

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The regular meeting of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association was held on December 12, 2008. 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. All officers were present except the 1st VP and Assistant Secretary.

GUEST: Kevin Lewis, DFES, reported the following: A. All 508 information has been received. Some additional is needed from some companies. He will contact you if needed. B. A NIMS 300-400 class has just completed with about 50 persons. There will be additional daytime and weekends classes in February. C. Dispatch models are being refined. Additional information will be added to EMS dispatches. D. Radio Communications will move into its new quarters in March. The tower site on Keep Tryst road is being finalized, but will be about 1 year behind the other sites.

Brigitte Heller, DFES, reported the following: A. Her report will be emailed to the Office. B. The AEDs covered under the grant have not been ordered yet. C. Nothing has been received concerning the DOT Grants. D. If a Company is planning a CPR or an AED class, please publish it so that other people from outside the Company can attend. E. Protocol updates can be completed online. If an individual is taking the class log on with your EMS number. If it is done as Company Training maintain a roster and get it to Brigitte so that she can turn it over to MIMESS.

Kingsley Poole, MFRI, reported the following: A. EVOC Refresher at Company 27 on January 5; Firefighter 1 at Company 4 on January 6; Instructor II at Hagerstown Battalion Office on January 7; Fire Officer I at the Sheriff's Office on January 19; all need additional students. Contact Kingsley as soon as possible. B. His office will be closed from December 24 - January 5. He is available by cell phone. C. The High School class is going well. D. Each Company has received a hard copy of the Spring Schedule.

Dale Fishack, MSFA, reported the following: A. The last meeting was at Pittsfield this past weekend. B. MEMA will begin to audit NIMS training next year. Make sure all persons are covered. C. Appropriated funds and 508 funds are in jeopardy next year. D. Loan funds are being audited by and are now under control of the Department of Military. \$3 million are available. If you are considering applying get you application in soon. See Jason Baer for applications. E. There are 1000 seats available for the online EMT Refresher class. Only about 150 have been used. Make sure everyone in your Company is aware of this availability. F. There will be a real fight to get any of the slot funds for the fire service.

Christian Alshire, BOCC, gave a summary of his visits to each of the member Companies. He feels that the BOCC should treat the Fire and EMS Companies as something other than another non-profit. A. He supports phase 2 of the EMS plan and wants Phase 1 implemented as soon as possible. B. The BOCC as a body has not visited any of the companies. C. He will compile data received from Companies and return it to the Association by the end of January. D. Some of his suggestion may be a central maintenance facility for the County, central purchasing, and pick up some of the benefits for paid people.

Jennifer Barciz, WCVFRA Fire Queen, reported the following; A. She has attended several meetings and parades as Fire Prevention Queen. B. She will distribute stuffed animals at the hospital on Christmas eve. If you can contribute stuffed animals for this purpose contact her. C. Applications for Jr. Miss Fire Prevention are on the MSFA website. D. She will run for Fire Prevention Queen for 2009.

MINUTES: Dan Grove made a motion to accept the November minutes as distributed, the motion was seconded by Harry Gossard and approved. The Secretary read the December Executive Committee minutes. Glenn Reynolds made a motion to accept the minutes. Dan Grove seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer reported a checking account balance of \$39223.92. Utility reports are due January 15. Federal and State tax numbers should be sent to the Office. There is a possibility that the tax on electricity can be waived. Dan Grove made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and the motion was seconded by Harry Gossard. The motion was passed.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative: There will be a Kick Off in Annapolis with MSFA and local delegates.

Photo Team: Brian Stallings reported that there are 25 members, 5 Officers, and 8 Senior Photographers. So

far in 2008 the have been to 291 incidents and taken over 1500 photos. They will release a County DVD this year.

Standards: Certifications for new officers are due as soon as possible. There will be a Standards Committee meeting early in January.

Training: A. Jay reported that he would submit a report on a possible training site in January. B. There will be a Staff and Command class in Ocean City on March 11 - 18. The tuition cost is \$1425 and scholarships are available

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from the Association. If you are interested contact the Association Office as soon as possible.

Secretary: Get delegate lists and Officer Information to the Office in January. Include as many email addresses as possible. This will enable the Secretary and others to get information to the proper people in a timely manner.

Picnic: There will be a committee meeting following this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: A. The President gave a report on Company 12. There were several meeting held after the last Association meeting. The President took the list provided by company 12 to MFRI, the MSFA and had 13 people certified as qualified firefighters. He was told not to release the names unless he had a release from each person. Steve Edwards of MFRI offered to provide, at his cost, any training the Company needed. Meetings with Company 12, the President, the Director of DFES and the County Administrator were held. Additional meetings are scheduled.

Kevin Lewis reported that Company 12 was running box assignments outside their 1st due area.

NEW BUSINESS: A. The LOSAP Committee will meet with the BOCC to discuss changes to the LOSAP plan. B. Replacement of 255 will be discussed with the BOCC. C. A request to hire a Volunteer Coordinator will be presented to the BOCC. D. EMS Phase 1 will b implemented soon after the 1st of the new year. E. Jay Grimes made a motion that the Association appoint a committee to work on a law to require sprinklers in new homes. The motion was seconded by Blain Snyder and passed. F. LOSAP handouts are available for each Company. G. The President will meet with the City Companies after the close of this meeting.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

NEXT MEETING : THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE JANUARY 15, 2009 AT THE CLEAR SPRING FIRE COMPANY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Murray
Secretary