

# DVFA EXECUTIVE MEETING

Delaware State Fire School

June 9, 2013

Call to order at 10:00 A.M. by President Charles Boyer  
Invocation offered by DVFA Chaplain, Pastor Bob Hudson

Pledge of Allegiance led by DVFA PP Charles Frampton

Roll Call of Officers – by Secretary Elmer Steele

- [x] Charles H. Boyer, 46, President
  - [x] Richard Toulson, 87, 1st Vice President
  - [x] Anthony Guzzo, 19, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
  - [x] Elmer Steele 81, Secretary
  - [x] J. Allen Metheny, Jr., 51, Treasurer
  - [x] George Pyott, 43, Asst. Treasurer
  - [ ] Dan Carrier, 19, New Castle County Director
  - [x] John Pridemore, 45, Kent County Director
  - [x] Todd Riley, 71, Sussex County Director
  - [x] Bill Tobin, 89, Past President - Director
  - [x] Lynn Truitt, 14, Director, New Castle County
  - [x] Joseph Zeroles, 47 Director, Kent County
  - [x] Ted Walius, 75, Director, Sussex County
- DVFA Staff**
- [x] Warren Jones, 16/86 Executive Manager
  - [x] Melissa Kiser Office Manager

## Guests

Alan Mazzetti, and Jay Webster of Keller Williams realtors.

## Report of Officers

President: Boyer Report submitted in Printed Form.

### First Vice President: Toulson

President Boyer, Officers, Delegates, Alternates and guests. Since the March Meeting, I have attended the following Associations meetings, the State Fire Chief's Association, Sussex County Fire Chiefs, State Fire Prevention Commission, Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association.

I attended the 7 State Presidents Council Meeting in Corning, NY, Each State Shared what they had accomplished and what they are working on Recruitment and Retention was one subject every state was looking for help with.

I attended the Fire Department Instructors Conference held at Indianapolis.

I attended the Congressional Fire Service Institute Conference and Dinner. I want to thank the two hundred and sixty four members of the Delaware Fire Service that attended and supported CFSI. I also want to thank the 25<sup>th</sup> annual CFSI Conference Planning committee members Bill Tobin, Rom Marvel, Ed Barlow, Dan Carrier, John Pridemore, Harold Brode, Todd Reilly and Staff members Warren Jones, and Melissa Kiser for their successful efforts.

I attended a meeting at Caesar Rodney High School on the Comprehensive School safety plans also known as the Omnibus School Safety act- the Department of Safety and Homeland Security has been working with schools, districts and first responders to develop a comprehensive school safety plan (CCSP) for each public school and district. Each (CCSP) will be (1) coordinated with law enforcement agencies, fire departments and other first responders; (2) compliant with the National Incident Management System or "NIMS", a framework for governments and agencies to work together and prepare for, respond to, and recover from critical incidents and (3) specific to particular needs and requirements of each school district. The Omnibus School Safety Act creates a framework for taking the concept statewide- and in the process, will create a cohesive consistent approach to emergency response during a critical incident within a school district.

I have enjoyed attending the many fire stations along with Executive Manager Warren Jones. Warren has been presenting a PowerPoint presentation of the DVFA overview throughout the state. The program is very informative. I'm requesting any president or Chief that would like the program presented to their membership please contact the DVFA Office or any Association Officer to arrange for the thirty minute presentation at your station.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard W. Toulson.

Second Vice President: Guzzo- Report in Electronic Form

Secretary Steele's Report

President Boyer, Officers, Delegates, Alternates and Guest,

Since the Executive meeting held in March, I have attended numerous meetings and functions representing the DVFA. Attached is my travel log listing those events, complete with hours and mileage

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FUNCTION/LOCATION</u>	<u>HOURS SPENT</u>
	<u>MILES TRAVELED</u> <u>VEHICLE</u>	
3/10/2013	LADVFA Past President Shirley Joseph viewing (Milford)	3 hours
60 miles	POV	

3/14/2013	New Castle Firefighter's @ Mill Creek (Sta. 21)	6 hours
175 miles	87-10	
3/20/2013	Kent County Firefighters @ Magnolia (Sta. 55)	3 hours
60 miles	POV	
3/21/2013	Sussex County Fire Chief's @ Milton (Sta. 85)	3 hours
65 miles	81-10	
3/26/2013	Sussex County Firefighter's @ Georgetown (Sta. 77)	3 hours
50 miles	81-10	
3/28/ 2013	State Fire Chief's meeting @ Ellendale (Sta. 75)	4 hours
65 miles	POV	
4/12-13/2013	Cumberland Valley mtg. @ Corning, NY	2 days
	Seaford to NY and back	
4/15/2013	DVFA Conference meeting @ Dover Sheraton	4 hours
100 miles	POV	
4/19/2013	Del-Mar-Va Past President's dinner in Chincoteague	4 hours
130 miles	POV	
4/23/2013	Sussex County Firefighter's @ Greenwood (Sta. 78)	3 hours
35 miles	POV	
4/24-27/13	FDIC @ Indianapolis	4 days (Seaford to
	Indy and back)	
5/2/2013	Governor's Prayer Breakfast @ Modern Maturity	4 hours
100 miles	87-8	

**Treasurer: Metheny** Fellow Officers, Delegates, Alternates, Members and Guests, It gives me great pleasure to present the attached Treasurer's Report for the period March 8, 2013 through June 7, 2013. This report includes both the DVFA Operations and the Conference accounts.

Between now and the Conference, I will prepare the financial records for the annual audit and work with the officers and budget committee to develop the annual Operating Budget for Fiscal 2014. Based on a motion passed at a previous Conference, Company Dues will be \$3,500.00 for FY 2014.

This week, we received correspondence from FEMA that our 2007 AFG grant had been reviewed and that all performance, financial and administrative requirements had been fulfilled.

In addition, we just received our final reimbursement from our 2008 safer Grant in the amount of \$232,477.00 Due to system problems at FEMA no reimbursements had been received for over a year.

I wish everyone a safe and fun filled summer. If anyone has any questions, please see me.

J. Allen Metheny  
Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer: George Pyott

**Motion to Accept Officers reports and spread them upon the minuets by Jasper Lakey and seconded by Charlie Frampton**

**Executive Manager Jones** reported the following Legislative Items:

**HB21 and HB22**, the Volunteer Firefighter Job Protection and anti-Discrimination bills were released from Committee last week and should be voted on this Tuesday in the house.

**SB31**, adding the Ladies to the surf fishing bill passed the Senate and is now in the house.

**SB53**, the Presumption Legislation is out of committee in the Senate but needs some work done before it moves for a vote.

**HB149**, This is a new bill, you all have received copies of it. It requires all insurance companies to pay ambulance billing directly to the Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Companies even if they do not have a contract with the provider. This bill makes them pay you directly. It is a good bill and I recommend we endorse it.

**HB158**, is a brand new bill, introduced just this week. I believe it was the FOP who are initiators of the bill. This bill requires the State of Delaware to provide health care for dependent children of any, in our case, Firefighter killed in the line of duty until the age of 26. I think it is a good bill and we should support it.

**Bingo:** The Bingo Legislation is in the pipe line. The Sunset Chair, Senator Poore told me it will be out and voted on soon.

**Grant in Aids:** It does not look good for any Grant in aid increases this year. Money is very slow. I do have a piece of good news, however. In the epilog of the budget bill there will be a section written that sets in place a Task Force to meet and develop a plan on funding for the fire companies on a permanent basis. While the makeup of the Task Force has not been cast in stone, our two legislators Senator Ennis and Rep. Carson will be the legislative leads and there will be one fire service person from each county on the task force. How many more and who else is still in the discussion stages. I would imagine a person from OMB and the Controller Generals Office, would also be included.

**Bond Bill:** We are still working on the Bond Bill Committee for an increase to our Revolving Loan Fund. If the June DEFAC report comes up with more money, than that money is supposed to be put in the Bond Bill for economic development. I have met with Senator Ventables and Rep. Quinn Johnson the Chair and Co-Chair of Bond Bill telling them that our Revolving Loan Fund is Economic Development.

**SAFER:** As most of you know we were successful in being awarded a \$946,000.00 SAFER Grant for recruitment and retention. So the programs you like, like Sub-grants and scholarships will continue for another 4 years. As well as a major recruitment program. Part of the grant is the hiring of a full time coordinator. We will be writing a job description and interviewing for the coordinator and hope to have them on board by the end of July.

This concludes my report. Are there any questions?

## **Committee Reports**

1. State Fire Prevention Commission – Chairman Dave Roberts reported the audits are due by July 15<sup>th</sup> to the Commission. If you need help, please call the commission. We are trying to have no fees to the fire companies, however the state says they have to.

2. Advisory to State Fire Marshal – Grover P. Ingle reported they met with the members of the advisory board this morning. There has been three fire fatalities to date in the state none had working smoke alarms. The most recent to date occurred on April 23, 2013 in the Laurel Fire District. Interviews have been conducted for the Senior Juvenile Fire Setters Coordinators Position. A successful candidate has been identified and is in the process of being offered the position. It is anticipated to have the position filled by the first two weeks in July. Dave Burns has resigned his position effective April 19, 2013. The Fire Inspector vacant position is currently posted under DE Jobs and closes on June 11, 2013. Once we receive a list of qualified candidates from Human Resources interviews will be arranged. Most likely late July or Earlier August would be the timeline to fill this position. Phase II the Technical Services side of the building is progressing well, anticipated completion of phase II is the first or second week in July. Once completed the staff will move back into that side of the building and Phase II will begin on the existing Investigative side, which are minor renovations. The staff has cooperated greatly and customer service has not been affected by the current situation with the move.
3. Advisory to DSFS – Robert P. Newman Reported Class attendance for the spring us normal. Fall schedule will be posted and delivered this month. Annual Planning and Evaluation Staff Meeting- June 25-26 to review the operation of the school. The status of the budget looks good. The Delaware Weekend is scheduled for October 18-20<sup>th</sup>. The Sussex Division expansion project status is up and running and they need office furniture. EMT National Transition program is online with DSFS (537 have enrolled). Fire Instructor 1 is online, blended learning program pilot completed. The ladies Aux. Seminar was a success (103 attended- Special Thanks
4. Advisory to SFPC for EMS – Mike McMichael- Middletown location now open. Rubber latex band is not accepted as a tourniquet . Mortality rate in DE is down 2011 31% 2012 26.4%
5. Archives – Charles Emerson Still need pictures of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents of both Associations. Frameworks will be here this week to replace framing. Approximately 700.00 will be submitted for the budget for next year. Teaching equipment will be on display from Clarence Schwatka, and Harry Warner.
6. Civilian Recognition – Carleton Carey reported he has not received any submissions yet this year. Please get them in the mail and need to be postmarked by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
7. DVFA Conference– John McKenzie All forms are on the website with the exception of Parade and Hots. A question was made as to why the EMS Classes aren't free.

Wake up Delaware – Summary of Wake Up Delaware Committee meeting at DVFA Quarterly meeting 6-9-13

In attendance: Jeff Dennison, Todd Reilly, Joe Mullens, Wally Hudson, Patti Carnevale, Paul Eichler

- Where is the “Detecta” suit? Needs to be located, cleaned and a schedule developed for its use.
- All monies allocated by the three Delaware counties for smoke alarm purchase and distribution to Delaware fire companies have been used. Many thanks to Todd Reilly and Jeff Dennison for their efforts taking care of this project.
- There is still an inventory of older smoke alarms and promotional material at the Kent County campus of DSFS. Contact Paul Eichler if anyone is interested in materials for expos and/ or open houses, or other projects.
- Discussion regarding the grant process and the lack of activity with it. Paul will follow up with Warren Jones with DVFA for grant information. This conversation led to more discussion regarding the need for other funding sources for Wake Up Delaware.
- Discussion regarding the passing of the benchmark occasion of the distribution of over 100,000 smoke alarms during the Wake Up Delaware campaign. One idea to possibly develop is a press conference during the November campaign of “Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries” to promote Wake Up Delaware efforts.
- Discussion regarding the need for a new public relations packet with Wake Up Delaware information that can be distributed to media, fire companies and any other interested parties.
- Discussion regarding the continued demand for 9 volt batteries and the need to maintain inventories. Discussion also regarding a program through Duracell for batteries.
- Question from Paul (outside of the Committee meeting): Anybody still have a Wake Up Delaware banner? Or know where any are?

Any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact Paul Eichler.

8. Finance & Auditing – George Pyott will be meeting in August to prepare the new Budget.
9. Health & Safety – Tara Lydick Health and Safety Week is 16 - 22 June 2013 with a focus on Behavioral health. Several resources are available from IAFC and NVFC websites. The BEST practices and IAFC Rules of Engagement for Firefighter Survival and Safety are being adapted to focus on health and safety.
  - We are revising DE Health and Safety 1500 standard from 1993 to 2007 and providing implementation feasibility and timeframe. We are requesting review assistance from WMD-HazMat and Life Safety Committees in September.
  - Dr. Sauval of Bayhealth Occupational Health is volunteering to provide free training and advise on implementation of NFPA 1582 Standard on Occupational Health Programs and NFPA 1583 Health Related Fitness program to any company, county, or other organization
10. Out of State Coordinators – Steve Austin stated the DVFA #1Supporter of CFSI Opening Ceremonies for MSFA on Monday Morning.
11. WMD/Hazmat – Joe Leonetti reported FY 2010 is complete. The state is looking for money for a new big project with Radios with 6 million of equipment. Motorola has 3

million and should help supply that. The state is supplying 400,000. FY 12 FUNDS GIVE 210,000 for that project. 1 radio per station 3500 a piece.

Recognition of Past Presidents – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Toulson

## **Affiliated Organizations/ Agency Representatives**

Ladies' Auxiliary Penny Rodimak, President Brought greetings from the Ladies and introduced all officers in attendance.

State Fire Chiefs Glen Gillespie, President brought greetings. The next meeting will be June 27<sup>th</sup> at station 50 will also be their expo. Meeting will be 7pm. Letters for vacant offices should be sent to Brian Beideman. Asked that all Past Chiefs be recognized.

State Ambulance Association, Ed Angwin, President stated their next meeting will be the same date, time and place as the Chiefs, but in a separate room. August 9<sup>th</sup> deadline is Firm. Cost is 60\$ a day. It was going to be 75. He asked that all Past Presidents of the DSEMSA be recognized. He also stated the plaques in the hall have not been updated since 2010.

DVFA Foundation Steve Austin, Chairman, Met last month discussed financial issues. Things are better now. More Scholarships are being awarded. There is an opening due to the death of Dick McCoy. Hope to be filled by New Castle County Firefighters Association. There was a setback in fundraising however will be trying again.

DVFA Mutual Relief Association Joe Zerolles stated the policy is out and bids are due back by August 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a special meeting after that. Thank you to station 55 for allowing them to use the meeting space.

National Volunteer Fire Council J. Allen Metheny, Jr., Delegate met May 9-10 in Alexandria VA. 42 representatives out of 49 were in attendance. There were good tips from the speaker Bill Jennaway. 4 new partners in Progress. Chevrolet developing a new silverato for the fire service. Delaware will be 1 in 5 states so see this at future conference. Next meeting will be at Texas A&M University.

State Emergency Response Commission Bruce C. Ennis, Delegate, Stated the Fire Service is well represented.

## Communications

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

Correspondence

June 9, 2013 Executive Meeting

1. Thank you card from the Neeman Family for the honors bestowed upon their Dad, Rowland Neeman
2. Letter from the Farmington Fire company supporting Joe Zeroles for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the DVFA
3. Letter from the New Castle County volunteer Firefighter's Association supporting Frank Gant for the Charitable Gaming Commission
4. Letter from JP Morgan Chase stating that they are unable to support our Partners in Progress Program.
5. Email from the Rehoboth Beach Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce saying they are unable to support our Partners in Progress Program.
6. Letter from the Seaford Fire Department support Richard Toulson for President of the DVFA
7. Letter from W. L. Gore stating that they are unable to support our Partners in Progress Program.
8. Letter from Beebe Medical Center stating that they are unable to support our Partners in Progress Program.
9. Letter from the Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association supporting Joe Zeroles for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the DVFA
10. Letter from the Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Association supporting Glen Gillespie for the office of Director of the DVFA
11. READ THIS LAST LETTER FROM THE DELAWARE FIRE CHILDREN'S SAFETY FOUNDATION  
Letter from the Delaware Children's Fire Safety Foundation with reference to dissolving of the Foundation and transferring the remaining funds to the DVFA.



## **OLD BUSINESS**

HB 21-22 Came out of committee for house action. SB 31 would be adding LADVFA to the surf fishing permits. This would be a 14 k impact. It currently costs 34k to date to get the firefighters into the parks. SB 53 presumption would add Heart to LODD. JFC Hearings for group insurance for full time paid EMTs to be put in for the State health Benefits. Constant Epilogue changes prevented. 16 Fire Companies participated in the plan. In any other try to Join they are blocked.

Ed Barlow made a motion to support 21-22, 149 158 31 and 53. Seconded by Bruce Ennis.  
Motion Carried

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Eric Haley Seconded by Tom DiCristafaro that effective Conference 2014 any Active Member of the Organization be covered for EMS and Hots Training.  
A statement was made that Raising dues would be the only way to cover the costs as it is impossible.

Motion by Bob Yerkes and seconded by to form a committee. President Boyer placed this on the 2013-2014 Conference Committee.

## **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Treasurer Metheny read bills.

Motion needed to pay bills by Ed Barlow seconded by Jasper Lakey. Motion Carried.

## **GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Harold Brode invited everyone to Brecknock Park on the 15<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 for Safe Summer Day.

Clayton Yocum stated there was a company in VA hurting for equipment. Please Donate

Grover stated the Children's Fire Safety Foundation decided to dissolve and thought the money should be given to the Organization.

Motion to adjourn by Ed Barlow, seconded by Jasper Lakey

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was regularly moved by Ed Barlow and seconded by Jasper Lakey that the June Executive Committee Meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried. Pastor Bob Hudson offered the Benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
*Melissa R. Kiser*  
**Melissa R. Kiser**  
**Corresponding Secretary**

I hereby attest that this a true copy of the proceedings of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association Executive Committee Meeting held on June 09, 2013.

**Attest: Elmer Steele**  
**Secretary**