

These minutes were transcribed from a recording of the meeting. If there are mistakes or omissions contact me by email or bring them to the next meeting. SAM

## WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The regular meeting of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association was held February 19, 2009 at Company 11 hosted by Company 19.

The meeting was called to order by President Glenn Fishack. Chaplain Leonard Horst gave the invocation and lead in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: All member companies were present except Companies 16. All officers were present except the Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. Dave and Nancy are taking minutes.

GUESTS: The guests were introduced by Clint.

Frank Underwood, President MSFA, reported: A. Several bills need our attention. S650 to privatize the Medevac system will probably cause a good system to go bad. The sponsors have promised the MSFA that any savings will be added to the Amos funds. S764 is a bill to create a new department of Safety. This would combine many agencies that we deal with into one Department. This would not be in our best interests. The hearings are to be held on Wednesday, March 4, and we need a good turnout to oppose both these bills. B. The North East Training Center is being overrun by tanks. They need our support to make necessary changes to the facility. Write letters to politicians to support the necessary changes and MSFA will deliver these letters.

Brigitte Heller, DFES, reported: A. Kevin will make a formal announcement tomorrow that a Deputy Director has been hired. B. The AEDs will be ordered tomorrow. 47 Life Pac Express and seven 1000 AEDs.

Rick Lillard, DNR, reported: A. Introduction of Seasonal Firefighter Dan Bunker. B. Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant will be available in May. Hope the same amount will be available, \$3000 per Company which will require a matching amount. C. Basic Woodland Firefighter Training is available online thru the National Training Center website. The training is also available on a CD from DNR. Both these courses require a Field Day to be arranged thru Rick.

Robert Cumberland, Children's Village, reported: A. The sponsor for the VIP Breakfast Fund Raiser has dropped out and help is needed. Table Sponsors are needed and he is asking Companies to sponsor tables at \$100 each. The amount lost is \$2500. Contact the Village if you can help. The event is April 8, at the Elk's Lodge.

Kingsley Poole, MFRI, reported: A. He thanked the MSFA President for the presentation on the bills. B. His written report contains the following: 1. Most classes are going well. One was cancelled because of low enrollment. 2. Requests for Fall classes are due on the web by May 1. Get requests in soon. 3. First Responders can take EMT Refresher on line and then take the First Responder Test. 4. The High School is going well. 5. Staff and Command class is next month. Anyone who is interested should contact the Association Office for Scholarship information.

President: Reported that a van will be going to Annapolis on March 4. It will leave at 0900. Anyone who is interested should contact the Association Office.

Jason Baer made a motion to support the MSFA position on the two bills discussed by the President. The motion was seconded by Harry Gossard and passed.

Jason Baer made a motion that the Association support the Northeast Training Academy in what needs to be done. The motion was seconded by Jack Latimer and passed.

MINUTES: On a motion by Harry Gossard and seconded by Dan Grove the minutes for January were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer reported \$18244.59 in the general checking. The month beginning balance was \$14074.67 and ending balance was \$7514.76.

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

**PRESIDENT:** A. The President reported that a company that manufactures driving simulators was will to bring a demonstrator for evaluation. If we are interested, they will write a grant application for us. This has been given to the training committee.

**1ST VP:** Clint reported that the Executive Committee reviewed and approved a budget of \$234330.

**2ND VP:** Skip reported: A. A letter was sent to all Chief officers to the effect that a meeting will be held on March 4 at Engine 4 at 1900 to discuss the update of the Fire House software. The software will be updated to module 7.0 and the training module will be added. A Chief officer and the Fire House person should attend this meeting. Company's 2, 7, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 27 should get Fire House for January complete before this change is made. B. The Company Information Sheets should be completed and sent to the Office as soon as possible. Engine 5, Companies 2, 5, 6, 9, 16 and 20 have not been received. (Maybe the Secretary has some of these sheets. Sorry.)

**Budget:** Greg reported: A. The proposed operating budget is \$234330 and the office budget is \$13600 for a total of \$248930. The budget was reduced by \$20000 or 13% because of a projected reduction in the Gaming Revenues. Greg gave a complete breakdown of the budget. An increase of the monthly donation is probably not in the cards. B. Kevin's budget includes making Company's 75, 26 and 8 substations whole, \$100000 match for the Rehab unit, and

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funks to pay for DOT, Pump, Ladder and Hose testing. C. The fuel purchase is still being discussed. D. Additional discussion will be held to lower the LOSAP age to 60 and add a COLA. E. The Executive Committee voted to approve the budget. F. There were some questions about the Fire Police budget. G. Bill Pennington made a motion to approve the budget. Glenn Reynolds seconded the motion and on a roll call vote the motion passed 18 for and 7 opposed.

**Chief Officer:** Greg reported that the next meeting will be February 25 at Special Ops at 1830. He requested that a representative of the Standards Committee be in attendance.

**EMS:** This committee had a written report.

**Fire Police:** The Fire Police are proposing a License Plate and need 25 people to sign up. Contact Doug Snow.

**Safety Trailer:** Tom reported that the trailer was at the factory for needed repairs. We do not have a commitment of cost at this time. If you want to use the trailer contact the office to schedule the time.

**Loan Committee:** There is money available.

**Picnic:** There will be a meeting after this meeting.

**Standards** The committee had a written report.

**Fire Queen:** The Junior Miss Fire Prevention Contest for the Western District will be held on Saturday, February 21 at the Leitersburg Fire Company at 1700.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A. Dan Grove made a motion to change the June meeting to June 11, because of the Convention. The motion was passed. B. Discussion was held to move the budget process up next year so that the members can have a copy to take to their Companies before the vote. C. The President reported that all information on Company 12 was in order and it is time to move on. D. People need training in the new Fire House training module so that the information is available to the Association. E. The Sheriff's Office has Comfort Dolls available for each emergency vehicle. These can be used if a child is involved in an incident. If anyone wants some of these dolls contact Juanita at 301-739-7268.

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:** A. The MSFA Executive Committee will meet in Smithsburg this Saturday and Sunday, February 25-26. Come to some of the sessions. B. The Fire Police have some surplus equipment. They will prepare a list and send it to the Office. C. Greg thanked, on behalf of Companies 5 and 59, all those who assisted with the house fire.

**NEXT MEETING:** THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 19, HOSTED BY ENGINE 2.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Murray  
Secretary