

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The regular meeting of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association was held on November 16, 2006, at Engine 4.

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

ROLL CALL - All member companies were present except Company 75 and Truck 1. All officers were present except the Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer.

GUEST: Paul Sterling, 1st VP MSFA, reported the following items: A. FC James Brice of Kent County died of a heart attack. B. Mr. William Hildebrand of the Exec. Comm. is ill. C. He highly recommends physicals. D. Leonard King's wife is still fighting cancer. E. A retreat was held in July at Piney Point and three items were discussed. Communications, Membership and Finance. Recommendations were presented to by the President at the August Exec. Comm., meeting. F. A meeting was held with Sheila Dixon, chair of the House Ways and Means Committee to discuss the Charitable Gaming Bill. This bill would require the charity holding the event to have a permit and share a portion of the proceeds with other charities. The permit would be 6% of the funds raised or \$1000. MSFA will continue to follow this legislation. G. A meeting was held with the Governor concerning legislative items for the next legislative session. Several items were covered. A letter is in the packet covering these items. H. The Maryland Hospital Association held a meeting in September about the closing of emergency rooms. MSFA attended to listen to some of the concerns. I. There was a Life Saving Conference held at Johns Hopkins. J. There will be a fund raiser in February to benefit the Bessie Marshall Fund. See the website for details. K. The Maryland Fire Weekend will be held February 3-4. L. Maryland Fire Chief's seminar will be held March 3-4. M. The new legislative session begins January 8. MSFA has prepared a booklet to be distributed to the new members of the legislature. N. The state conducted an audit of the MSFA distribution of funds to members. There will be some changes initiated. O. Montgomery County has established collective bargaining for volunteers. A contract was ratified with the Montgomery County Firemen's Association. P. MSFA is planning to hire someone to maintain the website.

Kevin Lewis, Dep Dir DFES, reported the following items: A. EMS Plan for the Future committee will meet to discuss comments received from EMS companies. The report is still in Draft form and questions should be referred to your Chief officers. Additional meeting will be held with EMS, the public, and eventually the Association. B. All documentation of 508 money expenditures must be sent to the Association office by December 4. Failure to comply could jeopardize future distribution of these monies. C. The Emergency Service Fee task force is meeting and will present recommendations to the BOCC. D. All EMS personnel must complete the MIEMSS 2007 protocol update by January 1, 2007. If classes are required call Brigitte.

Sheriff Elect Doug Mullendore, reported the following: A. Doug thanked everyone for their support. B. Promised support for the Fire and EMS community and said he will still attend our meetings.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October meeting were filed as sent. (With the incorrect meeting date - Sec). The date should have been the 19 rather than the 21. The minutes of the Chief's Committee were filed without changes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer reported a balance of \$132069.40 in the checking account.

COMMUNICATIONS: No communications were received.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRESIDENT: A. The President was asked by Jim Hovis of the County Gaming Commission to comment on several items. According to the law only 501C3 and 501C4 non-profits are allowed

to conduct gaming activities. These entities cannot sell jars for the benefit of/or split profits with another group which does not fall into the above category. B. A Protective Envelop and Foam class will be held at Company 49 on December 9. This is the last class the Association will subsidize for Officer Standards. The Standards will go into effect on January 1, 2007. All future classes must have the minimum required by MFRI to be held. C. There will be a Water Supply seminar at Company 4 next Saturday and Sunday.

CHAPLAIN: Leonard reported the following: A. Jay Smith passed away and a card was sent to his wife. He was a member of Company 75. A moment of silence was held in his memory. B. Blaine Snyder is still recovering from open heart surgery. C. Howard Guessford of Company 4 has been ill. D. Ken Shifler passed away. E. Jason Baer has completed treatments. F. Bill Twombly of Company 27 passed away. G. Bill King is recovering from a fall.

CHIEF OFFICERS: Minutes are in the packets.

LOSAP: A. Fire reports are nearly current including Company 13. B. 107 people are eligible for LOSAP payments beginning January 15.

FIRE POLICE: A report is in writing on the table.

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PHOTO TEAM: Brian Stallings reported that the calendars have been received. Each station will be given a calendar. The calendars are \$10 or 3/\$25. Call Brian or Bill King to purchase calendars. Call the photo team if there are any special events planned so that they can be there to document the occasion.

PROPERTY: An awning has been ordered for the front door.

STANDARDS: Spot checks will be made at all companies beginning January 1, 2007. All or any standards can be checked.

PICNIC: A meeting will be held immediately following this meeting.

EMERGENCY SERVICES FEE: The committee is making progress.

EMS SUBCOMMITTEE: Will present the plan to the EMS Committee for their approval, then the Executive Committee will approve and finally a Public Hearing will be held. After all of this it will be presented to the Association for approval.

OLD BUSINESS: None was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: None was presented.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: A. The meeting schedule for the next two years is on the front table. It was also emailed to all stations.

NEXT MEETING: THE NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 14 AT COMPANY 7. THE JANUARY MEETING WILL BE HOSTED BY ENGINE 2 AT ENGINE 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Murray
Secretary

Minutes were transcribed from a tape recording of the meeting.