

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 21 & 22, 1995
BERLIN, MARYLAND

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The Executive Committee meetings held at the Berlin Volunteer Fire Company were called to order by President George "Fred" Cross, Jr., at 0900 hours. Assistant Chaplain Newman offered opening prayer, and led the group in the pledge to the flag. President Cross introduced the President of the Berlin Volunteer Fire Company who welcomed the Association to the area and extended his pleasure on behalf of the Company to host the meeting.

The following Past Presidents were recognized by President Cross; L. B. Thompson, 62-63; D. E. Kirk, 63-64; T. L. Reynolds, 71-72; R. L. Wood, 73-74; E. F. Preston, 74-75; E. E. Dunn, Sr., 76-77; C. B. Burton, 79-80; C. W. Riley, 83-84; R. J. Smith, 84-85; L. T. King, 85-86; C. D. Carpenter, Jr., 86-87; R. P. Cumberland, Jr., 87-88; J. R. Robison, 89-90; B. J. Smith, 91-92; R. H. Shimer, 88-89; C. O. Baker, 78-79, and R. L. Yinger, 94-95. President Sharon Worthington of the Ladies Auxiliary was recognized who introduced Senior Vice President Joyce Thorne, Junior Vice President Robin Browning, and others. She reported on the Fall Conference and gave a brief update on a new project, which will be referred to as the Story Book. President Cross continued by introducing other guests in attendance.

PRESIDENT - President Cross presented his written report and proceeded by extending his sympathy to the family of Eric Schaffer, who died in the line of duty with the Baltimore City Fire Department. He met with Gov. Parris Glendening regarding several budget issues, and discussed the casino gambling issue and requested that a surcharge be added to provided funding for fire/rescue service. The Presidents met with Dr. Bass and Chairman Wills regarding legislative matters regarding EMS. The Presidents' also met with Dr. Kirwin, President of the University of Maryland and MFRI Director Edwards to discuss the new book policy and the upper/lower shore training centers. Expressed his appreciation to all who purchased tickets to the football game and that the proceeds of \$500 will be presented to the burn center in January of 1996. He attended the Fallen Firefighters Memorial at Emmitsburg and thanked those individuals who assisted. He indicated that the income tax incentive meetings have been going very well to date.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT - Vice President Cox presented his written report and gave a overview of his activities. He also reported on the activities regarding SB144. They met with Volunteer Fire Insurance Services which was a very productive meeting. A meeting was held with the Delaware State Firemen's Association that dealt with issues that effect both States. He also attended the National Volunteer Fire Council meetings which were held in Louisville, KY. Reported that by having the opportunity to attend this event, it proved of great value educationally and allowed to establish a rapport that will be very valuable in the future.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT - Vice President Davis presented his written report and provided a overview of his activities during the last few months. Reported that the dedication of the lower eastern shore facility will be held on October 29 and recommended to as many as possible to attend.

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SECRETARY - Secretary King provided a update on activities within his office. Reported that the Budget and Data Committees in conjunction with the Secretary's Office are continuing their effort in providing a equipment inventory record. The proceeding of the 1995 MSFA Convention is currently being transcribed. He presented a detailed financial report of funds received. He also reported that the Assistant Secretary's have put together a meeting room layout plan that will allow the Executive Committee to conduct its business with the least amount of interruptions as possible and to streamline the meeting as much as possible.

TREASURER - Treasurer Saville presented a summary of his written report to the Committee. He informed the Committee that he had transferred \$40,000 into a money market account with a current interest rate of 5.7% which was a recommendation from the last meeting in Valley Lee.

CHAPLAIN - Assistant Chaplain Newman reported on behalf of the Chaplain's Office informing the Committee that Chaplain Damewood could not be in attendance because he was attending a Chaplains conference out of state.

As a result of no further reports from the officers, President Cross turned the meeting over to Executive Committee Chairman Mooney. Chairman Mooney opened the meeting by requesting a report from each of the Committee members. George Blanco reported on a member who is in need of financial assistance from his area due to extensive medical costs and that he had raffle tickets with the proceeds going to this cause. Roy Wood informed the group that Bill Fleshman could not be in attendance for the meeting and requested that all items that normally come to his attention be given to Patti Gordy. Danny Carpenter reported that the Waldorf (Charles County) dedicated a new station recently. Richard Brooks gave an update on events in his area. Donald Mooney reported that the County Association has a new president. Hartwood Cornell thanked the Presidents for their involvement in the tax incentive meetings. Paul Sterling reported on status of FLSA law suit in Montgomery County. Also reported that Montgomery County has a new Association President. Mike Robinson reported that Ann Arundel County Association reelected their president and that Leonard T. King was elected vice president. Richard Yinger reported that a letter had been received from Paul Fabizak regarding a EMS issue and that he had reported the contents of the concern to the Maryland Emergency Medical Services Board for review and appropriate action.

Bessie Marshall Benefit Fund - Chairperson June Black gave a detailed report on the financial condition of the fund and the amount of cases handled so far this year.

Office of the Attorney - Attorney Powell reported that he had been working with several committee chairpersons regarding various issues. He also reported on another problem regarding the solicitation of funds and requested direction from the Executive Committee has to how to handle the matter. After discussing the matter at length, the following motion was made by R. Yinger and seconded by H. Cornell:

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MOTION - TO HAVE THE ATTORNEY TO CONTINUE PURSUIT OF "FIREFIGHTERS OF AMERICA" RELATIVE TO SOLICITATION IN MARYLAND AND ANY OTHERS THAT ARE SOLICITING. motion passed on verbal vote.

MFRETC - Representative Shimer reported that the Commission had not met since the last Executive Committee meeting. The next meeting will be held on Oct. 26, 1995.

MFRI - Director Edwards provided an oral summary of the Institute's annual report of which a copy was presented to each member of the Executive Committee. In addition to the annual report, he briefed the Committee on the FY97 budget and the enhancements that are being proposed. Also made a few comments regarding the text book policy and how the payment process will function. Updated the Committee on capital projects and encouraged all members to attend the dedication of the new center on the lower shore. Updated the Committee on program development and changes in the various courses. Reported on the training directors conference recently held in Maryland. Expressed his appreciation to the Prince George's County Fire Department and the staff from WUSA Channel 9 News in cooperation with MFRI in the production of a video entitled "Get Out Alive".

State Fire Marshal's Office - Fire Marshal Gabriele reported on their new location and a update on the new office in Carroll County. Also he reported on the status of vacancies within his Office and the process on filing those positions. He continued with an update on the status of the budget for FY97, indicating that he has had several meeting with the Secretary of Public Safety of which he feels has been very beneficial. He reported on a recent conference that he and Bob Shimer attended in West Virginia and summarized the events and contacts made during the conference. He reported on a grant received by his office for the use in fire investigations and arson cases. As a result of many large fires in Baltimore City recently, there is movement to develop a more cooperative arrangement between the State Fire Marshals Office, Baltimore City Police Department and Baltimore Fire Department in an effort to resolve a large problem.

MD DNR - Supervisor Zentz provided a overview of his written report covering personnel, federal funding, equipment, fire program review, western fire detail and wildlife report. For details on the aforementioned, refer to his written report.

LOSAP Committee - Chairperson Joan Robison reported on the activities of the Committee and in conjunction with Tax Incentive Bill workshops. She indicated that they have been attending the regional meeting throughout the State gathering information that will beneficial to the Committee. She reported that there are still nine counties without a point system. However they are working on this matter at this time and should be in place by year end.

MIEMSS - Dr. Robert Bass provided to all members a copy of the 1994-95 Annual Report and continued by highlighting several matters. The EMS plan has been completed and they are now in the process of prioritizing the data. He indicated that MIEMSS will be relocating within one year. However the move is only approximately one block away from their current location. He presented

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a update on the concept of emergency medical dispatching within the State indicating that it was well received by the 911 representatives at the workshop. The budget for FY97 has been approved by the MIEMSS Board with little change from the FY96 budget. He indicated that the DNR Program has been received extremely well and that they have issued in excess of 40,000 forms for this program. He informed the Committee that a revenue increase in the amount of \$3,000,000 was experienced last year in the emergency operating fund. They are not sure why this happen and are investigating the matter. SEMSAC BLS Committee are working on the EMT-B program. Refer to the folder for ALS information. Lee Sachs requested that transportation reimbursement concerns need to be considered from insurance providers such as HMO's. Dr. Bass requested that information of this nature be forwarded to him so that these matters can be checked into from his office. Mike Robinson inquired if an approved list of AED's are available. Dr. Bass indicated that a list is available and to contact his office to acquire it. Charles Riley inquired about legislative concerns regarding quality assurance and certification of personnel. Dr. Bass responded to the concern and explained his position on the matter. Chairman Mooney requested that the EMS and Legislative Committees get together with Dr. Bass in order to resolve this issue.

Five Year Planning Committee - Chairman Robison provided a overview of his report. He requested Gene Worthington to present the recommendation on restructuring the budget process. Refer to the written report for complete details on the recommendations. In reference to the various proposed Constitution & By-Laws changes pertaining to this issue, Charles Burton agreed to review the proposals and work with the Constitution & By-Laws Committee as appropriate. The recommended changes are part of the Five Year Planning Committee report. First Vice President presented in conjunction with the Planning Committee a proposed organizational structure of the Association and a management concept for review and comments. For details refer to the written report. After a discussion regarding the aforementioned recommendations, it was the general consensus of the Executive Committee to accept the recommendations for further review.

Hazardous Materials Committee - Chairman Terrell presented a overview of his written report highlighting the SARA Title III law, Right-To-Know law, a project that will provide a list of resources which will be distributed to all companies in the State and coordination of hazmat training. For additional information refer to the written report.

EMS Committee - Chairman Wills presented a written report, however he pointed out that the first 125 hour EMT-B Program has been completed which is being evaluated for additional improvement. He also reported that there is some concern on the change in required hours concerning the EMT-B Bridge Program, 24 hours versus a 38 hours. He indicated that there may be a problem with this change and will follow up on the matter accordingly at the next meeting. Chairman Wills requested that a sub committee be appointed by the Association President in accordance with the Constitution & By-Laws known as the Emergency Medical Dispatch Committee (EMD). The following motion was made by Paul Sterling and seconded by Herman Rhue:

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MOTION - That the President appoint an Emergency Medical Dispatch Sub-Committee (EMD represented by the following individuals; Paul Fabiszak, Chairman; members Clay Stamp, Guelda Farrall, Beverly Leftwich, 911 representative and a representative from the Training Committee. Committee mission is to work with MIEMSS to establish a certified training program for emergency medical dispatchers. Motion passed as presented.

In summary, he reminded everyone that a public forum will be held on December 12, 1995 regarding the EMT-Bridge program at MFRI Hdqts. at Berwyn Heights. Chairman Wills requested Lee Sachs to present his concerns on the status of pending Bill 1222 and how it relates to the EMS Board. He indicated that there are no peers to this board in comparison to other State boards. He also stated that there seems to be a difference of opinion between how Dr. Bass views this matter. He indicated that the check and balance process would be distorted because of the bureaucratic connection without any input from the EMS Board. Roger Powell indicated that the bill is a bad bill. Richard Yinger commented that to the best of his knowledge the EMS Board has not reviewed this matter. Lee continued, reporting that there seems to be a communication breakdown between MIEMSS and the Association regarding these issues. This discussion led into another concern over EMD, which involved Chairman Wills, Chairman Shimer and Richard Brooks.

Transportation Committee - Chairman Hetz reported that he did not have a written report. He continued by stating that the new tag proof from MVA should be available in the near future for review. He also indicated that the data base file was in place in order to notify the current holders of FD tags that the new tag would be replacing the current tag.

Out of State Coordinator - Chairman Cumberland reported that he will be working on the emergency service dinner in the near future. Contact him for details.

NVFC Report - Chairman Cumberland provided an overview of his written report. He highlighted several items from his report in forming the Executive Committee that Chief David Dwyer, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad was selected the Firemen of the Year by the Council. Refer to his written report and the supplemental report for additional information.

National Fire Academy Liaison - Chairman Cumberland reported on the recent events that took place at Emmitsburg. He reported that the keynote speaker this year was Mrs. Drennin whose husband was a New York City firefighter who died in the line of duty.

Federal Legislative Sub-Committee - Chairman Cumberland provided an overview of his written report briefing the Committee on the status of several bills. He specifically requested guidance on House Bill H.R. 1783 that pertains to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

Emergency Management Council - Representative Shimer provided an overview of his written report in detail. Those areas included the following: Automated Systems, GEMAC/SERC, Local Government, CSEPP, MD Dept. of the Env., MFRI, MEMA, Mass Casualty Conference, Severe Winter Storm Conference, CALVEX Exercise, New Command Center. For details, refer to the written report.

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Emergency Numbers Systems Board - Representative Shimer provided a overview of his written report. One of the items mentioned was the possibility of charging the 911 fee to those who have cellular phones. Reported that approval was granted to provide funding for 911 center chairs for the on duty dispatchers. For additional information refer to his written report.

The meeting was recessed until 0900 hours October 22, 1995 with closing prayer provided by Chaplain Newman.

Sunday - October 22, 1995 The MSFA Executive Meeting was called to order by President Cross at 0900 hours. He announced that Chaplain Newman would open the meeting with a short service followed by pledge to the flag. President Cross welcomed those in attendance and recognized the following Past Presidents: L. B. Thompson, 62-63; D. E. Kirk, 63-64; G. A. Glaubitz, 70-71; R. L Wood, 73-74; C. O. Baker, 78-79; C. B. Burton, 79-80; C. W. Riley, 83-84; R. J. Smith, 84-85; L. T. King, 85-86; C. D. Carpenter, 86-87; R. H. Shimer, 88-89; J. R. Robison, 89-90; B. J. Smith, 91-92; P. H. Hurlock, 93-94 and R. L. Yinger 94-95. From the Ladies Auxiliary, President Sharon Worthington, Sr. Vice President Joyce Thorne, Jr. and Jr. Vice President Robin Browning. He also recognized other guests in attendance.

Ways and Means - Chairman Means reported that the raffle tickets will be distributed at the January meeting.

MFRI Board of Advisors - Representative Wills provided a overview of his written report by highlighting the dedication and opening of Lower Shore Training Center and commented on Director Edward's progress on the Upper Shore Training Center. He stated that most of his report had been covered. However for additional information refer to his written report.

Voluntary Certification Board - Representative Carpenter reported that a written report was distributed by the Secretary's Office and the next meeting will be held on January 25, 1996 at Earleigh Heights.

Budget Committee - Vice President Cox presented a follow up report from the meeting held at Valley Lee. He indicated that the Budget Committee met on Oct. 21, to discuss travel expenditure issues. The Budget Committee recommended that a supplemental request of \$700.00 on behalf of the N.V.F.C. be honored which is a reconsideration of the restriction against travel reimbursement. The following motion was made by Harwood Cornell and second by Mike Robinson:

MOTION - That the supplemental budget request for the NVFC in the amount of \$700.00 be denied. Motion passed 7 to 5.

Board of Trustees - Chairman Riley reported no new claims in recent months. During the month of September the Trustees paid out a total of \$11,517.00 and for the month of October \$9,210.00.

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Legislative Committee - Chairman Riley provided a overview of his written report. He highlighted items one through six from his report to the Executive Committee. One issue not in the written report is what impact the fire/rescue service could have on acquiring funds from the casino proposal. He suggested that the Association should keep this mind if this proposal gains support. He briefed the Committee on the results of the tax incentive workshops and how much he has learned from the exchange.

Fire Laws Book Committee - Chairman Bilger reported in detail on the cost of printing the book. This information was acquired from the Mitchie Butterworth Company which outlines several ways the document can be printed along with the associated costs. After considerable discussion regarding the printing of the fire laws book and input from both Chairman Riley and Bilger, the following motion was made by Roger Steger and seconded by Mike Robinson:

MOTION - To provide that the Maryland Fire Laws Book be printed every four years.
Motion passed.

Safety Committee - Chairman Mattingly presented a overview of his written report highlighting the following: Safety Video, National Volunteer Council and several miscellaneous items. He requested guidance on the proper procedure to release copies of the video tapes.

Fire Prevention Committee - Chairman Wright presented his written report to the Executive Committee. In addition to his written report he indicated that the State of Delaware was interested in their smoke detector program and in the near future he will be meeting with Bob Thomas to select the dates for a spring seminar.

Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Committee - Chairman Flinn presented his written report to the Executive Committee.

Public Relations & Bulletin - Chairman Gatton presented a overview of his written report. He also informed those in attendance that the next Volunteer Trumpet issue has a deadline of November 1, no exceptions.

Convention Committee - Chairman King presented a overview of his written report. He indicated that plans for the 1996 convention are well on the way, however he stated that with the ongoing construction it will be a difficult year. Regardless, the cooperation to date with all concern from Mayor Powell to the Convention Committee everything is coming together at this point. Roy Wood requested a financial report and Chairman King responded that as soon as all transactions are resolved a final report will be presented.

Past President's Organization - Past President Shimer gave a report on the activities of the organization. He also indicated that in future events, widows of past presidents will be invited to participate accordingly.

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Old Business:

MOTION - That a letter be sent to the State opposing the proposed repeal of Article 89, Section 49B (Elevator Size). Motion by Paul Sterling/Second by Richard Yinger. Passed

Richard Brooks requested that we should acquire additional information regarding the Department of Natural Resources concerns presented by Alan Zentz. It is the general consensus that the Director of the Department of Natural Resources become more involved with the Association. Vice President Cox indicated that President Cross will attempt to meet with the Director of DNR and share our concerns before we proceed any further on this matter. After a lengthy discussion regarding what direction the Association should take on acquiring funding for hearing impaired smoke detectors, the following motion was made by Paul Sterling and seconded by George Blanco:

MOTION - Refer to the Fire Prevention Committee, Deaf Access Committee and the Secretary's Office and report back at the January meeting pertaining to smoke detectors and corporate donations. Passed

The following motion was made by Paul Sterling and seconded by Richard Yinger:

MOTION - Approve the minutes as amended and correct the name of Fallen Firefighter Lapp not Ladd. Motion Passed.

Chairman Mooney presented a proposal to establish a fallen firefighter memorial in Annapolis. Chairman Mooney turned the meeting over to President Cross. He made several final announcements and called on Chaplain Newman for the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Office of the Secretary
Leonard T. King
J. Edward Cross
Robert Jacobs
Gene Worthington

MOTION SUMMARY OCTOBER 21 & 22, 1995

MOTION: To have the Attorney to continue pursuit of "Firefighters of America" relative to solicitation in Maryland and any others that are soliciting.

MOTION: That the President appoint an Emergency Medical Dispatch Sub-Committee (EMD) represented by the following individuals: Paul Fabiszak, Chairman; members Clay Stamp, Guelda Farrall, Beverly Leftwich, 911 representatives and a representative from the Training Committee. Committee mission is to work with MIEMSS to establish a certified training program for emergency medical dispatchers. Passed.

MOTION: That the supplemental budget request for the NVFC in the amount of \$700.00 be denied. Passed

MOTION: To provide that the Maryland Fire Laws Book be printed every four years. Passed.

MOTION: That a letter be sent to the State opposing the proposed repeal of Article 89, Section 49B (Elevator Size). Passed.

MOTION: Refer to the Fire Prevention Committee, Deaf Access Committee and the Secretary's Office and report back at the January meeting pertaining to smoke detectors and corporate donations. Passed.

MOTION: Approve the minutes as amended and correct the name of fallen fighter Lapp not Ladd. Passed.