

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The regular meeting of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association was held July 20, 2006 at Company 26.

The meeting was called to order by President Glenn Fuscick. 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 Eng 5, 59, and 29. All officers were present except the Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer.

A special presentation was given to Chief Donald Koons for his service as Chief of the Air Unit for the past 40 years. Congratulations Donny.

GUESTS:

Rick Lillard, DNR, gave the following report. A. He made special presentation to each Fire Company of a certificate and a model of a 1949 Dodge Powerwagon Brush Fire Unit, in honor of his agency 100th Anniversary. Additional trucks can be purchased from the website for \$25.00. Alan Gosnell, MSFM, announced that a public relations event was held concerning legal and illegal use of fireworks before July 4. He thanked all who assisted. He also announced that Ted Menninger would be retiring.

Paul Swartz, Candidate for County Commissioner, gave a few remarks.

Herb Hardin, Candidate for County Commissioner, gave a few remarks.

Donna Brightmen, Candidate for County Commissioner, gave a few remarks.

Doug Alexander, MSFA Executive Comm. And Chairman of the Residential Sprinkler Committee, gave the following report. A. Companies should email the Convention Committee about their feelings of having politicians speak on Monday. B. 4 of the 5 bylaw changes passed. C. Don Carpenter was elected to the Board of Trustees. D. The Legislative Committee has a meeting scheduled with Sheila Dixon concerning gaming. E. Legislative concerns should be directed to the President and Legislative Committee. F. A Rural Water Supply class will be held at the Winfield Fire Department on September 16 - 17. Flyers should be coming soon. G. Frederick County passed an ordinance that all new homes in subdivisions must be equipped with sprinklers immediately. After October 1, all new homes must be sprinkled. Many counties and cities in the state have or are considering passing similar laws. The fire service in the jurisdiction must want and support the legislation. Some jurisdictions have included sprinklers in the fire laws and others in the building codes. The MSFA Residential Sprinkler Committee will assist with public education.

Col. Doug Mullendore, Sheriff Department, stated that he is a Past Chief and life member of the Boonsboro Fire Company. He wants each Sheriff Department cruiser to be equipped with an AED.

Director Latimer, DFES, had a written report. A. John introduced two new members of the Division. Kevin Lewis has been hired as Deputy Director and Brigitte Heller has been hired as EMS Coordinator. Their addresses and phone numbers are in the report. Ten Firefighter/Technicians have also been hired. Two persons will be available Monday thru Friday from 0730 - 1630 at Special Operations 20. The Incident Commander can request them to respond to any incident scene in Hagerstown or Washington County. B. The Communications System Agreement with Motorola was signed on June 26. C. The LOSAP Actuarial Valuation report is attached to the report. D. The Hazardous Material Response Plan has been updated. Copies will be sent to each company soon. E. The Elliott Parkway Facility site changes will be presented to th BOCC in August.

MINUTES: The June meeting minutes were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer reported \$35801.93 in the general checking account.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRESIDENT: A. The Emergency Preparedness Day is scheduled for August 12, at the Hagerstown Suns. Companies or Individual can purchase special blocks of 20 - 40 or 100 -250 Picnic Packs at \$15 - \$18. B. The accountant is working with Company 29 to finalize financial items.

1ST VP: The next Executive Committee meeting will be August 3, at 1900 at the Association office.

2ND VP: A. Fire House software has been installed on all computers except companies 5 and 35. There is a glitch with writing which is being corrected.

LOSAP: A. A meeting was held with the County. Dee Hawbaker, HRD, will be handling LOSAP payouts. B. Each LOSAP Coordinator must fill out two forms and return to the office by August 16. One form is for people aged 62+ with 25 or more years service and one form for people 70+ with less than 25 years service. C. Spouses or minor children of anyone who was 62+ with 25 or more years service when they passed away may also be eligible for benefits. A DVD is being prepared for each company to explain the system. D. The spouse and member must come together to sign up for LOSAP benefits. The LOSAP Coordinator will handle this at the Station. E. The MSFA and Association are trying to get the Income Subtraction increased to \$5000.

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TREASURER: A. Loans totaling \$15000 were made to Company 29. B. A new CD for \$28508.16 was opened. C. \$11400 was moved to the vehicle replacement account. D. A contract was awarded to Martin Siding, LP for \$6910 for work on the office. E. Year-end reports are needed from the Rehab Account and Fire Police Account ASAP. F. Working with the Accountant on year-end reports.

CHIEF OFFIERS: No meeting.

EMS: Brigitte had a written report. PLEASE READ THE REPORT. The President and the Association congratulated Brigitte on her new position and thanked her for her service to the Association and to the EMS community. THANKS BRIGITTE.

FIRE POLICE: Doug Snow gave his numbers as follows: Cell - 301-491-1536, Phone - 301-678-5209, Pager - 301-745-9159. If Fire Police are needed for a fund raiser contact the Sheriff Department. Contact Communications if more Fire Police are needed.

FIRE PREVENTION: The safety trailer has been inspected and repairs will be made.

LEGISLATIVE: Glen Fishack reported: A. The Dedication of the Memorial when very well and the wreath from Washington County was laid by Joe Kroboth, III. B. 165 people attended the Open House at the Convention. C. Dave Keller is the representative to the Executive Committee for Washington/Frederick Counties. He lives in Williamsport. C. Push for candidates who support the fire service.

PHOTO TEAM: Bill King reported: A. Bill asked for permission to conduct a fund raiser of selling calendars for \$5 - \$10. The calendars will feature fire and EMS equipment each month. The proceeds will be used to purchase cameras, filters, video cameras, and supplies. The cost to produce the calendars will be paid by advertisers. The President gave his permission to proceed with the project.

STANDARDS: A. Each company received an envelope with 12 'NC' letters. Call the office if more letters are needed. The Association is suppling the letters to assure uniformity. B. New color 'PAT' tags are available at the office. Pink is not available on card stock and will be paper.

TRAINING: The new MFRI schedule has been released. Please participate.

PICNIC: The picnic will be Saturday at the Red Men. Serving begins at 1300. Bring your own steak knives.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: A. Maryland Fire Chiefs meeting will be held at Company 4, August 13, at 1000. B. Emergency legislation to prioritize the availability of fuel may be required.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: A. Company 5 will have a Gun Bonanza on 8/26. B. Blaine Snyder proposed that the Association begin discussion on residential sprinkler systems. C. Bill

King again said that the photo team is available for fund raisers or banquets. D. Tom Altman discussed the problems at Company 4. E. The Woodmen of the World are going to supply flags and staffs to the Association. F. Glenn gave a report from the Career Firefighter Foundation. To date \$53000+ have been distributed to the various volunteer fire companies, fire police, and photo team in the county, who assisted with the bonanza. G. A potential candidate for 2nd VP of the MSFA may need funding from the Association.

Meeting adjourned at 2120.

NEXT MEETING: COMPANY 12 ON AUGUST 17, 2006.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Murray