

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
December 3, 1995
Level Volunteer Fire Company

A special Executive Committee Meeting was held on December 3, 1995, at the Level Volunteer Fire Company. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mooney, followed by the invocation from Charlie Wills and the pledge to the flag.

President Cross introduced the Past Presidents in attendance: C. D. Carpenter, 1986-87; L. T. King, 1985-86; and R. L. Wood, 1973-74. The President also introduced the contingent from MIEMSS. He then turned over the meeting to Chairman Mooney.

The Chairman stated the purpose of meeting, that being the MIEMSS proposed legislation, he further stated that we do not have a quorum, but will recess after remarks from everyone, will reconvene later if a quorum is reached to take any necessary action.

Dr. Bass was called on to give information on the proposed legislation. He spoke on the ability to combine all certification programs together, gave background on certification procedures, enabling bill allows authority to come over to MIEMSS, sets up pier panel to hear standard of care hearings. He stated the concern of fees for a certifying individual had been addressed and no fee would be charged and is written into the bill. Discussion on license versus certification ensued, no difference in liability. Maryland prefers license, no preference by Dr. Bass, however recommends license. He talked about emergency medical dispatch (EMD), met with the 911 centers, who developed a position paper. MIEMSS plans to set up steering committee to look at program, to answer questions like voluntary and minimum guidelines. Dr. Bass thinks this is a good bill which will be beneficial to Maryland.

Assistant Attorney General Sarah talked about the makeup of the review panel was incorrect as printed in the bill, eighth member would be an EMD.

Lee Sachs gave opinion on appointment procedure, in effect July 97, three primary purposes. A question was asked about definition of emergency medical dispatcher, definition in handout.

Chief Terrell from Harford County Emergency Operations addressed concerns about the EMD program and asked if the word voluntary could be added to the bill. Dr. Bass responded about voluntary certification by stating that the 911 centers had requested the training in their position paper. Leonard King gave comment on Anne Arundel problems, that being that even if voluntary is in the law some jurisdictions will make it mandatory. Roger Powell expanded on certification process, talked about the MFSPQB, Section G, opinion of bill about opposition of volunteer time, argument of standardization is not adequate. Lee Sachs spoke on parts already in existing bills, no relationship of the pier review board to MIEMSS. Don Mooney made statement concerning lack of input and no notification to the MSFA when the original bill was drafted in

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August and the MSFA was not notified until October. Richard Yinger spoke in defense of Dr. Bass reference the lack of input and timeliness, reminded all that if you are not happy with legislation, Dr. Bass has stated that he would have the bill withdrawn. Bruce Conrad spoke about check-backs in the bill, favored license due to FLSA ruling of not professionals.

Charlie Wills spoke about time frame. Roy Woods talked about the communications needed with the field providers. Gene Curfman stated the bill had taken care of fee schedule, no preference on license vs certification, need rank and file to review legislation, no problem with bill as stands. Lee Sachs approached with two ways to proceed, good bill vote for, second, table and go to field providers for input.

Meeting now declared as quorum with seven Executive Committee members present, Dr. Bass re-emphasized if Association not happy, bill gets pulled. Chairman Mooney asked for guidance from EMS Committee Chair Wills for direction. Charlie stated the timing was rotten, package good, if we postpone will the bill be better, no answer. Sachs stated that compromise is needed, not ask MIEMSS to withdraw, MSFA takes to road for three months, if EMS Committee develops or reports favorable, then bill moves on or withdrawn. Bruce spoke again on charges of group. Charlie Packard, President of Harford County Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Association addressed group with three concerns. Roger Powell spoke again license not necessary. AG spoke again on hang up of wording. Clarence Carpenter read from the bill bottom page 4, his concerns were addressed. Vice President Cox spoke on a previous reference from MIEMSS.

Chairman Mooney again asked for recommendations from the EMS committee. The Chair will entertain a motion for the word voluntary to be put into EMD section, recommend wording be inserted appropriately. The following motion was made by Gene Curfman and seconded by Francis Jester:

MOTION: That the wording "voluntary" be inserted in the proper places in the proposed legislation. Hand vote taken with 5 yes, 1 abstain, Chair not voting. Motion passed.

Chairman Mooney asked for a motion or recommendation on status of legislation for wording license or certification, asked for poll. The following motion was made by Mike Robinson and seconded by Gene Curfman:

MOTION: To support the wording of "license" in the proposed legislation. Hand vote taken with 2 yes, 2 no, and 2 abstain, Chair voted in favor, Motion passed.

Mike Robinson suggested that the Executive Committee delegate to the EMS Committee, to disseminate information on the proposed legislation throughout the State. Richard Yinger stated the EMS Board could request the bill to remain in the legislative process even if the MSFA asks to withdraw in future.

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Chairman Mooney asked for adjournment at 15:30 hours. Everyone was then invited to the Christmas Party hosted by President Fred Cross and President Sharon Worthington.

Respectfully submitted,

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