



DVFA EXECUTIVE MEETING

Delaware State Fire School

March 8, 2015

Call to order at 10:00 A.M. by President Anthony Guzzo

Invocation offered by DVFA Assistant Chaplain Blake Bowers

Pledge of Allegiance led by LADVFA President Karen Majewski

Roll Call of Officers – by Secretary Elmer Steele

- [X] Anthony Guzzo, 19, President
- [X] Joe Zeroles, 47, 1st Vice President
- [X] Ted Walius, 75, 2nd Vice President
- [X] Elmer Steele 81, Corporate Secretary
- [X] J. Allen Metheny, Sr., 51, Treasurer
- [] 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
- [] vacant Director, New Castle County
- [X] 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

Special Guest

Bill Webb, Congressional Fire Services Institute talked about the upcoming CFSI events to be held in Washington, DC on April 15, 16, 2015. He thanked the DVFA for its support in the past and hopes this will be another great year. The State of Delaware has received a \$30.00 discount on the price of the dinner tickets again this year. Total cost will be \$295.00 per ticket.

Bill gave a brief report on what the CFSI has been involved in during 2014 on Capital Hill.

Trying to keep the level of funding at the 2011 level.

The LADVFA, the Kent County ladies, the New Castle County ladies, the New Castle County ladies Past Presidents and the Sussex County ladies presented checks for the scholarship fund to Ray Stevens of the DVFA Foundation.

Report of Officers

President Guzzo: Full report has been filed electronically with the office. He highlighted several items that are in his report;

- The DVFA has hired Paul Seitz Consulting, LLC to come up with a funding formula for the EMS funds that are being raised from the moving traffic violation law.
- The DVFA officers have been meeting with the insurance office regarding the fire tax distribution.
- The JFC hearing has been re-scheduled for April 1 at legislative hall at 12:15 PM.
- There has been a task force appointed to review the office operation and the employees. After several meetings, Melissa Kiser has resigned as of January 27th and Warren Jones will assume ALL business that takes place in the office.
- Guy Hudson has been appointed as the Sussex parliamentarian for the DVFA to replace Norman Batchelor.
- He has attended 35 functions, traveled 2,995 miles and was in service for 172 hours.

First Vice President Zeroles: Full report has been filed electronically with the office. He has attended 23 functions and was in service for 92.5 hours.

Second Vice President Walius: Full report has been filed electronically with the office. He has attended 24 functions, traveled 1,300 miles and was in service for 88.5 hours.

Secretary Steele: Full report has been filed electronically with the office. He has attended 25 functions, traveled 2,180 miles and was in service 106 hours.

Treasurer Metheny: Full report is attached to the Treasurers report. He has transferred \$1,824,176.91 to Northern Trust Company for the 2014 DVFA pension program. This consisted of \$1,661,216.91 for the employers share and \$162,900.00 to cover 2,715 fire company and ladies auxiliary members.

Allen also gave the Conference 2014 final report. The 2014 Conference cost us \$52,184.49 more than what we actually took in. As you can see, we barely have enough funds in the savings account to cover 2015, if this trend continues.

*Motion by Jasper Lakey and seconded by Curt Clifton to except the Officer reports.
Motion carried*

Executive Manager Jones discussed several issues;

- Credit cards: The office is now set-up to take credit cards for various payments to the DVFA. This should be a plus for CFSI payments and conference payments.
- New Forms: We added some new software that will allow you the opportunity to fill out forms on line and return them to the office.
- Firefighter day at legislative hall will be April 28th. Please come in Class A uniform.

- FDIC rooms: There are still 3 rooms left in the DVFA block. See Warren if you need a room.

Committee Reports

State Fire Prevention Commission – Dave Roberts

- Dave introduced the commissioners that were present today.
- There was a workshop held on 2/28 to discuss the distribution of the EMS funds that we will receive for the bill that was passed in the last session.
- The commission, along with the DVFA consultant, are working on a formula for the distribution of the traffic violation funds.
- The commission has hired an inspector to work on cases in the field.

Advisory to State Fire Marshal – Grover Ingle

- Brian Reeder (Sta. 15) has been appointed to this committee by President Guzzo.
- Two (2) fire deaths so far this year. One (1) had a working smoke detector and the other one did not.
- There has been several arrests made in Sussex County recently, regarding arson fires.
- JFC hearing will be on April 1.
- Still working on regulations.
- Several staff changes over the past few months.
- Water damage in the Dover office recently. Had to move some of the office operations to other locations in order to stay in business. Waiting on final inspection and a final report to make sure that everything is back to normal.

Advisory to DSFS – Robert P. Newnam

- EMT re-certification is in process. Need to be completed by March 31.
- Protocols are going good. They also need to be completed by March 31. Classes are scheduled for the next three (3) Sundays at the DSFS,
- Bond bill hearing was held on March 4th. Seemed like everything went pretty well.
- Student numbers for the fall classes were up this year.
- New display cases are being installed. Will be moving things around once they are completed.

Archives – T.M. Gott

- Check the various plaques in the hallways for the correct spelling of names.
- Committee will be up-dating some of the plaques very soon.

DVFA Conference– John Stevenson

- John read a prepared report from Chairman Lamborn.
- Introduced the conference committee members that were in attendance today.
- Conference 2015 logo has been finalized.
- Held a round table discussion in January to discuss future improvements, improved communications and improvements from last year.

- Menus need to be finalized by April 1st.
- First committee meeting will be Monday, March 16th at Dover Downs.

DVFA Pension Advisory – Ray Stevens

- There are 119 users in the pension program.
- There were only 39 users that attended the training program.
- New pension forms are out for pension withdraws. The pension office will not accept the old forms any longer.

Governmental Affairs – Bob Sutton

- Thanked everyone that has taken any part in this committee since it was started six (6) years ago.
- Reminder again, JFC hearing is April 1st at 12:15 PM. Please come to legislative hall in Class A uniform.
- Bob gave a brief history of how and why this committee was formed six (6) years ago.

Law & Legislative – Bruce Ennis

- Bruce stated that they are looking to re-introduce the three (3) fire service bills that did not pass in the last session. He is looking for sponsors so these bills can be assigned new numbers. The bills pertain to; presumption law, ladies surf permits and withdrawal from the State pension program.
- There is a meeting scheduled with Public Health folks regarding the food handlers license. The meeting will be Thursday, March 12th at legislative hall in the Senate Conference room.

Office Task Force – Ed Barlow

- The entire task force committee came forward and stood behind Eddie as he gave a full report since the conception of this committee.
- After the report was completed, Chairman Barlow requested that the task force committee be dismissed.
President Guzzo dismissed the committee and thanked them for their work.
- President Guzzo stated that it was time to move on.

Life Safety – Guy Hudson

- Awards program was held in Hartly. Had a very good turnout for the program.
- Had 37 requests totaling \$137,559.13 for matching funds for this past year.

Recruitment & Retention Earle Dempsey

- 14 members in attendance today.
- Awarded 10 SAFER sub-grants this year.
- April 28th Firefighter day at legislative hall.
- R & R open house at the various fire stations will be May 16th.
- Working with the State Fair to co-sponsor the rodeo again this year on July 23rd.
- The committee has purchased T-shirts similar to what they had last year and will be selling them for \$5.00 each. See Earle after the meeting if you want one.

Scholarship – George Kerr

- 12 members in attendance today.
- Deadline for applications is March 31st.
- Will be meeting in mid-April to review the applications and pick the winners.

Other committee reports

- Mike Rush introduced Joe Levan as the immediate Past President of the Delaware Valley Fire Chief's Association.
- Mike Rush introduced Bob Hudson as the President of the Del-Mar-Va Association.
- Mike Rush introduced Jim Watson as the President of the CVVFA.
- Lester Beachy stated that ALL delegates and alternates will receive mutual reports at the conference.

Recognition of Past Presidents – 1st Vice President Zeroles asked that all DVFA Past Presidents and President Emeritus stand and be recognized

15 Past Presidents and 2 President Emeritus in attendance today

Affiliated Organizations/ Agency Representatives

Ladies' Auxiliary Karen Majewski:

- President Majewski introduced the ladies that were in attendance today from all 3 Counties.
- President Majewski thanked Sen. Ennis for meeting with the ladies regarding the food handler issue.

State Fire Chiefs President Stephen Maichle:

- President Maichle brought greetings from the State Chief's.
- President Maichle introduced the State Chief's officers that were in attendance today.
- Stated that the Chiefs are doing a cornhole raffle to raise funds so they can continue to bring in national speakers for their meetings.
- 2nd Vice President Jester stated the next State Chief's meeting will be March 26, 2015 at Station 89, Memorial. Speaker will be Randy Brown. Social at 6:00, dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:00.

State Fire Police President Charles Morgan:

- President Morgan brought greetings from the State Fire Police.

State Ambulance Association President Mat DeMarco:

- Next State EMS meeting will be March 26, 2015 at Station 89 Memorial. In conjunction with the State Chief's. Social at 6:00, dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:00.
- Introduced the State Chief's Officer's that were in attendance.

NVFC – Allen Metheny

- Allen stated that the next NVFC meeting will be in Arlington, VA. right after CFSI.

Communications

The following communications were received and are summarized by Secretary Elmer Steele

- Letter from Hartly Fire Co. listing delegates and alternates
- Letter from Dover Fire Dept. listing delegates and alternates
- Letter from Delaware City Fire Co. listing delegates and alternates
- Letter from Elsmere Fire Co. listing delegates and alternates
- Letter from Five Points Fire Co. listing delegates and alternates
- Letter from NCVVFA supporting Richard Perillo for the vacant Director position
- Letter from Talleyville Fire Co. with a \$1,000.00 check for the monument fund
- Card from Carol Tennesse thanking the DVFA for the teacher's gift card
- Letter from Volunteer Hose Fire Co. listing delegates and alternates
- Letter from Brandywine Hundred supporting Richard Perillo for Director
- Letter from Minquas Fire Co. listing delegates and alternates
- Letter from Townsend listing delegates and alternates

Motion to accept communications

Made by Bruce Ennis and seconded by Mike Rush to accept the communications. Motion carried

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

Motion by Tom Finocchiaro and seconded by Charles Frampton to accept the nomination from NCCVFA for Richard Perillo to fill the vacant New Castle County Director position. Motion carried

Motion by Jasper Lakey and seconded by Ray Stevens to have the Secretary cast the ballot for the Director position. Motion carried

Secretary Steele cast a favorable ballot for Richard T. Perillo for the New Castle Director.

Past President Ron Marvel installed Director Perillo to his new position.

OLD BUSINESS

None on the books and none from the floor

NEW BUSINESS

1st Vice President Zeroles appointed the Life Safety committee for 2015-2016

1st Vice President Zeroles appointed the Scholarship committee for 2015-2016

LIFE SAFETY COMMITTEE

Guy Hudson, 90, Chair
Ron Marvel, 87, Co-Chair
Joe Mullen, 18, NCCVFA
Randall Lee, 81, SCVFA
Dwayne Pierson, 30

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Robert Powell, 84, Chair
George Kerr, 23, Co-Chair
Rod O'Neal, 51, Co-Chair
Rich Perillo, 11
Fred Jester, 41

Patricia Carnavale, 2, 21
 Anthony Carnavale, 2, 21
 John Pridemore, 45
 Sheila Scotten, 45
 Charles Boyer, 46
 Paul Eichler, 46
 Robert Yerkes, 52
 Dottie Barber, 70
 Ann Marie Kyrstopoliski, LADVFA
 Karen Workman, LADVFA
 Mike Lowe, DSFS

John Pridemore, 45
 Alan Robinson, 44
 Ray Stevens, 88
 Bill Tobin, 89
 Mike Lowe, 81
 Pam Ingle, LADVFA
 Karen Gebhart, LADVFA
 Jane Williams, LADVFA
 Ginni Tice, LADVFA
 Tara Wilbur, LADVFA
 Kim O'Malley, DSFS

Motion by Steven Maichle and seconded by Mike Rush that the DVFA take out a full page ad in the Del-Mar-Va Association Convention book at a cost of \$225.00. Motion carried

Motion by Mark Gott and seconded by Steven Maichle to allow the archives committee to spend up to \$2,000 towards the up-grade to the archive cabinets. Motion carried NOTE; This is a budget item.

Tom DiCristofaro questioned why we are \$52,000 in the red for Conference 2014 per the Treasurers report. There was a big discussion regarding the cost to put on a Conference. Do we really need to spend this amount of money, how long will the savings account hold out at this rate per year.

President Guzzo stated that we are under contract with Dover Downs for 2015 and 2016. We can look at reducing cost, but there will be penalties if we cancel the conference. The Officers and conference committee will review these concerns.

Bruce Ennis discussed the rising cost of the pension plan. We had 9 less people in the plan this year and it cost us \$100,000.00 more in fees. This needs to be reviewed.

Discussion was held regarding the \$6,750.00 proposal from VFIS for the Organizational Operations Analysis. This is not a budget item. *Motion by Ike Gusseford and seconded by Ken Pyle to accept the proposal from VFIS for the analysis of the office operation. Motion was defeated*

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Treasurer Metheny highlighted the bills to be paid.
 Total amount is \$58,720.93

Operating

DVFA CHECKING

MELISSA KISER	P/R- 12-02-14 - 12-11-14	-568.58
AT & T	FIRELINE	-12.24
THE CONFERENCE GROUP, LLC	INV. # E726-0000-	-1.34
CANNON FINANCIAL SERVICES	COPIER SERVICES	-228.83
PATTI CARNEVALE	FOR AWARDS	-740.00

MELISSA KISER	P/R- 12-16-14 - 12-25-14	-568.58
U.S. TREASURY	TAX PERIOD- DECEMBER 2014	-1,696.02
WARREN F. JONES	P/R DECEMBER, 2014	-2,817.14
M&T BANK	VISA ACCOUNT	-839.34
DIVISION OF REVENUE	P/R TAXES OCT - DEC .2014	-891.37
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL	DVFA DUES 2015	-500.00
CHIEF TECHNOLOGIES, LLC	ANNUAL CONTRACT-ff/del.gov	-420.00
VERIZON	WARREN'S PHONE	-73.37
CHAMPION TROPHIES	INV DATE 12-29-14	-350.40
MIKE LOWE	REIMB. EXPENSES	-71.35
MELISSA KISER	P/R- 12-30-14 - 01-08-15	-568.58
VERNON INGRAM	JAN - MAR 2015 RENT	-1,755.00
CANNON FINANCIAL SERVICES	COPIER SERVICES	-228.83
MILLSBORO FIRE CO.	CONVENTION TROPHY	-30.00
AT & T	FIRELINE	-12.31
M&T BANK	VISA ACCOUNT	-4,846.33
MELISSA KISER	P/R- 01-13-15 - 01-22-15	-568.58
WARREN F. JONES	P/R JANUARY, 2015	-2,817.14
U.S. TREASURY	TAX PERIOD- JANUARY 2015	-1,311.56
BOBOLA FARMS FLORIST	FLOWERS	-60.00
RONALD MARVEL	EXP- FIRE PREV. PROGRAM	-66.23
AT & T	FIRELINE	-12.31
VERIZON	WARREN'S PHONE	-74.83
THE CONFERENCE GROUP, LLC	INV. # E726-0000-	-4.21
STEVE AUSTIN	POSTAGE & ENVELOPES	-52.12
COMCAST CABLEVISION	INTERNET/PHONES	-205.69
U.S.POSTAL SERVICE	BOX RENT - 12 MONTHS	-128.00
MELISSA KISER	P/R- TERMINATION PAY CHECK NO.1	-1,281.51
SEITZ CONSULTING, LLC	RETAINER	-5,000.00
CANDICE MCDONALD	SEMINAR FEE	-395.85
MELISSA KISER	MAKEUP PAY FOR FIRST TERMINATION CK	-340.05
M&T BANK	VISA ACCOUNT	-1,045.97
CANNON FINANCIAL SERVICES	COPIER SERVICES	-228.83
GOLDFEIN & JOSEPH, P.C.	KISER LETTER	-70.00
EARL DEMPSEY	REIMB. T-SHIRTS	-2,500.00
EARL DEMPSEY	700 HOURS-JUL THRU FEB 2015	21,000.00
MELISSA KISER	CHECK 2 OF 4 FOR TERMINATION PAY	-1,521.30
WARREN F. JONES	P/R FEBRUARY, 2015	-2,817.14
		-
Total DVFA CHECKING		<u>58,720.93</u>
		-
Total Operating		<u>58,720.93</u>
		-
		<u>58,720.93</u>

Motion by Jasper Lakey seconded by Steven Maichle to pay the bills. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

- Jane Williams reported that Past President Joe Hojnicky has fallen and broke his hip. He was in rehab but is now at home. He is 89 years old and would appreciate cards from the members. Address is Joe Hojnicky, 408 Liberty Blvd. New Castle, DE. 19720
- Jasper Lakey stated that Jim Watson is recovering from a hip replacement. Keep Jim in your thoughts and prayers.
- Earle Dempsey reminded everyone that he will have the R&R T-shirts in the cafeteria after the meeting.
- Ken Ryder gave an up-date on Harold Brode. He seems to be doing better, but still has a long way to go.
- Dick Ward gave a brief report on the Del-Mar-Va Convention to be held in Millsboro on April 30, May1 and 2.
- Eric Haley asked where we expect to be in 10 years from now. Seems like no one wants to stand up and look at where we are and what we are doing today and where we are going. The volunteer fire service is dying. It is time that we take a strong look at what we are doing.
- Rich Perillo said that we need to look at volunteerism. We need to get a handle on where we are and where we are going.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved by Jasper Lakey and seconded by Mike Rush that the March Executive Meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. DVFA Assistant Chaplain Blake Bowers offered the Benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am

Respectfully submitted,
Elmer B. Steele
Elmer B. Steele
Corporate Secretary

I hereby attest that this a true copy of the proceedings of the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association Executive Meeting held on March 8, 2015.

Attest: Warren F. Jones
Executive Manager

Attest: Anthony R. Guzzo
DVFA President