

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

www.msfa.org



SAFETY COMMITTEE

Hobert B. "Hoby" Howell - Chair

John W. "Jack" Gouty – Vice Chair

Donald King – Vice Chair

Barbara L. Steiner – Secretary

July 29, 2007 Committee Meeting Minutes

Fallston Volunteer Fire Dept Harford County. Maryland

The MSFA Safety Committee July Meeting was called to order at 10:18 a. m. on Sunday, July 29, 2007 by Chairman Hoby Howell at the Fallston Volunteer Fire Co in Harford County MD. Bagels and orange juice was served 15 committee members were present representing 12 counties. Guest: Bobbi Aaron, Bobbi Stevens. First Vice President Frank Underwood was also in attendance.

Member present: Chair Hoby Howell, (Fallston, Harford), Gunter Corrado, (Mt Savage, Allegany); Jim Decker, (District 16, Allegany); Gerard McGann, (Mt Savage, Allegany); Jack Gouty, (Jessup, Anne Arundel); Don King, (Boring VFC, Baltimore); Chuck Pembleton, Dan Stevens, (Waldorf, Charles), Gary McGinnis, (Sykesville, Carroll); Ray Stevens, (Chesapeake City, Cecil); Gene Aaron, (Hurlock, Dorchester), Sec. Barbara Steiner, (Church Creek, Dorchester); David Kline, (Walkersville, Frederick); Peter Lott, (Kennedyville, Kent). Benny Shelton, (Sudlersville, Queen Anne's);

Salute to the Flag. The meeting was opened with a salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance lead Hoby.

Welcome: The committee was welcomed to Fallston by. Hoby. He also thanked the members for coming to today's meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of the May meeting were emailed, and pony mailed to the members prior to the meeting.

Reporting:

Officers:

First Vice President Frank Underwood:

Thanked all for coming in spite of the weather.

Requested each member fill out sheet with information for the directory – so that it is correct

Has been picking up the pieces since Judy died.

in any capacity – has to have a vest on –

Dan Stevens – Training

Introduced Chuck Pembleton –new committee member from Waldorf – Charles county

Chuck is the safety officer at Waldorf. He was this year's recipient of the Smith Stathem Award at the OC Convention. Chuck is retired from the Prince George's Co police dept. He worked in documenting accident reconstruction for a living. He is cross trained in EMS courses and on Fire.

Seminars listing on MFRI website. IS 100, 200 will be offered at various sites

Bulletin on conferences has Fall Schedule

Fire Department Safety Officer course is available

New class – Conducting Safe Live Fire Burns – 6 hours – 1 day. September 8 – (not a 1403 class but has 2 hours of 1403 included plus attitude and culture changes.

Classes and Seminars are being offered around the state

September 25, (Tues). Seminar Life Safety Conference – See MRFI Website for info and other offerings.

Delaware – 3 days in Dover – Recruitment and Retention - \$ 90.

September 10, 11, & 12. – on state website.

MFRI August Seminars

Thursday Aug 9, 7 pm to 9 pm Haz Mat Skills: Recognizing the Hazards of Carbon Monoxide, MFRI Northeast Regional Training Center

Thursday Aug 16, 7pm-9pm Haz Mat Skills: Alternative Vehicle Fueling Systems, MFRI Northeast Regional Training Center

Saturday, Aug 18, 9am – 12pm-ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, Eastern Garrett VF&R.

Saturday, Aug 18, 1pm – 4 pm ICS 200: ICS for Single Rescues and Initial Action Incidents, Eastern Garrett VF and R.

Thursday, Aug 23, 7pm-9pm, ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, Woodsboro VFC

Thursday, Aug 30, 7pm-9pm, ICS-200: ICS for Single Rescues and Initial Action Incidents.

For additional information or to register on line, see MFRI web page at www.mfri.org/seminars

MEMA Schedule is out – Web EOC Classes out

MEMA Website – link from MFRI and also Maryland Fire Chief’s site

MEMA training on website – Coffeebreak – Safety topics

www.usfa.dhs.gov/hfa/coffee-break/

Winfield Community VFD , Carroll County – The 11th Annual South Carroll Rural Water Supply Shuttle, Sunday, September 16th, 2007. email – GDODS@gotbigwater.com for information

MFRI – Train the Trainer – ISC 300 & 400 – 5 days.

Minimum Standards Committee Live Fire Training Inventory of Recommendations to be considered Committee met – are looking at 1403. On May 24- brainstorming session – took comments - to come up with inventory of recommendations. Committee to meet again and come up with recommendations for revising standard. May impact on all who do live fire burns

Recommendations –

- All live fire training activities be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1403* standard by making this model standard a mandatory requirement.
- In a much as NFPA 1403 clearly defines the requirements for using acquired structures for fire training, there should be no adoption of any further requirements by the *Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission (MFRETC)*, and that the experience requirements for those who enter acquired structures being used for live fire training be left up to the local fire-rescue department or training facility or *Accredited Training Review Agency (ATRA)*
- The use of acquired structures for live burn training for firefighters be prohibited
- The use of acquired structures for the delivery of any practical training evolution for firefighters should be regulated.
- Live fire training evolutions be conducted under the direct on-scene supervision of a *Maryland Instructor Review Board (MICRB)* approved instructor in at least both the “Incident Command” and “Safety Officer” positions. Both of these instructors must have successfully completed the *Maryland Fire and Safety Rescue Institute (MFRI)* “Conducting Safe Live Fire Training Evolutions” course, or an equivalent course as approved by the MFRITC, and “Fire Officer I” to the NFPA 1021 Standard.
- The Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board establish a level of certification for live burn training instructors.

- Firefighters be restricted from participating in training evolutions conducted in an *Immediate Danger Life & Health* (IDLH) environment, at any acquired structure, until they have successfully completed Firefighter I to the NFPA 1001 Standard.
- The MFRETC determine if there is a need for requirements to be added to the NFPA 1403 standard, such as a requirement to use thermal imagers or thermal couplers.
- There is a lot of valuable training to be obtained from using acquired structures. To continue conducting live fire training in acquired structures the following procedures should be met:
 - Follow the NFPA 1403 standards
 - Instructors should have specific training as to how to safely conduct live fire training including training using acquired structures
 - Training providers should give preference to using instructors from outside of the department of the individuals being trained when conducting an acquired structure burn.
 - Individuals participating in acquired burns should have successfully completed live fire training in the controlled environment of a “burn building” prior to their participation in such training.
 - An individual’s safety is not to be compromised for the sake of realistic training.
 - Foster a good attitude about safety with an emphasis on reducing firefighter injuries. It is not acceptable to allow students to get injured in training because firefighting is a dangerous profession.

Brainstorming session input 1403 should be used on live fire burns

1403 applies if career or have career in the department

Can leave as is – make mandatory, get law enacted, adopt modified standard into COMAR

Should be used - how to get to that?

What do we do with 1403?

Instructors that do burns – a range.

Authority having jurisdiction has say – or – come up with new category for instruction of live burns
(what regs should they have?)

Who should be involved? What training should be required?

Should Thermo imaging be used?

What to do with 1403

What to do with Instructors

What to do with students.

If it is put into COMAR, it becomes LAW

Committee will listen to recommendations

Suggests – get standard and read it

Directory Edwards thinks all live fire burns should be in a burn building at a training center

Dan feels there are certain things you can get out of an acquired structure that don’t occur in the training center.

MFRI will be included in the dialog.

Hoby: Discussed a letter from Pres. Bobby Balta to Ted Porter, Administrator of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission of the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

The letter stated fact on MSFA outlook. Until we hear otherwise, the letter states how we are staying with 1403. The letter was dated May 24, 2007.

The following is the motion made at the MSFA Executive Committee Meeting on April 21, 2007 which passed on a unanimous vote.

Motion: In as much as NFPA 1403 clearly defines the requirements for using acquired structures for fire training, the MSFA opposes the adoption of any further requirements by the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission, and that the experience requirements for those who enter acquired structures being used for live fire training be left up to the local fire-rescue department or training facility (ATRA) and that the volunteer representation on the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and

Training Commission be requested to express this position to the Commission.

It is the position of MSFA that if requirements of NFPA 1403 are adhered to, the risk of unnecessary fighter injury and death is significantly reduced. We do not feel that the adoption of further requirements will stop those who choose to ignore what already exists.

Vice Chair position – Don King had been move to the Second Vice Chair position of the Safety Committee. This appointment was made by MSFA Pres. Paul Sterling.
Congratulations Don.

Chuck Pemberton: - Thanked the committee for the welcome and for the selection for the award
Ambulances are involved in crashes. – Presentation titled “Ambulance Crash Survivability”
will be presented at the Children’s National Medical Center in Wash DC o Tuesday, July 31 at 6PM
The speaker is a medical doctor from NYC.

Chuck is working on a campaign for safety in the back of the ambulance.

Real trend at minor accidents when occupants, providers in the back are killed. The driver and the patient survive.

Providers are not restrained. The back has sharp corners and projectiles.

Accidents are predictable and preventable.

Do nothing for providers doing patient care in back – may receive severe head trauma

Feel units should be getting smaller rather than larger so that supplies and equipment is close to the provider who is strapped in. Provider can do whatever procedures are needed including CPR from the strapped in position. The interior of the unit is reconfigured to facilitate this arrangement.

Hoby – Committee funding – The budget for the Safety Committee has been reduced by \$8,000 due to the overspending by other committees.

The operating budget for this year will be \$4,000.

Left over pocket masks from this year will be used for the 2008 convention.

We will be limited in what we can spend.

PA Turnpike picked up the expenses for the convention presenter room.

Frank Underwood – 1st VP; on the budget – grants have stopped coming in for some committees so now must pay for the whatever.

Put in a cushion – money set aside

Annapolis location – state give free, but must be maintained by MSFA. The steps need to be repaired.

Because the site is in a historical location, the brick work must be done historically.

Everybody has to make adjustments . If there’s money there, you may be able to get some. If there’s isn’t – you won’t.

Dues increase “assessment” voted down. – was not explained sufficiently.

Discussion on budget.

Safety committee will try and work within our means.

Future Convention Seminars: Chuck was asked to communicate with Dr. Levick, (the presenter of the ambulance presentation) about the possibility of putting together a seminar for next year at OC

Communications: Hoby received a letter from MSFA Pres. Paul Sterling concerning items that Paul would like committees to work on. Wellness and injury prevention, including heart attacks and motor vehicle collisions continue to be the leading cause of deaths to our personnel. He has requested that the committee work on putting together a publication for distribution at the June 2008 convention promoting tips for achieving healthy living and injury prevention and wellness.

Hoby asked Jack and Ray along with Bill Huttenloch to work on putting together the publication referenced in Paul's letter.

Discussion on sources for physicals (wellness) – money needed to be on going. Grants are good for specific number of years. –sometimes only 1. Companies do not have funds to carry on program
Dan feels MSFA need to pursue- yearly the problem of the funds for the physicals mandated in the law passed a few years ago

Sunshine: If you know a member of the committee who is ill, please notify Hoby so a card can be sent.
We appreciate the committee members' contributions to the fund.

Opticom – Chuck has been working on the this – need to look into it – it's a safety issue
Need State to opt out on all new traffic lights and add to older ones. Cost is \$6,000-\$8,000 per light
Need State to MANDATE – a legislative initiative
Keep track of close calls – document – and turn into MSFA Safety Com
Need statistics to have them put in
When upgrading intersections – or development of new areas – need to be put in
Get builders, developers to be responsible – put in plans when developer starts.

Hoby asked Chuck to work with him on getting something for the legislature to pursue in State.

Chuck on Ambulance : Winterpark Florida – had ambulance at an expo – with belts in the rear
Med-Tec has rearrange interiors to accommodate this

Dan – Harrisburg – expo had an example of an ambulance with 5 point harness on the providers chair
Had a F450 body with good sized box. He will try find out about the unit.

Culture is killing us

Wearing helmets in back of ambulance – Light weight – designed for this use

No hand tools should be in the crew cabs – Notebooks, obstacles inside with rollovers block passenger side airbags.

Dan will contact ambulance out of Philly PA to see if the unit would be available for the convention in June '08

Hoby – Convention – went well – had shortage of workers. Need to step up and help with whatever.
Got work done, did good job.

Proper ID for drinking – Need picture ID – Driver's license

Asked that this be put on meal tickets and in packets.

Pepco outside display had very poor attendance. Was located adjacent to water supply demo.

Felt that presenters were unhappy with response.

Motion by Don King, seconded by Gerard McCann to do away with outside Pepco display. Motion passed. Pepco also has an indoor display.

Seminar went well. Were well attended.

Calendar for the coming year:

No meeting in August.

Next meeting in :

September 16, 2007 at Branchville, Prince George's Co – near Uof MD in College Park

1st VP Frank Underwood will host meeting.

October 21, 2007 at Hurlock, Dorchester Co. – Eastern Shore Gene Aaron will host meeting

November 18, 2007 at Sudlersville in Queen Anne's County – Eastern Shore – Benny Shelton will host.

No meeting in December or January (due to holidays and bad weather for traveling in Jan)

February 10 – date change due to Exec Com mtg the weekend of 16-17 in New Windsor – tentatively – Sykesville, with Gary McGinnis as host. – More on this as the date gets closer

The dates for the rest of the year are:

March 16, 2008

April 20, 2008

May 18, 2008

We need locations for these meetings If your company can host one of these meetings please let Hoby or Barb know. Thanks.

Parade: - Ray – Discussion of standing, sitting in open jump seats. Most persons did as requested when asked to sit down.

Problem with youngsters who ride the motorbikes running up and down the street delivering whatever.

Gators did a good job of supplying refreshments to committee members.

Rest rooms – Jack reported that the inside door of the cubicle or in front of the urinal are good locations to place posters with valuable information. Person using facility has time, chance to read item. Info is changed periodically. You have a captive audience.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on September 16, 2007 at Branchville. 1st VP Frank Underwood is host.

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment – 12:50 pm.

The lunch of fried chicken, potato salad and pie was great. Thanks, Diane.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Steiner, Sec.

Directions to follow:

DIRECTIONS BRANCHVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY