



DVFA OFFICER'S MEETING February 22, 2010 Memorial Fire Company

President Kevin L. Wilson called the February DVFA Officer's Meeting to order at 1830 Hrs at the Social Hall of the Memorial Fire Co., and welcomed all who were present. DVFA Public Relations Consultant David L. Bonar offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag led by DVFA First Vice President William F. Tobin, Jr.

Attendance:

President Kevin L. Wilson
First Vice President William F. Tobin, Jr.
Second Vice President Charles W. Frampton, Jr.
Executive Secretary James L. Cabbage, Jr.
Director Ronald H. Marvel, PP
Director Les McCourt
Director Charles Boyer
Director David Snell
Director Biff Lee

LADVFA President Lorraine Madden
DSFCA President Mike Rains
DSAA President P.J. Gosch
DSFPA President Charles Walls
DVFA Public Relations David Bonar
DVFA R&R Coordinator Kimberly Turner Willson
DVFA Law & Leg. Chairman David J. Roberts
DVFA Conf. Re-Org Comm. Chairman Ed Barlow, PP
DVFA Conf. Re-Org Comm. Brian Shaw
DEMA Director James E. Turner, III

President Wilson then recessed the meeting for dinner at 1832 Hrs. After Dinner Second Vice President Charles W. Frampton, Jr. thanked the Members of the Memorial Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary for the delicious meal.

The Meeting was reconvened at 1857 Hrs.

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

LADVFA: President Lorraine Madden brought greetings from the LADVFA .

DSFCA President Mike Rains brought greetings from the State Fire Chief's Association and advised that the State Chiefs would be meeting on March 25, 2010 at Slaughter's Beach. He stated that the Chiefs are reviewing the proposed Standards.

DSFPA President Charles Walls advised that it has been a very sad time for the DSPFA with the passing of Three Past Presidents and Three Fire Police Officers. He stated that the 50th Anniversary of the DSFPA will be held in 2011.

DSAA President P.J. Gosch brought greetings from the State Ambulance Association and advised the Association has revised their by-laws. She stated that she was privileged to be a presenter to the NHISTA Review Committee. She then advised that the planning for the 2010 Conference CEU Classes is progressing; they are adding another weekend class and possibly two night classes. Stated the May 3 & 4, 2010 will be EMS Day on the Hill in Washington, DC.

SFPC Vice Chairman David J. Roberts reported that the Standards Committee is reviewing the comments that they have received to date. The Title 16, Chapter 66 re-write is still in progress and the updated changes to the Ambulance Standards are ready to go to public comment.

DEMA Director James E. Turner, III stated that the two major winter snow storms were a trying couple of weeks for his agency. He discussed some of the issues that are being addressed in regards to the storms and welcomed comments, suggestions or complaints so that they could be addressed. He further reported that Delaware would be applying for a Presidential Declaration in regards to the snow storms. Fire Companies would be asked to prepare a list of expenses incurred during this event.

President Kevin L. Wilson reported on the following items:

Recruitment & Retention Advised that under the SAFER Grant that the DVFA had hired a part-time Recruitment Coordinator, Jill Graham who has resigned to take a position out of state. He then introduced our new Recruitment Coordinator Kimberly Turner Willson; many are familiar with Kim as she was the DVFA Administrative Assistant before returning to college several years ago. He is confident that she will do a great job and welcomed her to the Fire Service Team. Kim thanked everyone for the kind welcome and advised she is reviewing the sub-grants that had been submitted.

Office Manager Advised that during the employee reviews in July it was discussed that the current title of Administrative Assistant did not properly describe the duties of that position. After a review of the position by the Chair Officers it is recommended that the position title be changed to Office Manager.

***Motion by Director Charles Boyer, Seconded by Mike Rains that the position held by Melissa Kiser be changed to Office Manager.
Motion Carried.***

Budget Cuts Stated that \$79,500 had been cut from the Governors Recommended Budget for the matching funds for Fire Prevention. He also stated that \$40,000 had also been cut for Immunizations to first responders. He advised that getting those items returned to the Budget will be a DVFA priority.

CFSI Dinner Advised that the 22nd CFSI Dinner would be held in Washington, DC at the Washington Hilton on Thursday, April 29, 2010. He would encourage everyone to purchase tickets to this event. Information is on the DVFA Web Page.

100,000th Smoke Detector Reported that he has been in contact with Governor Markell and that an event to commemorate the "Wake Up Delaware" program's 100,000th Smoke Detector giveaway would be held in Dover in the near future. The details will be forthcoming.

DVFA Executive Committee Review Ad Hoc Committee President Wilson stated the committee is looking at all aspects of the Executive Committee Meeting and will make recommendations for changes, additions or deletions to the present meetings format, if you have any comments please submit them to Chairman Ron Marvel.

DVFA Executive Committee Registration Committee President Wilson advised that he is making the Registration Committee for each Executive Committee Meeting a regular committee. It will be their duty to register the voting members of each company, thereby encouraging Member Companies to choose members that will represent them at the Executive Committee Meetings who can vote and carry back to their companies the important business of this Association. The committee will remain as appointed.

DVFA Director Charles Boyer, Chairman, Sta. #46
DVFA Sgt. at Arms, Domenic Messina, Sta. #80
DVFA Sgt. at Arms, Tony Guzzo, Sta. #19:

First Vice President William F. Tobin, Jr. Reported on the following items:

DVFA Web Page He advised if you see errors or something you would like posted, to please contact him or any member of the committee.

President's Handbook Reported that the he and PP Robinson are finalizing the last several sections and should be completed soon.

Governmental Affairs Stated that the DVFA had an opportunity to make a presentation to the Joint Finance Committee on February 16th thru the courtesy of Co-Chairman Dennis Williams. GAC member Bob Sutton made the presentation that he had prepared for Sta. #17, Five Points meeting with their legislators with a few modifications. He felt that the presentation was well received by the members of the Joint Finance Committee. The next GAC meeting will be on Wednesday, February 24 at Little Creek.

Second Vice President Charles W. Frampton, Jr. Reported that he is still requesting the Fire Company contacts for the Voter Registration Committee. They have set two training dates: The meeting in Sussex had 3 participants, Kent County had eleven, and New Castle County is Wednesday night. There also may be a makeup date.

Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr was excused with no report

2010 Conference Chairman Sawyer was excused, Executive Secretary advised the next Conference Committee meeting will March 1, 2010 at 7 PM at the Dover Sheraton

Conference Re-Organization Chairman Ed Barlow advised that his committee would make a presentation to the Executive Committee Meeting on March 14, 2010. He provided copies to all present and requested that the DVFA Office make copies to be distributed at the March Executive Committee Meeting.

Federal Legislative Issues DVFA PP Stephen P. Austin was excused. Executive Secretary Cabbage reported the following:

Thank you for excusing me from this meeting and the Executive Committee meeting. I am still in Florida but very much engaged on a number of issues. Here are the top items:

- Jobs bill is in disarray and we may not see any further stimulus money for jobs. There was some movement to rehire a number of career firefighters laid off by local governments this funding is questionable.
- Recognizing the state of the budget the fire service groups agreed to request funding for FIRE and SAFER at \$420 million each. This would be an increase of \$30 million for FIRE. I have agreed to this figure. In a letter to Congress there is also a request for fund the USAR Teams for \$50 million.
- The DVFA supported the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Bill but because of the reduction in tax revenue expected passage of this legislation is questionable.
- I want to remind all our officers and directors of the importance of attending the Presidents Council Meeting on Saturday April 10th at Station 45 Clayton. This is an opportunity to meet the officers of the mid-Atlantic fire associations and learn about their issues.

DVFA Foundation Executive Secretary Cabbage reported for Chairman Stephen P. Austin that the Foundation met on Monday, October 19, 2009 at the Kent County EOC. The next meeting will be May 10, 2010. All are Welcome.

Legislative Committee Chairman Dave Roberts advised that his Committee wants to meet with the Governmental Affairs Committee to coordinate and have a single message coming from the DVFA.

Public Relations Consultant Dave Bonar commented on the excellent media coverage during the recent snow storms. Requested that you take photos of special events and submit them to your local newspaper, it gets your message out. If you have not made contact with your local legislator take time and set up a meeting with them to discuss you concerns.

Communications First Vice President Tobin read a letter from the Georgetown Fire Company requesting that the penalty for the submitting the pension be waived due to their pension officer having to work at the EOC during the recent snow storm.

Motion by Director Marvel, seconded by Director Boyer that the Penalty for late submission of the Georgetown Fire Company's pension be waived due to extenuating circumstances caused by the weather. Motion Carried

DVFA Office Executive Secretary Cabbage reported on the following:

NHSTA Review Advised the review of the Delaware EMS System went very well, the Office of EMS will be receiving a draft copy of the report for review. The DVFA representative on the planning committee was Allen Metheny and he would like to Thank all of the presenters.

Pension Update Stated that all but two companies had all of their pension materials and payments in the required time. Advised that the transfer to the Pension Office would be over \$1.3 Million dollars.

Comm. To Study EMS/Rescue Billing: Reported that the Committee acting on behalf Of the State Insurance Commissioner have prepared a draft white paper for the Insurance Commissioner. The committee will be meeting to revise the report, the DVFA made several recommendations for changes to the draft.

Legislative Update Provided a copy of the DVFA Legislative Update #4 for the 145th General Assembly, Second Session

Delaware Fire Service Revolving Loan Program Advised that the application period for the Loan Program is now open and will close on May 14, 2010. Information on the program is posted on the DVFA web page.

Greater Dover Foundation Stated that the DVFA Office explored renting space at the GDF Community Building located at 101 W. Lockerman Street in Dover. At the present time the cost of rent would be prohibitive to the association.

Dover Federal Credit Union reported that the DVFA had been contacted in regards to becoming members of the Dover Federal Credit Union, They were advised that all members of the DVFA are eligible to join Del One Credit Union and as a group as large as the DVFA could not easily switch Credit Union. However, Dover Federal Credit Union may be contacting individual fire companies to explore their membership benefits.

After a short discussion:

Motion by Executive Secretary Cabbage, seconded by PJ Gosch, that President Wilson invite Chairman Ricker and the members of the State Fire Prevention Commission to a joint meeting with the DVFA to resolve any misunderstandings in regards to the DVFA Presentation at the February 16th Joint Finance Committee Meeting. Motion Carried.

CLOSING COMMENTS

President Wilson thanked everyone for their attendance and their continued participation in the Delaware Fire Service.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to claim the attention of the officers:

Motion by Second Vice President Frampton, seconded by Director Lee that we adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 2028 Hrs.

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