy of Public Safety and Security. They are a military type charter school. They are looking for more public service involvement and are also looking for someone from the fire service to become a member of their board. If anyone needs more information or is interested in becoming a board member, please see Tony or Karen
- The Officers met with Attorney Bill Preston last week and got a briefing on where we are with the insurance rebate distribution money with regards to the City of Wilmington. Attorney Preston feels that the DVFA needs to stay on top of this issue, because it will probably not just go away. He is developing a strategy plan and will be at the June 14th Executive meeting to discuss some of the issues that need to be addressed. The first thing that needs to take place is that the 61 fire companies need to sign over or give their permission to the DVFA (for this one issue only) the right for the DVFA to represent them in this case. The insurance money belongs to the individual fire companies and not the DVFA, so the DVFA can not legally go to court for money that doesn't belong to them

LADVFA: President Karen Majewski:

- The LADVFA has received a letter from the Blades Fire Company stating that the ladies auxiliary of the Blades Fire Company has been dissolved. There was a short discussion around this issue as to one of their members being an officer with the Sussex County ladies.
- Wanted to thank Senator Ennis for his involvement with the meetings that he has had regarding the Public Health Services and the food service license. Senator Ennis has drafted SB 89 which will exempt non-profit organizations from having to have a licensed operator at their functions

DSFCA: President Steven Maichle:

- Greetings from the State Fire Chief's
- Chiefs are busy working on a State-wide standards policy for Company Officers
- Next meeting will be June 25 at Harrington, Sta. 50. Expo will start at 3:00 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7:00 pm. Currently have 32 vendors for the Expo

DSFPA: President Charles Morgan:

- Absent. No one from the State Fire Police in attendance

DSEMSA: President Mat DeMarco:

- President DeMarco was absent
- 1st Vice President Jennifer Knox brought greetings from the State EMS Association
- Their next meeting will be in conjunction with the Chiefs in Harrington on June 25th

Officer Reports:

President Anthony Guzzo

- Already covered everything under the address of welcome

1st Vice President Joe Zeroles:

- President Guzzo pretty much covered everything under his report

2nd Vice President Ted Walius:

- Thanked the Association for allowing him to attend the FDIC conference
- Gave a brief report on the recent Delmarva Convention in Millsboro

Secretary Elmer Steele:

- Thanked the Association for allowing him to attend the FDIC conference in Indianapolis and the CFSI dinner in Washington
- See everyone at the June Executive meeting
- Have a safe summer

Treasurer Allen Metheny:

- Advised the group that we will need to transfer funds from the DVFA account to the Conference account in order to pay for the 2015 Conference
- Discussed the issue of dues being reduced about 3 year ago. Dues at that time were \$4,000 and \$1,000 of that went to the Conference. Dues were reduced to \$3,500 and \$500 went to the Conference. Need to re-instate the dues to the level they were in order to get proper funding for the Conference

Fire Commission Chairman Dave Roberts:

- Ambulance audits are due by the end of July
- Still working on a formula for the dispersing of the “traffic fine” money. About \$300,000 in the account so far. Thought that there should be more in the account, so the Commission is reviewing this issue
- The formula for calculating the cost of an ambulance run has been put out to the companies. Haven’t received any comments or feedback so far
- Working on a boundary dispute between Dagsboro and Millsboro Fire Companies. They have gone to an arbitrator at the present time

President Guzzo thanked the ladies of the Ellendale Fire Co. for a very delicious meal. A rising round of applause was given to the ladies

Conference Chairman George Lamborn:

- Most everything is going according to plan
- Still need some info on seminars so the final agenda can be prepared
- The Conference Executive committee has decided to cancel the Friday night dance for this year due to the cost and the lack of attendees. This will come up at the June 14th DVFA meeting for final approval
- Need to take a look at the Conference parade. This is a very big cost factor with a small amount of participation. Do we need a parade?
- Need to take a strong look at the entire Conference operation based on cost and participation
- Numerous comments from most everyone in the room as to what has been done in the past and what should or could be done in the future
- Final comment was to have each County do a survey and see if it was possible to have each County host the Conference similar to the way it was done years ago

DVFA Foundation Steve Austin:

- Foundation is looking at interest rates and/or possible CD's to make the most on their money
- Looking to invest some of their funds
- Money coming in very slow for the monument fund
- Out-of-State report was also given by Steve. PA President Gwen Wenrich has invited our ladies to come to the PA Convention on September 23-26 at Lake Harmony, PA. The MD State Convention is June 22-25 at the Roland E. Powell Conference Center in Ocean City, MD and as usual we will meet on Monday, June 22 at 8:00 am at the top of the escalator and go in as a group for the opening ceremonies

Mutual Relief Chairman Rich Weaver:

- The death benefit for the Bowers Fire Company has not been paid yet since the incident is still under investigation

Directors:

Past President/Kent Director Charles Boyer:

- Agrees with the Conference issues and something needs to be done

New Castle County Director Richard Perillo:

- Questioned why Warren is doing a daily log/report. President Guzzo responded to the question

New Castle County Director Wally Poppe:

- Absent

Kent County Director Glenn Gillespie:

- Absent

Kent County Director Ken Ryder:

- Next Kent County meeting is June 17th at Carlisle, Sta. 42

Sussex County Director Clay Yocum:

- Nothing further

Sussex County Director Steven Deery:

- Steve was absent. 1st Vice President Ron O'Neal stated that the next Sussex County meeting is June 23rd at Bridgeville, Sta. 72
- Ron also stated that there will be a meeting of all Sussex County Presidents and Chiefs on June 9th at Georgetown, Sta. 77 to discuss the proposed State wide standards and some call board issues

LADVFA 1st Vice President Mary Francis Eisenbrey:

- Thanks for the invitation to attend the meeting

LADVDA 2nd Vice President Lois Pearson:

- Thanks for having us attend your meeting

Executive Manager Warren Jones:

- Legislation session starts back on Tuesday
- Several bills that we will be watching and will need your support on when they come up for hearings and possible vote
- HB 133 is the sprinkler bill. *This bill requires builders of new, one or two family residential dwellings that are 3 stories or less to provide to the purchasers a cost estimate from the builder for an automatic sprinkler system, as well as information from the State Fire Marshal's Office about the benefits of such a system*
- SB 89 is the Health and Social Services food protection bill that requires all food establishments to have a certified food protection manager. *This Act would require the Department to exempt charitable and fraternal organizations from this requirement. At least 7 other States have created similar exemptions*
- HB 41 is the surf fishing bill. *This bill adds active members of the ladies auxiliaries or volunteer fire departments ladies auxiliary as eligible for free surf fishing licenses. This bill also gives the department presidents discretion in determining what qualifies as an "active" member*
- Budget- The last issue is the budget for FY 2016. Presently the State is \$81 million in the "red". There are bound to be some major cuts and we will be watching this very closely. We have been assured that the fire service, the veterans and the Cheer center programs will be spared, if at all possible
- Officer pictures will be taken at the June meeting. Dress appropriately
- Warren gave a power point presentation on the recruitment & retention program and what their plans are for the rest of the year:

Radio:

- Recommending the use of three of the most listened to radio stations in Delaware (1 in each County)
- WZBH/Georgetown, WDSD/Dover and WSTW/Wilmington
- Schedules will run 2-3- weeks prior to the Open Houses in each County (30 second spots)

Print:

- Use of the Guide/East which reaches all of Delaware with weekly circulation of 80,000 plus
- Will run a full page ad every other week starting in April

Cable:

- Will advertise on specific cable programs; Pawn Stars, Duck Dynasty, Breaking Bad, WWE, Sons of Anarchy, American Pickers, NASCAR and Phillies Baseball
- Cable reaches entire State which includes Wilmington, New Castle and Kent areas as part of the Philadelphia market. Sussex County is part of the Salisbury market
- Cable schedule starts on March 16th and runs weekly through June

