

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND
RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The regular meeting of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association was held on July 16, 2009 at Engine 4 hosted by Company 26.

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

ROLL CALL - All member companies were present except Engine 2 and Engine 5. All officers were present except the Assistant Secretary and 1st VP.

GUEST: Gloria Schaffer, President WCVFRA Aux, reported: A. Jennifer was 1st Runner up in the MSFA Queen contest. B. There will be a Back-to-school Fire Prevention Program in Engine 4's parking lot on August 15. C. Gloria was inducted into the State Auxiliary Hall of Fame. Congratulations Gloria. Doug Mullendore, Sheriff reported: A. The Sheriff's Department is preparing a Public Safety Announcement to instruct motorists how to react to emergency vehicles. B. The radio system will be delayed for about one month. The 911 center has just been turned over to the County. The new target date is October/November. Radios have been installed in 32 cruisers. When the Sheriff's Department is complete radios will be installed in fire apparatus.

Kevin Lewis, Director DES, reported: A. Please read the report in your packet. B. The Remembrance in the Park will be held on September 1, 2009. Memorial bricks are still being sold. Contact Verna if you are interested in purchasing a brick. C. Brigitte is writing a newsletter. If you want to receive a copy, please contact her. D. The President requested that the graduates of the high school fire/ems program be considered for jobs with the DFES.

Jennifer Barciz, Fire Queen reported: A. Jennifer gave a report of her travels since the last meeting. B. The Bessie Marshal fund is her project for the year. She has chance for sale, please help her in this endeavor. She is also planning a Basket Bingo to benefit the fund. C. She has fire prevention materials available. D. If a company wants her to attend an event, please give early notification. Her schedule is filling quickly. E. The contest for next years queen will be held in October during Fire Prevention Week. Girls must be between 16 and 24.

Rick Lillard, DNR reported: A. The Volunteer Assistance Program closed on June 30. Winners will be notified by August 31.

Kingsley Poole, MFRI, reported: A. His report is in the packet. B. The written Fall Schedule has been sent to all companies. C. Hazmat Ops will start soon at Company 10.

MINUTES: Dan Grove made a motion to accept last months minutes. The motion was seconded by Clarence Webber and passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Checking account balance is \$15174.80. The balance as of June 1, 2009, were \$31260.81 and the closing balance as of June 30, 2009, was \$46663.00. A motion was made by Harry Gossard and seconded by Dan Grove to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed.

COMMUNICATIONS: A letter was read from Company 75 requesting that the ambulance stationed at Station 4, be increased from a 12-hour operation to a 24-hour operation and that the ambulance location be designated as a substation. A committee consisting of the Association Officers, the Boulderly Committee, Dave Hays from Company 75 and Jeff Ringer from Company 26 was appointed by thee the President according to the Bylaws. A motion was made by Dan Grove and seconded by Harry Gossard that after the report is received from the Committee that no actions are taken for 60 days so that each Company can be notified. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 19 for, 4 against, and one abstention.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Training Center: Jay reported: A. Subgroups have been appointed. The next meeting will be held on August 6.

Picnic: Dan reported: A. A committee will be held immediately after this meeting. B. There will be a lot of state people in attendance. C. The picnic will start at 1230 on July 18.

LOSAP: Skip reported: A. The committee has met twice since last regular meeting. New Procedures and Guidelines have been developed. See the packet for details. B. The BOCC requested the Committee to develop ideas that would benefit the younger members of the Association. The Recruitment and Retention Committee has developed several suggestions which will be presented to the BOCC. The details are in the packet. C. Anyone who has completed 25 years of service is eligible for Tax Subtraction Modification if they earn 50 points during three of the last ten years. D. There are packets for the President, Chief and LOSAP Coordinator at the front of the room. Anyone in attendance can sign for their packet. Any packets not picked up this evening will be mailed. E. There will be a meeting in October for LOSAP Coordinators to provide information about people receiving benefits. Dee Hawbaker will be in attendance.

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OLD BUSINESS: A. Fuel Purchase from the County was discussed. The County needs to establish a system. B. The Bylaw submitted to the MSFA was not accepted. The Association is not a member and changes must be submitted by a member Company. Engine 4 will submit the change at the next Executive Committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was submitted.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: A. Someone proposed that Insurance Companies give members discounted insurance. B. All proposed amendments to the Convention were passed. There are 374 member Companies in the state. C. Savage Fire Company won the \$10000 first prize. D. Company 75 will dedicate their new ambulances at an open house on August 22. E. The Leitersburg Peach Festival is scheduled for August 8-9.

NEXT MEETING THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT ENGINE 5 HOSTED BY TRUCK 1. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 20, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Murray
Secretary

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A meeting was held on July 22, 2009 at the WCVFRA Office to discuss the request of Company 75 to designate the ambulance stationed at Engine 4 as a Substation. Staffing would be increased from 12 hours to 24 hours.

Attendees were 2nd VP, Secretary, Asst Secretary, Treasurer, Asst Treasurer, and Chaplain. Boundary Committee members: Dave Irvin, Harry Gossard, Charles Shindle, Sam Murray, and Rick Blair. Dave Hays represented Company 75 and Jeff Ringer represented Company 26. Kevin Lewis was also in attendance.

Dave Irvin called the meeting to order. The request was discussed and several Bylaw items cannot be met. The location is not five miles from bordering company boundaries and it would be a great task to get 51% of the property owners in the area to sign a petition. In order for this request to be approved the Bylaws must be ammended.

Jeff stated that: A. Company 26 is not oposed to Company 75 putting an ambulance at Station 4. However, how will the area west of Hagerstown in Company 26's area be handled. B. Company 26 feels that Company 75's move to Eastern Boulevard was not handled properly, because boundary's were not reevaluated. C. Halfway has already been approved a substation in Hopewell Valley. D. The new "BARB" syatem can set boundaries based on GPS information. E. He recommends that if Company 75 wants to provide 24 hour service do it. But how are we going to handle substations in the future.

Kevin said that the entire County must be considered. There are many area in the County that need additional services.

Skip made a motion seconded by Harry to take the mechanics out of the Bylaws and create a Standard for the creation of a substation. Leave the authority of the Association to approve a new substation in the Bylaws. This motion was passed.

Charlie made a motion to approve Company 75's request to establish a substation in the west end of Hagerstown, so long as the bylaws and standards allow this to happen. This motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Murray
Secretary