

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

www.msfa.org

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Paul R. "Bobby Balta, Jr., P.P. – Chair

Wayne Higdon, Vice Chair

Jimmy Rose – Vice Chair

Barbara L. Steiner – Secretary



October 17, 2010 Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Glenn Dale Volunteer Fire Assn. Glenn Dale MD, Prince Georges County

The MSFA Safety Committee August Meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on Sunday, October 17, 2010 by Chair Bobby Balta, P.P. 16 committee members were present representing 9 counties. Roll Call was taken by the Chair: see below.

Also in attendance:

Committee Chair, Bobbi Stevens, High School Career Tech Program

Salute to the Flag: The meeting was opened with a salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance lead by Bobby Balta, Chair.

Minutes of the previous meeting sent electronically to committee members were approved as corrected.

Jimmy Rose sent a report on progress he is making with the presentation on seat belt usage. He is still looking for information from other companies throughout the state concerning accidents where members were injured and were or were not wearing seat belts. Chairman Balta is striving for the presentation to be ready by January or February of 2011.

Chairman Balta stated that at the Ambulance Safety Meeting held at MFRI resulted in his sending out a survey to Vice Chair Wayne Higdon and Jimmy Rose to forward to the members within their respective groups. See below for the questions. There will also be a second survey sent later to the general membership for response. See below for questions to be sent. Wayne Higdon reported that he sent survey's to committee members concerning driver training requirements within the individual companies. He reported that he has not received responses from his email. A few of the members of the committee stated that they did not receive the survey and were handed hard copies.

The committee members going to continue to push the signing of the seat belt pledge to the MSFA membership. Chairman Balta reminded everyone that they should continue to stress getting members to sign the pledge and should contact Company Chiefs about requiring everyone on apparatus to wear seat belts. Only 19 companies in the state have 100% participation. Several members of the committee have passed out the seat belt pledges at their association meetings. Chairman Balta suggested that the committee members send emails to the companies and chief's in order to promote the use of seat belts.

Again Chairman Balta reminded everyone that there is a topic on the MSFA discussion forum concerning Ambulance safety. There are a couple of responses however he expects more input from the committee. The ideas that are gathered from this dialog will help greatly with his attendance at the Ambulance Safety Taskforce meetings. Safety is not a once a month meeting that we attend, it is ongoing and participation is expected by the committee members. Committee members should not wait to come to a meeting to express themselves. When

an idea to improve our chances of getting the safety message out we can send an email to Chairman Balta or post it on the discussion forum.

Dan Stevens stated that the training committee has gone to all regions of the state requesting input for the 10 year plan. He requested that anyone having input on safety idea's contact him so that they may be included in the plan.

Next meeting:

January 16, 2011 – Cordova – Caroline County

10:00 AM

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Barbara Steiner

	18-Jul-10 Fallston	15-Aug-10 Waldorf	17-Oct-10 Glen Dale	16-Jan-11 Cordova	20-Mar-11 Ridge	15-May-11 Bowling Green
Aaron, Barbara	P	P	P			
Aaron, Gene	P	P	P			
Balta, Jr. P.P., Paul R, "Bobby"	P	P	P			
Britton, Jr., Alfred W. "Butch"	P	P	A			
Callison, Larry	E	A	A			
Campbell, Jr. W. R. "Buddy"	A	A	A			
Carr, Mary	P	E	A			
Corrado, Jill	A	A	A			
Corrado, Gunter	A	P	P			
Cunningham, Victoria	P	P	P			
Decker, Jr., James F. "Jim"	A	E	E			
Diem, Thomas	P	A	E			
Fisher, Janet	P	P	P			
Fisher, John	P	P	E			
Fretterd, Sr., Wayne	A	A	A			
Garnice, David	P	E	A			
Hahn, Robert W.	P	E	A			
Higdon, Wayne	P	P	P			
Howel, Hobart "Hoby"	P	E	E			
Huttenloch, William	E	E	E			
Kline, David	P	P	E			
Lott, Peter	E	E	E			
Mautz, Dan	A	E	A			
McGann, Gerard	E	P	P			
McGinnis, Gary	E	P	P			
Musgrove, Sr., Thomas W.	A	P	A			
Owens, Hugh	P	A	P			
Ridgell, Timmy	P	P	P			
Rose, Jimmy	E	P	E			
Shelton, James "Benny"	P	P	A			
Steiner, Barbara	P	P	P			
Stevens, Dan	P	P	P			
Stevens Sr., Raymond F.	P	E	A			
Struntz, Donna	P	E	E			
Wathen, John	P	P	P			
Wisner, Stephen J.	P	P	A			
Wolford, John	P	A	A			

P = PRESENT

A = ABSENT

E = EXCUSED

Survey questions that were sent to committee members

1 - Does your county have requirements/standards in order to operate an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

2 - Does your county require a training program prior to operating in an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

3 - Is there an age requirement in your county for the operation of an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

4 - Do the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) have requirements/standards in order to operate an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

5 - Do the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) require a training program prior to operating an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

6 - Do the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) have an age requirement for the operation of an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

7 - Do the insurance providers for the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) have any age restrictions or training requirements for the operation of an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

Survey Questionnaire to be sent to the MSFA general membership

In my department.....	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1. Drivers are selected based upon their age, driver qualifications, training, skills maintenance, knowledge of traffic laws and safe driving record.					
2. Emergency vehicles are only driven by individuals who have been trained to operate a particular vehicle or type of vehicle thorough a comprehensive Emergency Vehicle Operator's course					
3. Each authorized driver's motor vehicle record is reviewed periodically to ensure that the individual maintains safe driving habits.					
4. All persons driving or riding in fire department vehicles are seated in approved rising positions with seat belts fastened at all times when vehicle is in motion.					
5. Upon completion of a basic driver's program, a member is only authorized to drive light duty vehicles in a non-emergency mode. Additional training is required to drive larger vehicles or operate any vehicle in an emergency response mode.					
6. A policy regarding speed limitations has been established.					
7. Fire department vehicles come to a full stop before entering a negative right-of-way intersection.					
8. A policy has been established that addresses when an emergency vehicle can pass traffic moving in the same direction.					
9. We have a policy that requires emergency vehicles to come to a full stop at unguarded railway grade crossings.					
10. Members are not permitted to be on duty, respond to incidents or drive or operate or perform any duty-related functions while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.					
11. Collisions involving departmental vehicles are investigated to determine casual factors and identify measures that should be taken to prevent similar incidents in the future.					
12. Policies and procedures have been developed to protect personnel and incident victims at highway incident scenes.					
13. Traffic pre-emption devices have been installed a identified intersections.					