

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
Barry Johnson – Data Technical Support

January 16, 2011 Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Cordova Volunteer Fire Co. Cordova MD. Talbot County

The MSFA Safety Committee January Meeting was called to order at 9:50 a.m. on Sunday, January 16, 2011 by Chairman Bobby Balta, P.P. at the Cordova Fire Dept. Cordova, MD. Roll Call was taken with 23 committee members present (see attached). Also present was Pres. Doyle Cox, First VP David Lewis., Second VP John Denver, Executive Committee Chair Dan Stevens, , Bobbi Stevens, High School Career Tech Program).

Members of the committee were welcomed to the Cordova Fire Dept by Pres. Tom Diem.

Minutes of the previous meeting were sent electronically to committee members no changes were registered.

President Doyle Cox thanked the committee for their participation and commended the Chair for renewing interest in the committee and thanked the committee for their efforts. Construction on the convention center will be limited to the rear of the building lower level. Work on the interior will not start until after our convention is over. The Ladies meeting space has been moved, location for classes will be different we will have full use of the stage, There will be some construction materials in the side areas Downstairs. The flea market will be moved to the North East side of the building. The Convention Committee is working on the location where trophies for the parade will be announced. The schedule for the convention is posted on the web page. Jolly Rogers is offering the same package as last year as last year. Nominations for Smith Stathem Award are way down. Committee members have the responsibility to promote the award. Members can write up a person and submit it. President challenged the committee to recruit at least 10 nominations for this year. Legislation- Opening session for MD occurred last week with 41 new delegates, 60% of the offices have changed. The 2011 Fire Prevention grants are out. Department can apply for up to a \$500 maximum with a match of 10% from the departments. Last year was funded at \$25,000 with only \$14,000 awarded in grants. The program to open for this year next month will have the \$11,000 left from last year plus a \$25,000 for this year making \$36,000 available. Applications can be gotten on-line at msfa.org.

First VP Dave Lewis asked that those wishing to continue to serve on a committee fill out intention forms and get them back to him. Forms are on the website. He called the committees attention to the Chief Officers Seminar January 29 at MFRI. Statistics for 2010 LODD are down with only 85 fire deaths last year, there were 61% of deaths from stress and over exertion, 12.9% were vehicle collisions.

Executive Committee Chair Dan Stevens noted that the next Executive Committee meeting will be held at Cordova on February 19 And 20. He also presented Chairman Balta with the Maryland Fire/Rescue Apparatus Collisions Analysis and Report. The report was put together by FF III Michael Hoert of Montgomery Co. F/R.

Chairman Balta will have a copy of the report posted on the Website for the membership. The report also proposes a Fire/Rescue Apparatus Instructional Facility. Dan stated that the Training Committee working on 10 year plan and will meet next Sunday at Upper Shore Training Center in Centreville. Contact Dan if you have something to put in the plan. A new safety regulation now requires an indicator on the driver's console whether seat belts are in use or not. Waldorf is also having an indicator put on the Officers side on their new apparatus.

Vice Chair Wayne Higdon encouraged all members to get the seatbelt pledge signed and returned. In Maryland only 20 companies have returned with 100% signed by their company. (There are 377 companies in the State). He made a suggestion that we set a target date to have a realistic number of companies having signed the pledge. The Safety Committee members should attend their area association meetings and push the seatbelt pledge and follow up by contacting officers in the companies within their area. Comments were made that not all companies submitting the seatbelt pledge have received their certificates. Janet Fisher will research the problem. Questions are being asked about where to get seat belt extensions, the suggestions from the Safety Committee are to check with the manufacturer. A discussion ensued concerning the use of seat belts and workmans compensation. There was mention that if FF not wearing seatbelt WC will not cover injuries during an accident. Dave Garnice will research the issue however he has worked with WC issues for several years and does not know if an incident where WC was denied for individuals not wearing a seatbelt.

The Move-over Law went into effect January 1, 2011. Slow down and if possible pull away from the scene. Hugh Owens suggested having an article placed in area newspapers advising the public of the law.

Vice Chair's Jimmy Rose and Wayne Higdon have posters that can be used for our display and at OC.

Chairman Balta requested input from the committee concerning give away items for the convention. John Fisher stated that there were items from Everyone Goes Home. President Cox stated that the committee needed to have something with the MSFA logo and Safety Committee acknowledgement on it. Chairman Balta will research the matter and get back to the committee with some suggestions.

Tom Diem on physical fitness stated that there are individuals who should not be on a truck. He asks who protects us from ourselves. Chairman Balta stated that there is a regulation in the State in regard to safety and Health and Wellness. The requirement for Physicals is not being enforced until the State applies the funding. The consensus of the committee was that requiring new members to have a physical would be a good start.

Chairman Balta told the Committee about an article he read concerning FF that became lost in an abandoned building. The building was a maze inside and three FF entered and got lost, three other FF went looking for them and also became lost. If there are abandoned buildings in your area of responsibility, check them out and make sure they are secured properly and there are not special circumstances that would harm Fire Fighters.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Next Meeting: March 20, 2011 at Ridge VFD, Ridge MD

Respectfully Submitted
Barbara Steiner

MEETING ATTENDANCE

		18-Jul-10	15-Aug-10	17-Oct-10	16-Jan-11	20-Mar-11	15-May-11	Status
		Fallston	Waldorf	Glen Dale	Cordova	Ridge	Bowling Green	
Aaron, Barbara	DOR	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Aaron, Gene	DOR	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Balta, Jr., Paul R, "Bobby"	STM	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Britton, Jr., Alfred W. "Butch"	QA	P	P	P	A			75.00%
Callison, Larry	CAL	E	A	A	P			25.00%
Campbell, Jr. W. R. "Buddy"	QA	A	A	A	E			0.00%
Carr, Mary	ALL	P	E	A	A			25.00%
Corrado, Jill	ALL	A	A	A	E			0.00%
Corrado, Gunter	ALL	A	P	P	E			50.00%
Cunningham, Victoria	HAR	P	P	P	E			75.00%
Decker, Jr., James F. "Jim"	ALL	A	E	E	E			0.00%
Diem, Thomas	TAL	P	A	E	P			50.00%
Fisher, Janet	WOS	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Fisher, John	WOS	P	P	E	P			75.00%
Fretterd, Sr., Wayne	CAR	A	A	A	P			25.00%
Garnice, David	HAR	P	E	P	P			75.00%
Hahn, Robert W.	CEC	P	E	P	P			75.00%
Higdon, Wayne	CHA	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Howel, Hobart "Hoby"	HAR	P	E	E	A			25.00%
Huttenloch, William	PG	E	E	E	E			0.00%
Kline, David	FRE	P	P	E	P			75.00%
Lott, Peter	KEN	E	E	E	P			25.00%
Mautz, Dan	TAL	A	E	A	E			0.00%
McGann, Gerard	ALL	E	P	P	E			50.00%
McGinnis, Gary	CAR	E	P	P	E			50.00%
Musgrove, Sr., Thomas W.	MONT	A	P	A	A			25.00%
Owens, Hugh	AA	P	A	P	P			75.00%
Ridgell, Timmy	STM	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Rose, Jimmy	CHA	E	P	E	P			50.00%
Shelton, James "Benny"	QA	P	P	A	P			75.00%
Steiner, Barbara	DOR	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Stevens, Dan	CHA	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Stevens Sr., Raymond F.	CEC	P	E	P	P			75.00%
Struntz, Donna	ALL	P	E	E	E			25.00%
Wathen, John	STM	P	P	P	P			100.00%
Wisner, Stephen J.	FRE	P	P	A	A			50.00%
Wolford, John	ALL	P	A	A	E			25.00%

P = PRESENT

A = ABSENT

E = EXCUSED

