

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The regular meeting of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association was held on December 20, 2007 at Engine 5.

The meeting was called to order by President Glenn Fuscick. Jason Baer gave the invocation and lead in the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL - All member companies were present except Company 12 and 19. All officers were present except the 1st VP, Assistant Secretary, Chaplain and Assistant Treasurer.

GUEST: Dale Fishack, MSFA Exec. Committee, reported the following: A. The Executive Committee will submit a bylaw change at the next Convention to increase the dues from \$125 to \$200. B. The Executive Director position was approved and funding is being sought from the state. C. Thanks from the Executive Committee for Washington County's assistance in defeating HB 14. D. Pamphlets are being prepared to tell about the function of the MSFA.

Roger Bennett, MEMA West, reported the following: A. The Fire Marshal's office is recruiting for Deputy State Fire Marshals. All applicants will have to attend an orientation brief. The Western Maryland session is at Community

Rescue on January 10, at 7pm. B. MEMA will have a severe weather conference in April. C. Rick Meighan will head up the Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar on February 28-29, March 1 at Rocky Gap Lodge. D. The Hagerstown Police Department and the Alleghany Sheriff's Department were recipients of CEDAP Grants for 2007. Check www.rkb.mipt.org for information about 2008 grants.

Bobby Jacobs, PP MSFA, reported the following: A. Funding for the replacement was included in the sales tax increase during the Special Session. B. Dale reported that the fleet should be totally replaced by 2012. C. Congress passed the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act. The bill prohibits the Federal Government from taxing benefits provided to volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel by state or local governments.

John Latimer, Director DFES, reported the following: A. The radio system - The Elliott Parkway project is progressing. The antenna has been installed. The Keep Tryst tower remains as a problem. The County and Association need to be vigilant. B. The BOCC passed eight changes to the LOSAP system. The photo team was added, the minimum age is defined as 16, the Director of DFES and the County Attorney were added to the Plan Administrator Committee, three areas were clarified, and the Companies will report annually the number of active and administrative members in the plan. C. The BOCC passed the EMS Plan for the Future by a vote of 3-0 with two abstentions. D. The 508 information and financial information were late from several Companies.

MINUTES: The minutes of the November 15, 2007 were filed as written and distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer reported a checking account balance of \$1341.84.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

President: Glenn reported the following: A. The scanner project is up and running and can be accessed at www.wcvfr.org. A few issues are being worked out. B. Standards and Bylaws - A complete copy of the Standards and Bylaws are available for each Company. C. The Chief Officers Committee met at Co. 11 and had much good food. 1). Some classes that have enough students to start are being dropped at midterm because of dropouts. The Association will pay to have all classes finish. 2). The Association will sponsor EMT refresher, EVOC, Rescue Tech and FOI on an annual basis and EMT, FFI and Hazmat Ops on a semiannual basis. C. It is a good experience to go out on a high note with the BOCC passing the EMS plan. Thanks to all who worked so hard to develop the plan and get it enacted. D. The BOE has provided key cards to each Company to be able to enter the schools in their area. E. The DFES has provided maps of the County for each Company from the GIS system. These are very detailed maps. John

Latimer thanked Keith Bowen and James Ulrich for their assistance in completing the system on time. They spent many unpaid hours to make it happen. F. Thanks to all the people who assisted me during the past two years.

2nd VP: A. Fire reports for January thru November are due by December 28. The following Companies are in arrears: 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 12, and 16. B. Fire House will be updated to Version 7 next year. C. Before purchasing a new computer check with the computer committee. Many of the programs will not work with VISTA Home. D. LOSAP - Most of the Coordinators are not familiar with the new changes. 2007 LOSAP information is due by midnight January 10, 2008. Company's 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 20, 59, 75, 1nd 255 have not contacted the office to confirm that they received the information.

Treasurer: Utility bills are due to the office by Friday.

Secretary: Forms are in the packet to report the new delegates to the Association. The information is due ASAP, but not later than March 15, 2008. Fax or send the information to the Office. Please provide as many email addresses as possible.

Budget: Jay requested the budget requests to be at the office by January 10, 2008.

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Fire Police: A written report is provided. New Officers are Doug Snow, Chairman; Robert Moncrief, Asst. Chairman; Tim Keeney, Secretary; Harry Gossard, Training Officer; Fred Smith, Equipment; Alan Kipe, Chaplain.

Awards: All awards for 2007 have been presented.

Property: The furnace at the office is down. There is a shortage of parts to repair the furnace.

Training: A. The list of classes for the Spring has been released. B. There is a list of the Tech High School classes in the packets.

OLD BUSINESS: A. A deadline for applications for Miss Fire Prevention are due January 1, 2008. We have received an application from Jennifer Barciz. B. Utility reports are due in the office on Friday. It is best to send them in by month or at minimum quarterly. Get December bills in as soon as possible in January.

NEW BUSINESS: A. Raffle tickets for the convention were passed out to each Company. B. Bobby Jacobs swore in the new officers. Glen Fishack, President; Skip Menzies, 2nd VP, Sam Murray, Secretary and Rick Blair, Treasurer. The other officers were not present. C. Glen Fishack presented Glenn Fuscick with a plaque for his two-year service to the Association. Thanks Glenn for all your hard work.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: Officer Nickelson's funeral arrangements were announced. The viewing will be Sunday from 6-9 pm at Osborne Funeral Home. The funeral will be Monday at the Williamsport High School at 11 a.m..

NEXT MEETING: THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT ENGINE 4 HOSTED BY COMPANY 16 ON JANUARY 17, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Murray
Secretary