



**DVFA EXECUTIVE MEETING**  
**Delaware State Fire School**  
**March 10, 2024**

The March 10, 2024 DVFA Executive meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President Ron O'Neal at the Delaware State Fire School complex in Dover.

Invocation offered by Guy Hudson

Pledge of Allegiance led by Past President Richard T. Perillo

**Special Guests:**

CFSI Executive Director Bill Webb spoke on the activities of the CFSI in Washington, DC. He encouraged the DVFA membership to attend the annual CFSI dinner and symposium this year. Delaware has always been well represented at this event and by being so, they get a discounted ticket price. This is the last year at the Washington Hilton on April 29<sup>th</sup>. In 2025 they will be moving to the Marriott Marquis on Massachusetts Ave. in Washington, DC. Any complaints on the dinner should be directed to the DVFA officers, since they chose the menu for this year.

Roll Call of Officers:

All Officers, Directors and Office staff are present and/or accounted for.  
(14 in attendance, 1 Out-of-Town)

**Report of Officers**

**President O'Neal: (copied and pasted from email report)**

I want to thank everyone for getting up early this morning to attend this Executive meeting.

To start off, as you probably know already, the DVFA Office move has been completed and we are happy to say the office is up and running. I want to specifically thank Terry Whitham, Warren Jones, Jay Jones, Pablo Reyes and Tom DiCristofaro for their work in getting this task accomplished. If you haven't been there, this location contains an office area as well as a separate small conference room that can be utilized for meetings. This is certainly an upgrade to the Bradford Street location and one that will serve the DVFA well for many years to come.

As Executive Director Webb stated, the CFSI dinner this year has moved to Monday, April 29, to be held, as in the past years, at the Washington Hilton. Ticket prices have been set for Delaware attendees and are available thru the DVFA office. Please do not purchase your tickets thru the CFSI website, you will not receive the Delaware ticket price if you do. While realizing the ticket costs along with the date change may have an impact on those attending, we still need to promote this event whenever and wherever possible, especially at all County

meetings and we are relying on the DVFA Directors to lead this effort. This is the premiere fundraiser for CFSI and the DVFA has consistently had the greatest attendance of any other State and our representation is extremely important. Since 2015, organizations in the State of Delaware have received funding from 54 different grants through both the AFG and SAFER grant programs, adding up to a total of approximately, \$12,815,000, and that includes the \$1,252,000 Recruitment & Retention SAFER grant received by the DVFA in 2022. As you can see, this is an important cause and we need to continue to support this vital fundraising event. Not only for the grant monies aspect, but our attendance also helps keep the Delaware Fire Service involved with a “seat at the table”, giving us visibility and enabling us to be a part of discussions of importance.

This is an extremely busy time in Legislative Hall, Executive Mgr. Jones and the Law & Legislative Committee doing a great job in keeping an eye on multiple pieces of Legislation being proposed and working their way through the process. I’m extremely excited to see the Delaware Fire Caucus come together as we have our first kickoff meeting this coming week. I know Mr. Jones will have further details in his report but I want to give a huge shout-out to Jay for his idea of this Caucus and his work in putting this together. I think this will be a great addition to the “tool-box” of the Fire Service to have this working group in Legislative Hall.

I’m happy and honored to say that the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Committee that we put together is doing a great job and has scheduled the first of a number of memorial services that will take place this year, to honor those who’s name appear on the Firefighter Memorial on the Green in Dover. The first will take place on Saturday, April 27 at 10am, to honor Laura Madara of Station 88, Selbyville. Committee Chair Bill Tobin and his committee are working with the Madara family and with the City of Dover to schedule this dignified ceremony. Later this year, we will also be honoring John Pridemore from Clayton, and Phil Young from Dover, both of which passed during their work in the Fire Service. All three of those individuals will be honored at the National Fallen Firefighter’s Memorial Weekend in Emmitsburg on May 5, 2024. The DVFA will be scheduling at least one bus and possibly two, depending on the number of members who wish to attend this year’s memorial. Information will be coming on that event.

The Harrington Fire Company is sponsoring a First Responders Day on April 13, 2024, including a parade, displays, wreath laying and a free dinner for first responders participating in the activities of the day. Registration is due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Warren had originally sent this out on Feb 7 but I would like to have this sent again in order to promote this event. Please spread information regarding this event at the County meeting level as well.

In closing, we are half-way through this administration and it is amazing how quickly time goes by. In reviewing the list of priorities that we put together for the 2023-2024 year, I feel good that we have been able to accomplish a number of tasks on that list. I sincerely appreciate the hard work and dedication by everyone; the Auxiliaries for all the fundraising they do to support the Scholarship program and your companies, thank you so much for your work; the Officers of the DVFA for the time dedicated to this organization, you don’t realize how much work there is until you become a part of it. Last but not least, you in the audience, you’re making it work day to day. Between funding and manpower it’s a struggle, we all realize that, but you’re making it happen. So let’s keep pushing and working together, if we can do that then we will all be successful in our mission.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President DiCristofaro: (copied and pasted from email report)**

Talking points for the Executive Meeting on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> of March.

Update on the purchase, delivery and distribution of the smoke detectors that the DVFA allowed me to purchase and handle. Quite successful and many thanks to the two lower Counties for arranging to have vehicles there to pick up their respective detectors. Will review inventories next year before placing another order.

Does the DVFA have a membership to the NFPA that the member companies could utilize to order publications from?

Discussion has been held in reference to the Memorial in Dover and making some modifications to the same. A group of us will be meeting at the Memorial on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> after the Executive Meeting.

Will provide an update to a meeting held on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> with State Representative Kim Williams and the Insurance Commissioner's office. Will explain that they are willing to give us our entire 100% of funds in one lump, but it will be pushed forward a month. Also believe that we came to a consensus with how funds will be distributed between New Castle County and the City of Wilmington.

Also compliment Jay, Warren and Terry for the great job in the moving of the office to the new location. If Ron doesn't do it, I will report on our visit to the Joint Finance Committee and the support we showed for the Fire School, the Fire Marshals Office and the State Fire Prevention Commission.

A short report on the FACETS report.

It is the duty of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, in March, to appoint the Life Safety Committee and the Scholarship Committee. I will appoint Guy Hudson as Chairman of the Life Safety committee and have him appoint the committee members as he chooses. I appoint Michael Lowe as Chairman of the Scholarship committee and have him appoint the committee members as he chooses.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Travel report:**

12/11/23	NCC Fire Police Installation
12/12/23	NCC Public Safety Meeting
12/14/23	NCCFA Installation Dinner
12/19/23	State Fire Prevention Meeting
12/20/23	Revolving Loan Meeting
12/21/23	NCC Fire & Amb Advisory Board
01/04/24	NCC Chiefs Meeting
01/06/24	Emcee Delaware City Banquet
01/23/24	State Fire Prevention Meeting
01/23/24	Tour of Hyatt Dewey
01/23/24	Sussex County Firefighter's Meeting
01/31/24	DVFA Office Move
02/01/24	DVFA Office Move
02/01/24	NCC Chiefs Meeting
02/11/24	NCC President and Chiefs Workshop
02/12/24	DVFA Zoom Meeting
02/13/24	Legislative Hall for JFC
02/20/24	State Fire Prevention Meeting
02/26/24	Met with Rep Kim Williams re: Insurance Tax
02/28/24	DVFA Executive Meeting in Dover
03/07/24	NCC Chiefs Meeting
03/10/24	DVFA Executive Meeting in Dover

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gerald Manley:**

- President O'Neal and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President DiCristofaro have covered everything
- Activity report will be sent to the Secretary

**Secretary Steele: (copied and pasted from email report)**

- Still working with the Hyatt Dewey Beach on Conference 2024 issues
- Working with Warren and Jay to finalize an agenda for Conference 2024
- Working on Conference 2025
- Will reach out to Bally's Dover Casino Resort next month for Conference 2026
- Travel report since Conference; 16 events, 1,365 miles and 66.5 hours in service

**Treasurer Whitham: (copied from email report)**

- As of February 29<sup>th</sup>, we have the following balances:
  - Checking - \$98,917.36
  - Money Market - \$171,678.32
  - Brinker Financial Account - \$261,834.20
- We had a Finance & Budget committee meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>. The committee reviewed the current expenses as they compare to the operational budget. After March's Executive meeting, they will meet to prepare FY24-25 budget for adoption at June's Executive meeting.
- The office move expenses were well below what was projected. All office furniture was donated, the only expense was for the conference table and the moving company.
- On February 28<sup>th</sup>, we wired **\$1,837,980.03** to cover the 2023 DVFA Firefighter's pension.
- The officers had a discussion on the pension payment process. We can offer an EFT to companies that are so interested in doing same. The postal service was horrible in getting payments into our PO box. The Office of Pensions listed our PO Box zip wrong, which might have caused some of the issues. Some checks received over 2 weeks getting to is.

***Motion by Dan Carrier and second by Richard T. Perillo to accept the Officer reports and spread them upon the minutes. Motion carried***

**Executive Manager Jay Jones: (copied and pasted from email report)**

The Delaware State Fire Service's Caucus inaugural meeting is Tuesday at 11 am in the Senate Hearing Room in Legislative Hall.

- 1) Through grant and aids, we are requesting an additional \$100,000 per fire company while the FASET report is being completed.
- 2) An additional \$5,000,000 in the revolving loan fund.
- 3) Current legislation that we support:
  - i) HB289 — Death/Burial Benefit. Rep. Carson
  - ii) SB202 — Line of Duty Death Benefits Sen. Huxtable
  - iii) Draft Legislation for Insurance Premium Distribution for New Castle County and the City of Wilmington Rep Williams
  - iv) Update to Move Over Law concerning increasing penalties Rep. Hilovsky
  - v) Nationwide Background Checks for new members
  - vi) Delaware State Flag request for families after death for member having 10 years of service. Sen. Wilson

Bus trip to NFFF LODD memorial service May 5th in Emmittsburg Md.

Phil Young, Chief John Pridemore, John Lundgren from Delaware will be honored this year. Contact me planning to riding the bus.

**HB127:**

Discussion and comments from the floor on HB127. Executive Manager Jones gave comments on the DVFA supporting the concept of HB127. Currently the DVFA is at a stand still until the FACETS audit is complete and the report comes back. Several comments from the floor regarding this issue. Seems like we are “kicking the can down the road”. Discussion continued for several minutes. Should not try to push two things at one time. Get the FACETS report first and then see what the next step should be. (President O’Neal thanked everyone for their comments on HB127)

**Committee Reports**

**Cancer Policy – Deb Lawhead: (copied and pasted from email report)**

In August 2021, following enactment of the Delaware “Line of Duty Disability Policies for Certain Emergency Responders,” the Department of Human Resources—Insurance Coverage Office secured an insurance policy for certain emergency responders, which provides benefits payable after diagnosis from covered conditions to help offset expenses related to cancer diagnosis.

**Eligibility**

**Class 1**— All Active paid Personnel after three years of Active service.

**Class 2**— All current Active volunteer Personnel after three years of Active service, retired Active and all Class 1 or Active volunteer Personnel for 60 months after formal cessation of Personnel’s status.

**Lump Sum Benefit**

**Class 1 & 2**

- \$5,000 Early Stage Cancer Benefit
- \$20,000 Advanced Stage Cancer Benefit
- \$40,000 Lifetime Lump Sum Total per insured.

It also pay lost wages for those who are paid personnel and volunteer personnel who are working. Diagnosed with Cancer after the Policy Effective Date (1/1/2022)

**Funding and Administration**

The administration of this policy and funding are through the Insurance Coverage Office. The Insurance Coverage Office does not pay the claims.

The funds are generated from the premium tax defined in Title 18 §705. Once annually and based on the calculation defined in the statute, the Insurance Coverage Office will receive the funds to purchase the required policy.

**Claims**

A total of Thirty-Six (36) disability claims have been submitted against the policy as of 12/31/2023, in which five (5) of the Thirty Six (36) claims collected lost wages under §6702B (2b) and Twenty-nine (29) claims were paid lump sums under §6702B (1 or 2). Total dollar figure paid by the Insurance company in claims as of 12/31/23 is \$382,671.96

**Advisory to DSFM – John Rudd: (copied and pasted from email report)**

1. 2024 Fire Deaths
  - a. 4 fire deaths (2 with and 2 without smoke detectors)
2. Staffing Update
  - a. Deputy Fire Marshal V/Assistant State Fire Marshal Scott Bullock-Statewide

- b. Fire Protection Specialist III/Assistant Chief of Technical Services William Kelly, II-Kent/Sussex
  - c. Deputy Fire Marshal IV/Chief Deputy Fire Marshal Brian Schad-Kent
  - d. Fire Protection Specialist I Mary Pizzadili – NCO
3. Social Media
    - a. Facebook Page
  4. Attending Executive Fire Officer Symposium at National Fire Academy April 4-7, 2024
  5. Attending CFSI on April 29, 2024  
Happy St. Patrick's Day

**Advisory to DSFS – Tucker Dempsey: (copied and pasted from email report)**

- The fire school has applied for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant for approximately \$500k
- We have scheduled additional officer classes to meet the demand caused by the 709 regulations
- The fire school is still offering in-service training at fire stations, with the exception of officer classes due to the high demand
- The Firefighter 1 & 2 program is in progress and going well
- We have revamped the old recognition program to allow easier tracking of who qualifies as an officer per 709
- Bids close for the foam replacement project soon so we will be notifying the companies who signed up for it
- So far our state budget request is largely intact, with the exception of an additional Administrative Assistant we asked for
- Several of us went to Texas and Arkansas to look at burn buildings since we are in the process of designing a new one
- Companies need to look at the pending OSHA regulations that could potentially have a significant impact to their operations

**State Fire Prevention Commission – Ron Marvel: (topics discussed)**

- 710 ambulance regulation is out for public comment until 4/1
- Introduced the Commissioners in attendance
- Introduced Diane Glenn, new Mental Health person
- She will be working with the County CISM teams

**Law & Legislative – Ed Barlow**

- Follow the proper procedure and process to request legislation

**Life Safety – Guy Hudson: (copied from hand written notes)**

- January 7, 2024 the awards program was held. It was well attended.
- This morning, we reviewed the 2023 matching funds requests. We had 36 departments and associations submitted requests for a total of \$150,311,29
- We went over some of the changes to the 2024 program.

**Conference Report – Jay Jones: (copied and pasted from email report)**

- DVFA Conference agenda will be posted on the website. Forms will be added and seminars will be posted by May

## **Recruitment & Retention – Warren Jones: (copied and pasted from email report)**

DVFA awarded a SAFER Grant for Recruitment and Retention on December 13, 2022.

The parts of the grand are Marketing, Scholarships, Sub-grants, 1582 physicals and a set of Fire Gear for every new volunteer firefighter up to 30 sets per year. Warren Jones is the administrator of the grant. I do all the administrative items with FEMA, reports, filling for payments, etc. Jeff Brown is the co-administrator and handles the company communications for the Sub-grants, Physicals, Gear, etc.

We put the Marketing part of the grant out for bids and awarded the marketing to First Arriving. In addition to the marketing we had to develop a mechanism for the sub-grants. Jeff Brown developed a grant applications and award process.

We had a few bumps in the road especially with the 1582 physicals. First, we could not find anyone who could do the 1582 physicals and cover the State of Delaware. We finally found a company but they did not know all the parts of the 1582 physicals. We had to track down information from FEMA give it to them. That turned out to be nightmare we are still dealing with. They closed all their branches in Delaware and a good many of their physicals were not completed or incorrect. Another company took over for them and they started doing some of the physicals. When we received their invoices they were not in compliant with 1582.

I was scrambling to find someone else when at the November Sussex County Meeting, Ashley Taylor stood up to report her group could do 1582 physicals. For those of you who do not know Ashley she is the daughter of Laurel Fire Chiefs, Jeff Hill.

She has taken that whole process over and it is running smoothly. She will come out to your stations to do the physicals. Ashley bills us \$500 per physical which is allowed by FEMA. She does have a travel charge of \$60 for any company more than 20 miles from her location. I am working on have FEMA cover that charge. We still have some of the mess to clean up from the other two.

### **Training**

First Arriving just completed a 2 day full day course of training last weekend. Saturday was in Ellendale Sunday was in Delaware City. The course was in 2 parts. The first part was developing a grassroots recruitment campaign and the second part was how to use social media. They were to very good classes. I received good comments from the over 60 people who attended. I want to thank Ellendale and Delaware City for hosting us.

### **Website**

On June 6, 2023, the Join Delaware Fire website landing page was launched, serving as the campaign's starting point and providing a dedicated location for capturing leads generated from First Arriving's efforts. The next phase involves expanding the website to include comprehensive sections for all fire companies in the state organized by county. Each Fire company can have their respective websites, social media channels, and contact information included through this website. In order to collect the essential information for each department, a profile form was distributed to all companies across the state. **If you have not completed this form your information will not be available on the website.** Once the forms are submitted, the gathered details will be promptly incorporated into the website. Additionally, the full website will incorporate a "Why Volunteer" segment, highlighting the opportunities available throughout the state and providing further information on how individuals can engage in volunteering within Delaware

### **Marketing**

From July to December, these organic posts and paid advertisements successfully directed traffic to the landing page through trackable links and advertising channels. Additionally, Google Search and Display were introduced, launching in November 2023. In November and December, efforts were focused on coordinating with DART for bus advertising, utilizing photo assets from the video shoot. This included the application of eye-catching King

Kong wraps on DART buses operating in Kent, New Castle County, and Sussex. The bus advertising campaign has commenced.

### **Video's**

The kickoff call meeting for the video shoot was held on August 17, 2023, with the filming weekend set for October 28-29, 2023. Throughout this period, numerous calls and emails were exchanged to establish the schedule, organize specific interviews for each participant, and address other logistical matters. The video shoot was executed successfully in October. Final edits were completed in quarter 1 of 2024. Additionally, a collection of photos was taken and shared. These assets, along with the videos, will be integrated into the JoinDelawareFire.com website and the recruitment social media channels. This includes the creation of a YouTube channel and TikTok account to feature the videos and audio. Furthermore, efforts are underway to showcase the content on local news and radio stations. Future plans involve running advertisements on platforms such as Hulu, Pandora, Spotify, TikTok, and local movie theaters across the state, among other initiatives.

### **Next Phase**

The next phase of the project involves developing and producing recruiter kits customized for County Coordinators to utilize during events and recruitment campaigns within their respective counties. We need County Coordinators, at least 1, I'd like to have 2 in Sussex, one on the east and one on the west. These kits will include tablecloths, pull-up banners, flyers, postcards, business cards, and other relevant handout materials. The main aim of these materials is to capture the interest of potential members by incorporating QR codes and essential details that facilitate easy redirection to the Join Delaware Fire website for submitting applications. With the new assets obtained from the video shoot, the initial designs have been updated to integrate the new images. The printing of these materials is expected to occur in the first quarter of 2024

### **Leads**

We have developed substantial leads since August. I will go over the results in a minute. When the leads come in, Jeff Brown sends them to the Fire Chief, the President and the person listing as the membership chair or recruiting person of your company.

We have received 174 leads that ended going out to 35 fire companies.

The breakdown is 5 Auxiliary, 79 EMT, 80 Firefighters, 10 Juniors/cadets

Do all these leads mean we are getting a whole bunch of new members? No! Some people who reply to the lead page are only looking for information. If we end up with 20 % becoming members, this will be good. **You have to be prepared. You have to have a group of people in your companies who are willing and know how to do all the work necessary to have a good recruitment and retention program. We can teach you what that is.** I spoke with the Deputy Director, Chad Ingram, of the Fire School at the class in Delaware City about putting together a Recruitment and Retention Training Class. I volunteered and he gave me the authorization to put it together.

Here are a couple of the videos: If you want copies of these videos I'd be happy to send them to you. They are large files. I'll have to send the links.

### **VIDEO 1 Action 60 Mp4**

This is a 1 minute action video

### **VIDEO 2 Main Edit 2 min Mp4**

Reel 2, is geared to junior or cadet age kids



**Reel 3, is a general one**

**DART BUS**

Once these video are out on the internet the leads should dramatically increase. I saw one of the short videos on YouTube this week.

Tucker told me he is processing a SAFER lead he got at Cheswold.

The NFVC is holding a training Summit, this June in Buffalo. The topics for the summit will be Recruitment and Retention and Firefighters Health and Safety. If you are a member of the NVFC there are stipends available. If you're not a member it only cost \$25 to join. I'll be in Buffalo. If you go, we can hook up and chat about the fire service.

**Revolving Loan – Ron O’Neal:**

- Next meeting is March 20<sup>th</sup>
- Currently there is no money in the account to be loaned out

**Scholarship – Mike Lowe:**

- Met earlier today
- Scholarship deadline is March 31

**Recognition of Past Presidents and President Emeritus in attendance - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tom DiCristofaro**

13 Past Presidents and 2 President Emeritus

**Affiliated Organizations/Agency Representatives**

**Ladies Auxiliary:** President Stacy Northam-Smith

- Introduced the LADVFA officers, LADVFA Past Presidents and the County Officers that were in attendance today.
- Delighted to be here

**State Fire Chief’s:** President Andy Jones

- Next meeting will be March 28 at Sta. 43 Cheswold

**State Fire Police:** Jeff Dennison

- Executive meeting on 4/22 at Sta. 49
- Quarterly meeting on 5/19 at DSFS
- Working on By-Laws

**DVFA Foundation:** Chairman Lynn Rogers

- Next meeting will be on 4/17

**Mutual Relief – Robbie Murray**

- Make sure you are using VFIS forms
- Reviewing the eye glasses policy
- File VFIS paperwork anytime you file a Workman’s Comp claim

**National Vol. Fire Council: Delegate Bill Betts (copied from written report)**

Membership of the NVFC in late December has reached 34,000 members toward their five-year plan of having a membership of 50,000 members. Delaware Directors Jay Jones and Bill Betts would like to encourage our Delaware delegation to join this Association as the more members that they have, the more voice they have in the federal legislature in requesting funding for our departments and FEMA grant funding for AFG and SAFER. Dues are \$21.00 per year, and it includes a \$10,000 AD &D policy from Provident. In addition, there are many free training webinars from Recruitment & Retention, PTSD, Cancer Presumption, to Lithium-Ion Batteries and Hazardous Materials. The NVFC also provides its membership with a lot of giveaways such as canned water, drip-drop hydration powder, Fire House Coffee, Gear Giveaways, and many other items.

The NVFC is having its annual summit in Buffalo, NY on June 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> and is offering training stipends to members who qualify. The focus of the Summit is Recruitment & Retention and Firefighter Safety.

**Important Action Items:**

The NVFC is heavily involved with a Congressional Campaign to maintain the AFG and SAFER funding for the Fire Service. With the lame duck Congress this fall, and the lack of cooperation on both sides of the aisle, this funding is at a critical point of maintaining our funding for these popular grants.

The NVFC is also heavily involved with webinars and accepting comments on the newly proposed OSHA 1910.156 standard which would put volunteer fire departments under the standard that was originally developed for industrial fire brigades. They have incorporated a load of NFPA standards into this regulation which would make them law if this is passed. Please contact your national congressional delegation to oppose this regulation. It is another financial and time-consuming factor that will adversely affect the volunteer fire service.

Contact me at 302-535-7080 or Jay Jones at 302-381-9780 if we can be of any assistance

**Del-Mar-Va Association: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Jay Jones**

- Delmarva Conference will be held in Trappe, MD. May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome see Elmer Steele for details.

**Communications:**

The following communications were received and were summarized by Secretary Steele

- Letter from Bridgeville Fire Co. supporting Jim Arrington for the office of DVFA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Letter from Mill Creek Fire Co. and Volunteer Hose Fire Co. changing Delegates/Alternates
- Letter from Sussex County Firefighter’s Assoc. supporting Jim Arrington for the office of DVFA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

***Motion by Dan Carrier second by Guy Hudson to accept communications and spread upon the minutes***

**Motion carried**

**OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS**

- *Motion by Bill Betts and second by Steve White to send letters to our national congressional delegation opposing the newly proposed OSHA regulation 1910.156 as it will be very detrimental to the volunteer*

*fire service in the State of Delaware from a severely financial and time constraints that we currently do not have.*

**Motion passed**

**(Executive Manager Jones will prepare the letters and distribute to the proper people)**

- Discussion on the cost of physicals and other related cost based on the 709 standards.
- Mike Edwards discussed the idea of having one (1) standard thru-out the State for active membership status. After some discussion, President O’Neal stated that the DVFA would work with the State Chief’s on this issue.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Treasurer Whitham highlighted the bills to be paid.

1:57 PM  
03/03/24

Delaware Volunteer Firefighter’s Association  
Expenses by Vendor Summary  
November 30, 2023 through February 29, 2024

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	<u>Nov 30, '23 – Feb 29</u>
AT&T Mobility	100.37
Bumpers & Company	560.00
Canon	581.61
Champion Trophies	568.50
Dolly Ingram	685.00
First Due Care	2,000.00
Good Will Fire Company	4,451.91
Lowe’s	49,950.00
M&T	7,869.94
Magnolia Fire Company	980.16
McGinnis Partners	2,700.00
National Vol. Fire Council	1,000.00
NFPA	175.00
Northern Trust Company	1,837,980.03
Odessa Fire Company	5,000.00
Ron Marvel	51.51
Shore-Line Electrical, Inc	869.54
Steve Austin	205.20
U.S. Postal Service	<u>256.00</u>
TOTAL	1,915,984.77

***Motion by Guy Hudson and second by Ray Stevens to pay the bills as presented.***

**Motion carried**

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- Ladies presented checks to the Foundation for the Scholarship fund.
  - LADVFA presentation of \$1,500
  - Sussex County Ladies Association presentation of \$1,000
  - New Castle County Ladies Past Presidents presentation on \$500
  - New Castle County Ladies Association presentation of \$1,000

- Kent County Ladies Association presentation of \$1,000
- Comments were made on a video that was posted on social media
- Jack Wilson gave a big “Thank You” to the Fire Police for what they on the highway to protect us
- Comments were made regarding the way DMV is now issuing “blue” tags for trailers. Fees required
- Discussion on Retention. We seem to be doing a good job on Recruiting, but not so good on Retention.

Benediction was given by Guy Hudson

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was regularly moved by Jim Arrington and seconded by Guy Hudson that the March 10<sup>th</sup> Executive meeting be adjourned.     **Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM

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

I hereby attest that this a true copy of the proceedings of the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter’s Association Executive Meeting held on Sunday, March 10, 2024.

**Attest: Jay Jones**  
**Executive Manager**

**Ron O’Neal**  
**President**