



DVFA SPECIAL OFFICERS MEETING

Delaware State Fire School

July 14, 2015

Call to order at 7:20 PM by President Anthony Guzzo

Roll Call of Officers – by Secretary Elmer Steele

- [X] Anthony Guzzo, 19, President
 - [X] Joe Zeroles, 47, 1st Vice President
 - [] Ted Walius, 75, 2nd Vice President
 - [X] Elmer Steele 81, Corporate Secretary
 - [] J. Allen Metheny, Sr., 51, Treasurer
 - [X] George Pyott, 43, Assistant Treasurer
 - [] Wally Poppe, 15, New Castle County Director
 - [X] Ken Ryder, 48, Kent County Director
 - [X] Steven Deery, 80, Sussex County Director
 - [X] Richard Perillo, 11, Director, New Castle County
 - [] Glenn Gillespie, 42, Director, Kent County
 - [X] Clay Yocum, 78, Director, Sussex County
 - [X] Charles Boyer, 46, Past President - Director
- DVFA Staff**
- [X] Warren Jones, 16/86 Executive Manager

Also in attendance; Pablo Reyes and Dan Carrier

President Guzzo stated there was a written agenda with items to be discussed at this meeting tonight;

The first item on the agenda is; **Server Security for Credit Cards**. Since we are now set-up to take credit cards for various payments through M&T Bank there is a concern about the security of these payments and the information from the various credit cards. At this time, President Guzzo turned the meeting over to Pablo Reyes. Pablo has been working with Warren and M&T Bank regarding this security issue. There are several ways to satisfy this issue and each one has a certain cost associated with it. The bottom line is that our server needs to be secured. Pablo and Warren will work with M&T Bank and see what is the best way for us to proceed in order to satisfy the security issue. We definitely need to spend \$400.00 for a router. This is a budgeted item for this year and needs to be purchased and installed to start the security

process. There was talk of using a cell phone with the “square” as a way to take credit card payments. This is a pretty secure system, but needs to be investigated more before making a final decision.

The second item on the agenda is; **Appointment of a Mutual Relief Trustee.** After some discussion, President Guzzo appointed Ed Kalowinski from Station 15, Delaware City to fill the Trustee position.

The third item on the agenda is; **Insurance Regulation Adoption.** Warren talked about this and brought everyone up to speed as to why this needs to be done. This entails the methodology from Seitz Consulting firm on the cost of an ambulance run. It is suggested that we have the Department of Insurance adopt this methodology as a regulation instead of trying to make it a part of the law. Attorney Mike Cochran feels that this will cover our bases and that there should not be any other issues by doing it this way.

The fourth item on the agenda is; **Grant in Aid.** Warren gave a detailed report on the Grant in Aid system and how it works or doesn't work for the fire service. Being grouped in Grant in Aid is not where we should be. Grant in Aid is for charitable organizations and the fire service needs to be taken out and made a part of public safety. We go through threats of “cuts” every year and other than the 20% cut in 2010, we have been able to maintain our normal funding. The budget deficit is getting worse each year and we are bound to see cuts in the future. Warren will be meeting with Brian Maxwell in the Governor's office to see what can be done to get us out of Grant in Aid.

The fifth item on the agenda is; **CVVFA, July 31.** The CVVFA will be holding their convention in Delaware City this year. The convention kicks off on Thursday, July 30 with meetings, Memorial service, afternoon meetings and picnic on Thursday night. Friday is the Presidents Council meeting at 9:00 am, lunch, Council meeting continues and installation banquet on Friday night. Parade is on Saturday. Warren will send out info this week to see who is interested in going and when. General consensus is to go early Friday morning for the meeting and come home later in the day. A couple of our members expressed an interest in staying for the banquet to support Rich Toulson since he will be moving up as a Vice President.

The sixth item on the agenda is; **State Fair July 23 Rodeo.** The DVFA R&R team will be sponsoring the rodeo at the State Fair again this year on the 23rd. President Guzzo, Warren and Earle are encouraging the officers to attend this event. There will be special seating on the stage for those attending. See Warren or Earle for tickets. There will also be a booth again this year. Earle is working on getting enough people to man the booth. Contact him if you are interested in helping.

The seventh and final item on the agenda is; **Conference Direction.** This turned into a lengthy discussion as to what we are currently doing and where we need to go in the future with the Conference. Most everyone in attendance had comments with what we have done in the past and what we should do in the future. The big issue is the cost. We have become so big with the number of events that we have, the number of people that attend the various events and the number of days that we use, that there is nowhere else in the State with facilities big enough to

accommodate our needs. There was discussion about going back to the individual Counties hosting the conference the way it was several years ago. Again, there was the issue of facilities large enough to handle the number of people that now attend and the travel issue to find hotels. President Guzzo stated that a committee should be appointed to review the Conference and come back with a report as to what should or could be done to make the conference a success. 1st Vice President Zerolles will appoint this committee. We have a contract with Dover Downs for 2015 and 2016. We have option years for 2017 and 2018. It was in our best interest at this time to “pencil” in dates for 2017-2018, while a firm decision is being made by the review committee and the DVFA.

2017 dates September 10 to September 16, 2017
2018 dates September 9 to September 15, 2018

President Guzzo declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Elmer B. Steele
Elmer B. Steele
Corporate Secretary

I hereby attest that this is a true copy of the proceedings of the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter’s Association Special Officers meeting held on July 14, 2015 at the Delaware State Fire School..

Attest: **Anthony Guzzo**
 DVFA President

Warren Jones
DVFA Executive Manager