

First quarterly meeting of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen Association was called to order on Sunday, December 11, 1988 at the Delaware State Fire School by President Frank King, time 1000 A.M.

Invocation was given by J. Allen Metheny, Treasurer; followed by the Pledge of Alligance to the Flag.

Minutes from the previous meeting and convention are in the printer's hand and in process of being printed.

ROLL CALL: In attendance were 16 Officers; 14 Past Presidents; 140 members.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Metheny presented his report in printed form, copy attached herewith, Pension bills have been sent to all concerned.

REPORT OF OFFICERS: Officers presented their reports in printed form and are made a record herewith.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITIES: Morris King (Chairman) presented Mr Robert Williams, Public Relations for Diamond State Telephone Co, who stated that all companies will receive a donation from Dia St Tel by the end of the year, companies with Dia St Tel facilities in their district will receive more of a donations then those without.

ADVISORY TO STATE FIRE MARSHAL: Ben Roy (Fire Marshal) reported on progress of building - on schedule; Computerized Bulletin Board progress was discussed, Jay Reynolds working on this project; Difficulty in filling the Electrical Inspector position has resulted in asking State Personnel to change to Deputy Fire Marshal slot with specification that they have a knowledge of electric - decision appears to be favorable from personnel in near future.

ADVISORY TO STATE FIRE SCHOOL: Lou Amabili (Fire School Director) reported on progress of obtaining 2 burn centers (1 in New Castle County and 1 in Sussex County). Haz Mat Computerized Network in process of field testing for rest of month, should be in operation at all three county emergency centers in January.

ADVISORY TO MUTUAL RELIEF: Don Ray (Chairman) reported that seminars have been conducted in all three counties reference to new forms being utilized by Mutual Relief. Problem with Workman's Compensation was discussed at their meeting and results are trying to be obtained from responsible agencies.

APPARATUS STANDARDS: Willard Betts (Chairman) reported that with the apparent problems with the new rescue boat recommended standards that any company with a problem submit same to his committee.

ARCHIVES: Robert Romig (Chairman) reported on progress of new trophy cases being completed in hallway of the Fire School. This committee also recommends to the State Fire Chief's Association that their Fireman of the Year receipt be limited to one individual.

BY-LAWS: Dean Sampson (Co-Chairman) reported committee awaiting finalized information on boat standards from Apparatus Standard Committee. It is planned to have a draft of the new By-Laws in printed form this year 1988-89.

CENTRAL PURCHASING: Bruce Ennis (Chairman) reported that several new items have appeared on central purchasing contracts, copies of index are on table in front of room for hand out. Two new items (protective clothing and parade uniforms) are now available for contracting. A seminar will be held in February and March to familiarize everyone with what is available, Fire Chief have already received copies of this information.

DVFA PENSION ADVISORY: Frank King (Chairman) reported that a Pension Handbook is available to each fire company and ladies auxiliary. Letter sent out is self explanatory, all pension monies and information will be sent through the Treasurer, DVFA. Deadline for all pension monies and information is February 15, 1989.

FIRE PREVENTION: Ron Marvel (Chairman) thanked the DVFA for the increase in money this year. program will be at 2:00 P.M. this afternoon; gifts have also been obtained for the teachers involved. Request for reimbursement in fire prevention monies must be in Ron Marvel's possession not later than January 31, 1989.

FIREMAN OF THE YEAR: Frank King presented a placque to Mr. William Quillen and one to the President of Millville Fire Co for his being named Fireman of the Year.

INSURANCE RESEARCH: Steve Austin (Chairman) reported that letter had been sent to all companies informing them that any employee that was not a member of the company will not be covered by Workman's Compensation. Workman Compensation for the fire service is the same as for any state employee and is handled as such. Insurance handbook by DVFA will be forthcoming. Austin gave a report on the Out of State Coordinator's activity since convention.

LAW & LEGISLATIVE: John Mitchell (Chairman) reported that the committee will work for support from the legislative members on the seven (7) priorities set forth by the DVFA officers' meeting in October. Mitchell will also work with Rep Bruce Ennis on the blue marker for fire hydrants bill.

LIAISON TO STATE AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION & EMS TASK FORCE: Howard Killen (Chairman) reported that two recommendations will be asked for under proper order of business; (1) Survey to all ambulance companies asking which they prefer 45 hrs vs. 110 hrs; (2) Survey to all ambulance companies asking who they prefer to administer ambulance programs Delaware State Fire School vs. State EMS Office.

LIAISON TO STATE FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION: Leon Shahan reported for the Chairman that training was discussed to hold classes in each county, to make the training more convenient for members. Classes to be held at different intervals, thus enabling members who miss a class to pick it up in another county.

LIAISON TO STATE LADIES' AUXILIARIES: Ted Doyle reported that the committee had met with the President of State Ladies Auxiliaries this date and asked if they could begin their convention on Thursday. Pres Moore will take it back to ladies to bring it up at their executive meeting.

PERMANENT MEMORIAL: C.O. Smith (Chairman) reported electrical problem at memorial and work that needs to be done. New proposals on cost of repairs will be presented at March meeting.

RADIO: Bill Bell (New Castle County Dispatch Center) reported that Wicomico County (MD) is operating on same frequency as our statewide frequency - this will be monitored. Reported on 911 Enhanced and expressed his concern over the power struggle in progress. He suggested the possibility of a 911 Executive Board to monitor system. Dick McCoy (New Castle 800 Mgh) reported that little progress had been and the monies approved by legislature in last session is in limbo at present time.

RESOLUTIONS: Richard E. Ennis (Chairman) reported that his committee has two resolutions for approval and will be brought up under proper order of business; 1 - Resolution to Kansas City Fire Department on death of 6 firefighters; 2 - Resolution on death of Elbert C. "Bud" Golder.

SCHOLARSHIP: George Kerr (Co-Chairman) reported that literature will be going out after January 1, 1989 on applications for scholarship fund.

NFPA 1500: Grover Ingle reported for the Chairman that the final report has been prepared and is at the front of the room for distribution to all companies. Committee asks that the report be taken back to individual companies, discussed and come to the March meeting prepared to take action on same. He reported that little input was received from the fire companies of this state.

NVFA: Jim Lister reported for James Monihan, reporting on meeting held in Freeport, ME. Monihan would still like to see all Delaware companies belong to the NVFC.

STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION: Clyde Luton (Chairman) reported that the next meeting of the commission will be held on December 13, 1988 at State Fire School. He further reported that new fire code will be ready for distribution in January, 1989.

COMMUNICATIONS: Jon Cottrell (Assistant Secretary) reported the receipt of the following correspondence: Ltr, Milton Fire Dept, re: Moving Memorial; Ltr, Milton Fire Dept, re: Rescue Boat Standards; Ltr, Millsboro, re: Rescue Boat Standards; Ltr, Christiana Fire Co, re: Past Presidents Picture at DSFS: Delaware State Fire Chiefs, re; NFPA 1500; Ltr, Sussex County Firemen Assn, re: Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Co; Ltr, Elsmere Fire Co, re: Convention Parade Trophies; Ltr, Kent County Firemen Assn, re: Support of changing name of Fire Prevention Committee; Ltr, Senator Roth, re: Licensing of Emergency Vehicle Drivers; Ltr, New Castle County Firemen Assn, re: Support of "ull-tabs" use at various functions; Ltr, Sussex County Firemen Assn, re: Support of "pull-tab" use at various functions; Thank You Cards from Golder Family; Walls Family; Tatman Family; and Ginn Family. Moved by C.O. Smith (Felton) seconded by Bruce Ennis (Citizens Hose) to accepted communications and bring up under proper order of business - so carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Harry Warner (Dir, New Castle) moved that the motion of a couple years ago to transfer funds from Mutual Relief to Pension Fund be rescinded and that the matter be dropped, seconded by George Kerr (Dir, New Castle) - so carried. Mark Strecker (Elsmere) expressed concern over Workmen Compensation - problem will be turned over to Insurance Research and Mutual Relief Committees.

Moved by Hal Barber (Betheny Beach), seconded by Don Ray (Christiana), to have our lobbyist pursue having legislation enacted to include a member of this association Accident Industrial Relation Board - so carried.

Bruce Ennis (Citizens Hose) reported on 800 Mgh project and monies involved that have not been fully identified as to their purpose. Moved by Bruce Ennis (Citizens Hose), seconded by Harry Warner (Talleyville), to send a letter from this Association to OTM asking status of monies and lack of input from this organization - so carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Norman Tate (Pres, Sussex County) moved, seconded by John Bare (Director, Sussex County) to suspend Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Co from this association for non-payment of dues and assessments. George Kerr (Minquas) asked for 5 minutes cacasus. Question by Hojnicky, S (Minquadale) asked if they were current with this association, he also questioned under our By-Laws the reason for suspension. Norman Tate gave update on the situation. Much discussion held on subject - cacasus called. Recalled to session by President King who stated the motion again - Motion was to suspend Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Co under Article 1, Section II of Constitution. Ike Guessford (Odessa) moved, seconded by Terry Witham (Robbins Hose) that the suspension remain in effect until settled to the satisfaction of Sussex County Fireman Assn and to the satisfaction of this Association - so carried. Moved by George Kerr (Minquas), seconded by Hojnicke, Jr (Minquadale) to ask for a voice vote on original motion, as amended, - so carried. Motion, as amended, carried. Hal Barber (Betheny Beach) questioned effect on Mutual Relief of suspension on said company, Pres King suggested he contact their lawyer for an opinion.

George Kerr (Minquas) moved, seconded by Jim Cabbage (Clayton) that this Association By-Laws be changed to state any organization must be in good standing with their County Assn. to belong to the State Assn - so carried.

Moved by Joe Vattiliano (Talleyville), seconded by Roland Neeman (Felton) to adopt the two (2) resolutions presented by Richard Ennis - so carried.

Moved by C.O. Smith (Felton) reported old Xmas wreath was getting in bad shape, Pres King instructed him to replace same under regular operation and maintenance expenses.

*add* Moved by John Mitchell (Elsmere), seconded by Hojnocki Jr (Minquadale), to accept the priorities list as set by State Officers for coming year - so carried.

Moved by John Mitchell (Elsmere), seconded by Jim Cabbage (Clayton) that the DVFA spend up to \$500 for trip to Washington to visit the Delaware Legislation delegation; George Pyott stated money was in the budget under transportation; several questions asked on subject, vote taken - so carried.

Moved by John Mitchell (Elsmere) mentioned changing tax law to include women for \$75.00 exemption - bill already covers ladies in that amount.

Moved by John Mitchell (Elsmere), seconded by Morris King (Hartly), to support the "Pull-tab" legislation - so carried.

Moved by John Mitchell (Elsmere), seconded by Mark Strecker (Elsmere), to support blue light on any other agency under FPC - Harry Warner (Talleyville) questioned bill and need for it. Clyde Luton (Chairman, Fire Prevention Commission) explained the original intent of bill. Vote on motion taken - motion defeated.

Moved by John Mitchell (Elsmere), seconded by Don Ray (Christiana), the legislation be supported to raise the burial expenses from \$800 to \$2000 - so carried.

Steve Austin (Aetna) moved, seconded by Bill Betts (Frederica) to have the purchase of a printing machine for use of Secretary turned over to Central Purchasing for possible obtaining of same - so carried.

Moved by Don Ray (Christiana), seconded by George Diamond (Magnolia) that the Archives Committee pursue having pictures of past presidents of this Assn and Ladies placed in the Archives of the School (Archives Committee to check on prices and place in budget) - so carried.

Mark Strecker (Elsmere) spoke on DEMSEC report and was quite upset over same.

Moved by Hojnicky Jr (Minquaddale), seconded by Hal Blades (Harrington), that the President appoint a 3 member committee to handle Sussex vs Rehoboth situation (President could be a member) - so carried.

Bill Bell (Holloway Terrace) explained that the 3 counties dispatch center Chiefs will meet after the holidays to discuss the problems with radios.

John Wilson (Wilmington Manor) moved, seconded by C.O. Smith (Felton), that the Judge's decision on the Wilmington Manor study be reviewed by the Law & Legislative Committee and a report be made in March with any recommendations - so carried.

John Wilson (Wilmington Manor) moved, seconded by Hojnicky Jr (Minquaddale) to oppose the MEMSEC Sub Committee Report in its entirety - so carried (1 negative vote).

Hal Blades (Harrington) recommends a survey to all ambulance companies and this was explained by Howard Killen (Cheswold). Hojnicky Sr. question the need for such a survey. Vote taken - motion defeated.

Following correspondence sent to committees as indicated by Pres King:  
Ltr Milton Fire Co, re: Moving Memorial (Permanent Memorial)  
Ltr Christiana Fire Co, re: Past Pres Pictures (Archives)  
Ltr, Elsmere Fire Co, re: Parade Trophies (Convention Liaison)  
Ltr Del State Fire Chief, re: NFPA 1500 (NFPA 1500)  
Ltr, Milton Fire Co, re: Boat Standards (Apparatus Standards)  
Ltr, Millsboro Fire Co, re: Boat Standards (Apparatus Standards)

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Moved by C.O. Smith (Felton), seconded by George Kerr (Minquas), to pay all bills (bills totaling \$6,040.10) - so carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Marie Moore (President, Ladies Auxilliaris) was introduced and she, in turn, introduced her ladies that were with her.

Larry Mergenthaler (Mill Creek) reported that partial Insurance checks rebate will be issued in February, the remainder in May per State Treasurer.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Ike Guessford (Odessa), seconded by Larry Mergenthaler (Mill Creek) to adjourn - so carried. Adjournment at 12:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William R. Carrow". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

William R. Carrow  
Secretary