

DVFA OFFICER'S MEETING

May 21, 2009

Memorial Fire Company

President Warren F. Jones called the May DVFA Officer's Meeting to order at 1830 Hrs at the Social Hall of the Memorial Fire Co., and welcomed all who were present. He then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag and DVFA Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr. offered the invocation.

Attendance:

President Warren F. Jones
First Vice President Kevin L. Wilson
Second Vice President William F. Tobin
Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr.
Executive Secretary James L. Cabbage, Jr.
Director Alan F. Robinson, Jr., PP
Director Charles Boyer
Director Lynn Truitt
Director Michael Rains
Director Roland Walker
DVFA PP E. James Monihan

LADVFA President Carol Walton
LADVFA First Vice President Lorraine Madden
LADVFA Secretary Virginia Yeager
LADVFA Asst. Sec. Joanne Catalino
LADVFA Treasurer Kim Figs
LADVFA Asst. Treas. Lois Pearson
LADVFA PP Eileen Doyle
DSFPA President John P. Fox
DSFPA President Robert G. Stineman
SFPC Marvin C. Sharp, Chairman
Ted Doyle, Chairman, Site Selection Committee

President Jones then recessed the meeting for dinner at 1832 Hrs. After Dinner President Jones thanked the Ladies of the Memorial Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary for the delicious dinner.

The Meeting was reconvened at 1901 Hrs.

President Jones then called on the following members and guests for reports and remarks:

LADVFA: President Carol Walton brought greetings from the LADVFA and introduced her Officers that were present. She stated that the R&R Seminar was very successful & well received. 30 + ladies attended the Workman's Comp Seminar and was very informative..

DSFCA President John P. Fox brought greetings from the State Fire Police Association and advised that the next meeting of the Chiefs will be on Expo on June 25, 2009 here at Slaughters Beach. Looking for a large crowd.

DSFPA President Robert G. Stineman advised that they are still in the process of issuing new ID Cards for the State Fire Police. The Quarterly Meeting of the State Fire Police was held on May 17, 2009 at the Delaware State Fire School.

SFPC Chairman Marvin C. Sharp stated that the first meeting of the SFPC Standards Committee was held last Monday. He advised the members will give status reports at their respective organizations monthly meetings. He advised that they will start reviewing basic training, the Fire Fighter II, and then Officer training. It is a work in progress. He then discussed and thanked the DVFA for their support

during the Joint Sunset Committee Hearings on the SFPC, DSFS and OSFM held at Legislative Hall. They will be a review and a probable rewrite of Title 16, Chapter 66 as it relates to the SPFC, a new SFPC Advisory Board and several other recommendations that the JSC will make in their final written report.

President Warren F. Jones reported on the following items:

Miss Delaware Advised that that the DVFA will prepare a Resolution for presentation to Miss Delaware for all of her work and appearances at fire prevention activities throughout Delaware during her reign.

Recruitment & Retention Stated that there will not be a seminar at this year's Conference. It will be a separate event, date to be announced. Followed up on the remarks of LADVFA President Walton on the recent R & R Seminar and advised that under the SAFER Grant that a DVFA Recruitment Coordinator will be Contracted. Job Announcements for this position will go out around June 1, 2009 with a June 30th closing date.

State Budget Stated that he is very concerned about the financial situation that the State is in and the effect it may have on our Grant in Aid. He wanted every fire company to take this in consideration as they prepare their yearly budgets.

Meeting with Governor Markell Stated the DVFA Chair Officers had a very brief meeting with Governor Markell and discussed our concerns on several financial issues affecting the fire service including Grant in Aid, Kent & Sussex leveling up funds and other initiatives that have funding issues attached. The Governor was very attentive but made no firm commitment other than to look into the issues.

Grant in Aid Preliminary reports are that the Grant in Aid funds may be cut up to 15% from last year's funding levels. There are many factors that could affect those figures and we will not be aware of the final figures till the Budget is passed on June 30th.

DVFA Budget .He advised that the DVFA Officer's are very concerned about the DVFA budget and have tried to keep expenses to a minimum. As they prepare the FY-10 the will look for ways to trim the budget.

First Vice President Kevin L. Wilson reported on the following items:

DVFA Web Page Stated that several changes have been made and that the committee will be adding some new features including a New Apparatus Section. If you have any suggestions for the web page, please contact the First Vice President.

DVFA Memorial Advised that June 14th at 2 PM has been set for the unveiling of Wayne Steen & Michelle Smith's name on the DVFA Memorial.

Second Vice President William F. Tobin reported that a preliminary draft of the President's Handbook should be available soon. He and PP Alan Robinson are working on the final sections and have discussed making it web based accessible instead of printing. More to follow.

Site Selection Chairman Ted Doyle reviewed the Site Selection Committee report on the proposal for 2011-2013 Conference Location. He reported that 11 proposals were sent to different facilities throughout the State and only two were received. The Dover Sheraton and Dover Downs. The committee has met and reviewed the recommendations and will propose that the DVFA accept Dover Downs at the Conference Meeting in September. Chairman Doyle will have a detailed report for each company at the June Executive Committee Meeting.

DVFA FOUNDATION Vice Chairman Cabbage reported that the Foundation met on Monday, April 20, 2009 at the Kent County EOC. The next meeting will be August 17, 2009. All are Welcome.

Federal Legislative Issues Executive Secretary Cabbage reported for PP Stephen P. Austin. Recommended a letter to the Congressional Delegation and Vice President Biden expressing our concern with the President's budget request for the FIRE Act funding at &170 Million representing a 70% cut in funding. DVFA should request funding for the FIRE Act as least the level of FY 2009 of \$565 Million.

We Should support SAFER at \$420 Million as recommend by the President. Both these requests are in line with the major fire service organization's letter to be forwarded to Congress next week. DVFA PP Monihan had several questions on the funding level and advised that he would contact PP Austin.

FIRE CORP Chairman E. James Monihan advised advertising is being placed in the Weekly Newspapers in the upcoming weeks urging Delaware Citizens to join Fire Corp. The delay was to increase our visibility by covering more people with a reduced rate in advertising fees.

NVFC DVFA PP Monihan reported that the NVFC Board of Directors met at the NVFC Office in Greenbelt, MD on April 01, 2009. He reported on the following issues:

- The NVFC has prepared a position statement in regards to the IAFF two hatter issue
- Have provided seminars on "How to write Grants"
- Has grave concerns about the funding of the Fire Act and SAFER Grants for FY 2010
- Advised that the Home Builders are making a major attack on overturning the ICC Fire Sprinkler Ordinance
- The Junior Fire Fighter Scholarship Program is again open, go to NVFC Web Site for further details
- Look for the upcoming Baskins Robbins \$.31 scoop night in your district

- Advised that J. Allen Metheny, Sr has again been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the NVFC

MISC ITEM Executive Secretary Cabbage reported on the following items:

- Reviewed the Legislative Report
- Reported on the Allen Metheny Retirement Reception on May 27 @ 1400 Hrs.
- Advised that AA Melissa Kiser will be out on medical leave – May 28 to June 11
- Discussed the lease on the DVFA Office copier and made a recommendation for Another Cannon Copier

Motion by Director Truitt, seconded by Treasurer Metheny that the DVFA enter into a Three Year lease with Cannon for a new office copier. Motion Carried

CLOSING COMMENTS

Director Truitt advised that she will be attending the next New Castle County Council Meeting to make Public Comments in regards to the layoffs of Public Service Employees in New Castle County.

President Jones thanked everyone for their attendance and their participation in the Delaware Fire Service. He advised that the has been a very unusual and trying year but as usual the fire service has accepted the challenge.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Director Walker, seconded by Director Rains that we adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 237 Hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Cabbage, Jr.
James L. Cabbage, Jr.
Executive Secretary