

DVFA EXECUTIVE MEETING
Delaware State Fire School
June 11, 2017

Call to order at 10:00 A.M. by President Ted Walius

Invocation offered by DVFA Chaplain, Blake Bowers

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Officers – by Executive Manager Warren Jones

- [X] Ted Walius, 75, President
- [X] Richard Perillo, 11, 1st Vice President
- [X] Bill Betts, 49, 2nd Vice President
- [E] Elmer Steele 81, Corporate Secretary
- []
- [X] George Pyott, 43, Asst. Treasurer
- [X] Keith Bowman, 17, New Castle County Director
- [X] Alan Post, 64, Kent County Director
- [X] Charles Arnold, 82, Sussex County Director
- [X] Anthony Guzzo, 19, Past President - Director
- [X] Dan Carrier, 19, Director, New Castle County
- [X] Ken Ryder, 48, Director, Kent County
- [E] Clay Yocum, 78, Director, Sussex County
- DVFA Staff**
- [X] Warren Jones, 16/86 Executive Manager

Guests

Report of Officers

President, Walius

President Walius went through the timeline with reference to removal of Treasurer J. Allen Metheny from the Treasurer’s Office of the DVFA and his removal from the NVFC as well. He informed the Executive Committee that Assistant Treasurer George Pyott has been appointed to take over the duties of Treasurer. He informed them that EM Warren Jones and Pablo Reyes have worked with George to bring him up to speed.

First Vice President, Perillo

The traveling report has been send to the office and is on the DVFA Website. VP Perillo informed the Executive Committee that the DVFA Office was setting up an email communication network for members of the executive committee and that a sheet was being passed around to have them enter their email addresses. On the DVFA Website if a list of the companies of the companies who applied for the DVFA Website. He reported on the EDIAFC Conference in

Rehoboth and congratulated President Bill Betts on a very successful term. He also reported on the committee selection for this year. Committees will be selected in September by the new officers. Sheets will be sent out and there will be a location at the conference where you can sign up for committees. After committee selection has been made the chairperson of that committee will contact each member of that committee to notify them of their appointment to the committee and passing along any information necessary. He next reported on the Special Olympics of Delaware's Over the Edge fund raising event and that raised \$23,000. He would like to see the entire fire service in Delaware get involved in SODE and make it a statewide sponsorship.

Second Vice President, Betts

My report has already send in to the office. He reported on his EDIAFC meeting. He reported on the Cumberland Valley seven state meeting and the knowledge gained from both. He talked about the CVVFA meeting where Bill Preston, our attorney, came to the meeting and gave a very good legal presentation of things we should be doing in the fire service. He reported on our meeting with all the Delaware Congressional Delegation (Blunt-Rochester, Carper and Coons) while at the CFSI. He talked about how CFSI and IAFC are key factors in making sure the AFG and SAFER grants are funded. He reported on FDIC and the two opening ceremonies as well as the classes he attended. He talked about his experience as President of the EDIAFC and the recent EDIAFC Conference in Rehoboth.

Secretary: Steele, Excused on assignment

Assistant Treasurer, Pyott

Read the totals of March 18 to June 17 Report and covered the totals of the all accounts

Motion needed to Accept Officers reports and spread them upon the minuets

Motion by Carroll Jester, Second by Dick Ward to accept the Officer's Reports, Motion Passed.

Executive Manager Report: Warren Jones

Legislative Hall:

The budget situation is not going well. The Joint Finance Committee has stopped work on the budget. Several weeks ago there was proposal to cut our Grant in Aid by \$1 Million Dollars, remove us out of Grant in Aid, place us in the budget under the commission and have the commission decide how the money would be distributed and who would get it. By the end of the day we had the votes to stop that proposal. However, that doesn't mean we are safe from any cuts. We can't wait until we here of cuts we need to work now to stop it before it happens. We are asking each of you to contact your legislators and ask them to vote against any cuts for the fire service. To some Grant in Aid's \$5.8 million might not seem like much but to you all in Kent and Sussex County, because of leveling up and equalization, it is substantial.

This is a very though year with partisan politics playing a key role. The Governor wants to make up the \$400 million deficit with 50% cuts and 50% in new income. Right now that is not being done and doesn't look like it will be anytime soon. I've heard talk of going right past July 1 into the next week.

NFFF: The NFFF Memorial is October 8 at Emmitsburg. The DVFA is providing busses to take any Firefighter or Ladies Auxiliary member to the memorial service. We sent out registration flyers to all the fire companies. We need to know some idea of how many will be going so we can order the busses. Right now we have 75 signed up. If you are ordering your own bus or

going on your own we are arranging for reserve seating. Let us know approximately how many are coming even if going on your own. We are ordering the busses next week.

I want to wish you all a Happy 4th of July and I hope I am home on vacation that week and not in legislative hall.

DVFA Legal Counsel Report: Willard Preston, No Report

Recruitment and Retention Coordinator, Earle Dempsey

Upcoming events, Boys States and Girls States presentation next week. Would appreciate fire companies to participate. Would like 5 pieces of apparatus, 2:00 Tuesday. Thanks to the LADVFA on help with Girls States. The other event is the State Fair Sponsorship, July 20 – 29, 2017. Need volunteers to staff our recruiting booths during the 10 days of the event. We will have tickets to the monster truck event on Friday evening.

Committee Reports

1. State Fire Prevention Commission – Chairman Dave Roberts

Introduced the commissioners present. Reported on the money distribution on the ballistic vests. Discussed the REPLICA bill which passed the Senate.

2. Advisory to State Fire Marshal - Grover P. Ingle, Fire Marshal

Two fire fatalities so far this year, one had a working smoke alarms one did not. The new fire marshals are in training at the academy and doing very well, we should have them out in the field by the middle of August. Reported on an issue at the New Castle site. We are continuing working the Delaware Sprinkler coalition. He reported the President Walius will be retiring from his part time position with the State Fire Marshall's office. He congratulated the President and wished him well.

3. Advisory to DSFS – Robert P. Newman, Director:

Annual Planning and Evaluation Staff Meeting will be the week of June 19. The Director discussed the State Budget, the Phase 5 Fire Training Prop and the additional fall training programs being offered. The Weekday EMT programs are full, Delaware Weekend at the National Fire Academy is November 11 – 12, 2017. The AFG grant application has been approved. The total amount was \$480,000. With it will come a forcible entry trailer, ambulance simulator, cargo tank models and rail car tanker training trailer. He reported on the status on the expansion project at the New Castle Division, the Junior Fire Camp and Camp Fury for Girls, ages 13-17.

4. DVFA Conference– John Stevenson

We met with the Dover Downs staff on May 17, 2017 to review contract obligations for 2017 and 2018. Attending were Lisa Skelly, Chef Mike, Ted Walius, Rich Perillo, Bill Betts, Elmer Steele, John McKenzie and John Stevenson. First this discussed were room contacts. For changes, additions or cancellations you need to contact Lisa Skelly. All changes are required to be in writing (email). If you have not sent in the final rooms list with, arrival and departure, you need to do so by August 1. Room confirmations will be sent out by August 15. We are under contract for the rooms we book, any cancellations with less than 2 weeks before arrival could result in paying for room. Name changes can be completed at any time, must be in writing.

DVFA Obligations: We must spend \$75,000 on food and beverages in 2017. This does not include service charges. We must spend \$60,000 in 2018. Bar charges are \$12,000, this does not include offsite bars. Cash bar have a bartender fee starting at \$75.00 for the first 2 hours. Estimated cash bar fees could be a minimum of \$2500.00 to cover bartender cost. 2017 had an option for Monday, EMS elected to opt out of Monday. Monday was turned back to the hotel. In the past, the choir has used the hotel for practice on Monday. The room is rented out, it will not be available for practice. 2018 has an option for Tuesday. If it is elected to opt out then the only event we will have on Tuesday is the Past President's dinner. This could result in us paying for rooms Tuesday to have the seminars and office.

Each room has a cost factor. Cost for the full ballroom is \$18,000 per event. The ball room is broken down into A, B and C rooms depending on which one is used. Food and beverage cost includes room cost, administrative fees, and room set up fees. Dover Downs possible charge for the room if food and beverage cost does not offset the events. The food and beverages at our luncheons, past president's dinner, meet your hose, fire police dinner, Ladies hospitality, EMS banquet offset the cost of all the rooms we use now. Any changes in our food and beverage could result in us being charged a penalty fee if the DVFA does not meet the agreed upon contract expenditure. 53 fire companies stayed at the hotel last year. The DVFA takes up to 90% of the meeting space. This does not include the outside exhibits which they do not charge for.

Vendor set up starts Tuesday morning at 0730. There will be not security on Monday evening. Forms are on the website. All men's registration forms are due back by August 8. Ladies have an earlier date. Check the website after 5 days for the names. Keep checking back for updates on EMS Training and seminars, still trying to finalize some. HOT training is partnered with the DSFS using the new simulator. The Director and Warren are working on the sign up.

I'm not recommended to reinstate the parade. A committee should be appointed to come back with a recommendation on the parade or to progress into a more social event to support fire prevention and public education. A muster could be held along with this.

2019 and beyond. New incoming President Rich Perillo will need to appoint a committee to review the direction this association is going in the future around the conference and come back with recommendations. A site selection committee can then be appointed to select a conference site and finalize a contract for 2019 and beyond.

5. Wake up Delaware – Paul Eichler

Wake up Delaware has no inventory of smoke alarms. We have been awarded a \$200,000 grant for a smoke detector program with some specific requirements. It is the recommendation of the Wake up Delaware Committee that we just sit on this for now until we get some further clarification. If you have been contacted by the Red Cross who has been running a smoke detector program, please feel free to pass my name (Paul Eichler) and contact information on to them. We would be more than happy to work with them. The next meeting of the Delaware Sprinkler Coalition will be on Friday, June 30 at the DSFS, Dover site.

6. Financial Committee – Dan Burris

A proposed budget has been put together. Keep in mind this is a 11 month budget. Be happy to work together with George to finalize the report.

7. Out of State Coordinators – Steve Austin,

Many event are coming up they are MSFA on June 19, CVVFA August 4 at McConnellsburg, PA, followed by the WV convention in the Wheeling area. If anyone is interested in going please contact me with any information.

8. DVFA Foundation – Steve Austin

After conversation with Vice Chairman Jim Cabbage we made the decision to remove J. Allen Metheny from the foundation Board of Directors. We have notified all the director of that decision. We want to thank LADVFA President Lynn Warner for appointing Carol Walton to the Foundation to take the place of Vicki Ford who job change caused her to resign from the Foundation. Carol attended her first meeting and was immediately appointed as Secretary. Dave Majewski was appointed to an assessment committee to replace J. Allen Metheny.

9. Law and Legislative – Bruce Ennis

He reported on REPLICA, SERT, SB68 and the Budget including that there has been two shortages in the past in Grant in Aids under the Equalization Formula that is you add up have approximately \$1 million dollars. Executive Manager added information on three other bills, one with no bill number allows career firefighters of volunteer fire companies to join the Municipal Police and Firefighter’s Pension Plan, the second is HB192 for EMT License plates that has been held until next session, and SB91 a bill requiring CO Detectors to be installed in all lodging establishments.

10. Permanent Memorial – Dan Burris

Dan reported on the statute for the monument for the memorial.

Recognition of Past Presidents – 1st Vice President Richard Perillo

- [] Emanuel J. Harkins, 14, 1967
- [] Arthur I. Guessford, 24, 1973
- [] Raymond H. McCall, 3, 6 & 12, 1979
- [] William G. Walton, Sr. 16, 1982
- [] Lawrence Mergenthaler, 21, 1985
- [] Thomas V. Baker, Sr., 57, 1986
- [X] Edwin S. Barlow, 20, 1991
- [] Elmer B. Steele, 81, 1993
- [X] Harry E. Warner, Jr., 25, 1994
- [] J. Allen Metheny, 51, 1995
- [] Lynn J. Rogers, 85, 1996
- [] Michael H. Vincent, 87, 1999
- [X] Stephen P. Austin, 7, 8 & 9, 2000
- [X] James L. Cabbage, Jr., 45, 2001
- [] Dale A. Callaway, 85, 2002
- [X] Jasper H. Lakey, 15, 2003
- [X] Marvin C. Sharp, 42, 2004
- [X] Raymond T. Stevens, 88, 2005
- [X] Kennard L. Pyle, 4 & 24, 2006
- [X] Alan F. Robinson, Jr., 44, 2007
- [X] Ronald H. Marvel, 87, 2008
- [X] Warren F. Jones, 16, 2009
- [] Kevin L. Wilson, 45, 2010
- [X] William Tobin, 89, 2011

- [X] Charles Frampton, 11, 2012
- [X] Charles Boyer, 46, 2013
- [X] Richard Toulson, 87, 2014
- [X] Anthony Guzzo, 19, 2015
- [X] Joseph Zeroles, 47, 2016

President Emeritus

- [X] Louis J. Amabili, 19
- [] C. Bryan Bennett, 87
- [] J. Benjamin Roy, Jr., 43
- [X] Bruce C. Ennis, 44
- [] Joseph R. Biden, Jr. – US Vice President
- [] Michael Castle

Recognition of current Fire Company Presidents and Chiefs

Affiliated Organizations/ Agency Representatives

Ladies' Auxiliary:

Lynn Warner, 1st Vice President

Introduced her Officers, Past Presidents, and County Officers in attendance. She spoke about honoring President Lois Pearson at this year's conference. One of the ways was the selling of a green shirt with an Angel on it. As reported Vicki Ford has resigned from the Foundation and Carol Walton has taken her place. Also, we are saddened by the loss of Virginia Yeager, we are not replacing her as conference secretary this year. Pam Ingle will take Virginia's spot on the installation committee for the joint ceremony. She thanked the DVFA for all their help and support this year.

State Fire Chiefs:

Terry Jester, President

Reported on the June 22 meeting and Expo at Harrington. Please advise all chiefs that there will be a vote on the Mayday Policy at this meeting. August 20 is the State Chiefs Chicken Barbeque in Greenwood. At the Conference meeting in September the guest speaker will be Bobby Halton from FDIC. He reported the State Chiefs Treasurer, Ronny Marvel successfully did a dive save on a young man who had drowned in Seaford.

State Fire Police:

Marty Redington, President

Not Present

State Ambulance Association:

Amy Yonko, 1st Vice President

Reported on their next meeting on June 22.

DVFA Mutual Relief Association

Bill Tobin

Thanked all the companies for inviting us to come and do a presentation. If you want us to come to your fire companies or Auxiliaries please contact Gini Tice.

Communications

The following communications were received and are summarized by the Executive Manager Warren Jones

Letter from Brandywine Hundred supporting Richard Perillo for President of the DVFA

Letter from SCVFA supporting Elmer Steele for Secretary of the DVFA

Letter from SCVFA supporting Clay Yocum for 2nd Vice President

Letters from the following for Delegates and Alternates:

Carlisle, Marydel, Clayton, Holloway Terrace, Little Creek, Volunteer Hose, Roxana, Good Will, Bowers, Harrington, South Bowers, Houston, Wilmington Manor, Indian River, Brandywine Hundred and Cranston Heights.

Letter from Bethany Beach with reference to not having an appointed delegate at this time

Letter from the Greenwood Fire Company requesting reconsideration of the canceling of the parade.

Letter from the Ellendale Fire Company supporting Norman Jay Jones for Director of the DVFA

Letter from the Laurel Fire Department recommending Elmer Steele for Secretary of the DVFA

Letter from the Hartly Fire Company with reference to the suspension of J. Allen Metheny

Letter from J. Allen Metheny resigning as Treasurer of the DVFA

Letter from Clayton reference the vote on the parade

Letter from Mill Creek recommending John Fox to be President Emeritus of the DVFA

Motion by Steven Maichle, Second by Joe Zeroles to accept the communications. Motion Passed

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Charlie Frampton, Second by Tom DiCristofaro to bring the tabled motion off the table for cash bars at the conference. Motion by Michael Brittingham, second by Tom DiCristofaro to have cash bars at the conference. After much discussion, motion to go to cash bars was rescinded.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Dan Burris, Second by Les McCourt to make John Fox President Emeritus of the DVFA Motion Passed.

Motion by Joe Jones, Second by Bob Yerkes to support a Standing Statue for the Memorial, Motion Passed

Motion by Harold Brode, Second by Mike Brittingham to have a parade in 2018 and beyond.

Motion by Jeff Eisenbrey, Second by Charles Frampton to table the motion for the parade.

Motion to table under a roll call vote was defeated, 33 Yes, 73 No.

Motion to have a parade in 2018 and beyond was decided to by the Parliamentarians to need a 66% vote for passage. The motion was defeated, 45 Yes, 64 No.

Motion by Mike Brittingham, Second by Jon Townley to have a forensic audit done on our books at a cost not to exceed \$75,000. Motion defeated.

After some discussion on the cost. Motion by Mike Brittingham, Second by Jon Townley to have a forensic audit done on our books at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 and not to be done by our current accountant. Motion Passed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Assistant Treasurer George Pyott

Motion by Ted Doyle, Second by Earle Dempsey to pay the bills. Motion Passed.

Motion by Bernie Nutter, Second by Terry Whitham to accept the resignation of Treasurer Metheny, Motion Passed.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Jasper Lakey reported that the bridge in Delaware City was named in honor of Michelle Smith.

Bill Betts suggested we look around for a less expensive place for our conference.

BENEDICTION

By Blake Bowers

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved seconded that the Executive Committee Meeting be adjourned.
Motion Carried.

**Respectfully submitted,
Warren F. Jones, Executive Manager**

I hereby attest that this a true copy of the proceedings of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association Executive Committee Meeting held on June 11, 2017.

Attest: Theodore H. Walius, President