WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE
AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The regular monthly meeting of the Association was held on September 17, 2015 at Eng 4 hosted by E2.

The meeting was called to order by President Hill at 1900. Chaplain Horst led the prayer and Pledge. All companies except Company 19 and 59 were present. All officers except the 1VP and Assistant Treasurer 69, were present.

GUESTS:
Charles Abrecht, Exec Comm. MSFA reported: National Registry for EMTs is being discussed by MSFA, MFRI and MIMESS. B. VCAF has approved the use of private council to close loans. C. mdvol.org website being constructed. D. deduction for Tax Modification goes to $4000, but may have to use 502SU form. E. Statistical Reports have been received from 19 County companies. F. Still errors on fire reports to be corrected. G. The DMV is flagging fire license tags on companies 75, 6, 69, E3, 59, 79 that have not certified their members with fire tags. Contact Doug Snow if you have any questions. NOTE: Any company that have members with fire tags should check with Doug to assure that they are in compliance.

Kevin Lewis, Dir. DFES, reported: A. Thanks for supporting Remembrance in the Park. B. September is Preparedness Month and there will be a program at Lowes on September 19, 2015, from 1000-1400. C. 508 fund Distribution information for the period of 7/1/14-6/30/15 must be completed and returned by 12/9/15. The necessary form were distributed at the September meeting. D. the explanation of the information discussed at the BOCC meeting concerning legislative items was to try to get clarification of several items. Seeking clarity about the Declaration of an Emergency. E. work is ongoing on the telephone system at Communication Center. The primary line is 240-313-4360 and the direct line is 240-313-4345. F. One legislative items being discussed is the microwave path in new construction to provide radio coverage inside buildings.

Rick Lillard, DNR, reported: A. it is good to be back. B. the Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants will be announced by the end of September. C. Personnel and equipment were sent to the west in August. D. A Basic Wild land Firefighting course will be taught at Greenbrier 10/19-23. this course will be all day classes.

Dave Keller mentioned that DNR has some equipment that they lend to Fire Companies.

MINUTES: The minutes were accepted as distributed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The Treasurer's report is in the packet pages 3-5.

CHAPLAIN: Had a moment of silence in memory of JR Harrison. A. sent a card to Greg Osborne. B. Charles Elgin is in the hospital. C. Mickie Boward is in the hospital. D. There will be no Chaplain's Breakfast this month. E. Chappy Bowers will be teaching a class at the MFCA Convention in Hagerstown.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Career Tech Education: Will have a meeting tomorrow.
Chief Officer: The minutes are in the packet pages 9-11.
Computer: Skip reported: A. Rick Hemphill and Brian Lowman will attend a Fire House Tech. Conference next week. B. EPIN Nos. - MIMESS has implemented a new system to obtain these numbers the information must be entered into the PAT Tag system and a number will be assigned in 24 hours. Do not call for these numbers.
EMS: The minutes are in the packet pp. 12-20.
EMSA: Meeting will be held Oct. 1, at 1900 at DFES.
Fire Police: FP needed on 9/19 in Hancock and at Mack-Volvo. FP needed on 9/25 for MC ride.
Legislative: A. BOCC to discuss the Responsibilities of the Director of DES at the meeting on Tuesday. Anyone available should attend this meeting to see what is discussed. Also the SWAT group is going to the Maryland Attorney General's office for an opinion of who has authority.
Picnic: The picnic went well and the folks want to go back next year.
Recruitment and Retention: Nicole reported: A. One on One meetings at 18 fire companies with more to follow. B. Leadership Training available on 9/25 and 9/26. C. 6 Recruitment banners for use on apparatus in parades have been ordered. D. Call 301-331-4220 with questions.

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Safety: The committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month.
Standards: Working on 3 standards to take to the Chief’s Committee. Apparatus Assignment, Rehab, and ATV.
Training: A report is in the packet on pages 40-46.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS No Unfinished Business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: A. Beginning 1/1/16 the County HR Department will be taking the handling of Insurance Claims back. Stephanie Stone is the Director of Insurance and Safety. Brian Overcash will handle Workers Compensation and Tracy McCammon will handle other claims. Patrick Hancock is the new contact for AON. Chesapeake is providing Workers Compensation and VFIS is providing Accident Insurance. These brokers may not be as responsive as CBIZ was. B. Tip Jar reports for the past six months are due. C. EMS committee Chairman will be Robert Buck and Ward Fleger. D. The President appointed Blaine Snyder (301-797-0907), Dale Martin (301-797-3253) and Dave Irvin, Sr. (301-573-5725) to the nominating Committee. Contact one of them if you are interested in running for an elected position for years 2016 and 2017. If you are nominating someone else you must have the permission. If the person being nominated from the floor will not be at the meeting in October, you must have written permission to put their name in nomination. Nominations will be in order at the October meeting.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION
A. The Maryland Fire Chiefs will be holding their Convention in Hagerstown at Hager Hall on September 24-26. There will be a Gala on Saturday September 26.

NEXT MEETING  THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HOSTED BY COMPANY 69 AT COMPANY 11. THERE WILL BE FOOD SERVED.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Murray, Secretary