

**MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
October 18 - 19, 1997
Ocean City, Maryland**

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MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 18-19, 1997

Ocean City, Maryland

The Executive Committee meeting was held at the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company on October 18-19, 1997. The meeting was called to order at 0900 by President C. Daniel Davis. Assistant Chaplain Hetz offered the invocation and spoke of the members who needed our prayers, followed by leading the pledge to the flag. Welcome was given by the host company. President Davis gave his welcome, went over the agenda of the day's activities. The President recognized the Past Presidents in attendance consisting of: D. E. Kirk, 63-64; R. L. Adkins, 65-66; R. L. Wood, 73-74; E. F. Preston, 74-75; E. E. Dunn, 76-77; C. O. Baker, 78-79; C. B. Burton, 79-80; R. N. Dempsey, 80-81; T. L. Tharp, 81-82; C. W. Riley, 83-84; L. T. King, 85-86; C. D. Carpenter, 86-87; R. P. Cumberland, 87-88; R. H. Shimer, 88-89; J. R. Robison, 89-90; T. A. Mattingly, 90-91; B. J. Smith, 91-92; W. J. Fleshman, 92-93; P. M. Hurlock, 93-94; R. L. Yinger, 94-95; G. A. Cross, 95-96; and S. D. Cox. 96-97. The President then recognized the guests today to include Robin Browning, President LAMSFA who brought greetings on behalf of the State Ladies Auxiliary and others. The President then went into reports of the officers.

President - President Davis presented his written report and proceeded to summarize by commenting that it has been with great pride and honor to represent the Association as the President. He has traveled 17,670 miles and spent 732 man hours performing his duties. He further spoke of his travels by attending the conventions at Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Delaware. He attended the press conference kicking off the new seat belt law, various committee meetings and county associations. The President then spoke on the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service activities, he distributed lithographs and received \$623 in donations. On Sunday it was announced that the chapel was dedicated to the fallen firefighters in memory of MSFA P.P. A. Marvin Gibbons, a plaque has been placed in the chapel. Frederick County VFRA hosted a reception Saturday evening, if this becomes an annual event, encourages MSFA to be involved. Charlie Riley, Bernie Smith, Charlie Wills and the President have been appointed to a Task Force to look into MEDICAID billing for ambulance services, this is a result of legislation from last year HB786. The retreat has been rescheduled for Nov 22-23 at the National Fire Academy and will cost approximately \$3,000, topics including: funding for the association, membership, committees, appointment years, by-laws. He then spoke on the meeting with Dr. Bass, discussed the AHA desire to place AED's in major public assembly areas, seeking federal legislation to mandate this. Another topic was for a medical director for EMT-B, no action was taken. The officers met with MFRI who presented their proposed budget, updated the regional training centers, discussed the "Drill of the Month" concept which will be on the net. Director Edwards stated that there is still the possibility that MFRI headquarters will have to move. The MSFA will be working very closely with MFRI on this issue and will support their budget request. Some of the officers and Past Presidents met with FEMA Region 3 Director, Mrs. Rita Calvin, major area of concern the money set aside for first responder training was not getting to the right people. Terrorism training funding was also discussed, He requested that he Convention Committee invite Mrs. Calvin to the convention. President Davis received a phone call from Dr.

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Spivak reference an attempt to cancel the Fire Protection Engineering Graduate Program, this association will provide whatever support required for continuance of the program. He then offered condolences to the families who lost love ones.

First Vice President - Vice President Knippenburg presented his written report, and relayed that he has spent 195 hours and traveled 3,535 miles performing his duties. He proceeded with discussion on his recent surgery, followed up by chemotherapy to prevent any reoccurrence. He thanked all for their calls, cards, flowers, well wishes and prayers. He then spoke on the activities of the Memorial Committee.

Second Vice President - Vice President Edelin presented his written report, relayed that he has traveled 6,813 miles and spent 284 hours in performance of his office since last meeting. He reported on the HCFA bill, which will set up rules for ambulances who charge for their services under Medicare. He also discussed a concern about the 911 emergency calling system not being used, the AED program referenced earlier. He also spoke on committee activities, Safety Committee seminar, MFRI courses, Legislative Committee reviewing a bill from Delegate Conway, a statewide notification system via the county communications centers is in place.

Secretary's Office - Secretary King presented his written report, commented on the activities of the office. The office continues the team effort working for the betterment of the Association. The office has been experiencing some problems with the copiers, computer equipment will be made compatible with each other and on the internet. Minutes of the last Executive Committee Meetings from Hollywood have been transcribed, copied and distributed. The 1997-98 Directory will be distributed this weekend, work has been started on the 1997 Proceedings Book. Prints of the National Fallen Firefighters Monument along with a resolution from MSFA were prepared for the National Memorial Service. Any committee needing stationery, labels, or business cards need to contact the Secretary. Information was received from the Incentives Programs Committee, is being formatted and produced for the certification report. Boxes of old records have been moved to the office at MFRI. Secretary King thanked Assistant Secretaries Cross, and Worthington for their continued assistance and dedication to the MSFA. He read correspondence from the Hollywood VFC reference announcement of Charles J. Mattingly for a candidate for 2nd VP for 1999.

Financial Secretary - Financial Secretary Jacobs presented his written statements and explained the reporting system. Total funds of \$92,028.28 have been received to date.

Treasurer's Office - Treasurer Saville is in route, Assistant Treasurer John Shuhart presented the report. He then presented a computer print out on the financial accounts with balances.

Chaplain's Office - Chaplain Damewood is attending a Chaplain's Conference in Kentucky. Assistant Chaplain Newman updated on some illnesses across the state and offered prayer.

Executive Committee Chairman Dan Carpenter opened the meeting by going around the table for concerns: Richard Brooks - reported that HCVFAA fire prevention contest is scheduled

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for Nov 6. Chip Jewell spoke on the National Memorial Service activities. Paul Sterling reported that legislation has been introduced in Montgomery County creating the office of Fire Administrator. George Blanco announced that Bob Shimer is chairman of the Allegany Fire Board. Lee Sachs reported that Jack O'Neil has been appointed the new Fire Chief of Baltimore County, and that state dues will be paid from the county association in the future. The following motion was made by G. Blanco and seconded by H. Rhue:

MOTION - That we accept the minutes of the previous meeting as printed. Voice vote taken.
Motion passed.

BESSIE MARSHALL BENEFIT FUND - Chairperson Betty Radisch presented a written report, paid ten cases to date for \$7,500. She gave the financial report of the account and thanked everyone for their support.

MIEMSS: Dr. Bass presented a written report, covered some EMS initiatives in Maryland. Dr. Bass spoke on SB764 regulations to support the bill, currently a MOU is being developed with Maryland's jurisdictional authorities. MIEMSS is reviewing the EMS plan, site review visits at the trauma centers, infection control committee will be finalizing the training program. The anticipated Oct 24 move date for MIEMSS has been postponed. Dr. Bass then spoke on EMS initiatives of the federal level to include AHA agenda, NIH report on strokes, the EMT-P curriculum, concerns regarding HCFA changes to Medicare regulations, NIST funding for communications. He then gave an update on SEMSAC activities including EMS board proposals, membership committee continues to work on key issues, ALS accreditation document has been finalized and forwarded, BLS refresher course. Question was asked about infection control, response every jurisdiction should have a designated person to notify.

EMS - Charles Wills presented a written report, proceeded to state that Dr. Bass had offered a suggestion to changes to the committee make up of SEMSAC reference BLS and ALS. Charlie requested that the executive committee endorse MFRI's continuing education program of providing enhanced curriculum to the ALS providers of this state based on motion passed within the EMS committee. He then updated the questionnaires requested reference respiratory protection, the task force on insurance of medical directors, and NHTSA proposals on CRT's. Charlie stated that is O/K to use wooden back boards providing a good coat of varnish/lacquer is used.

ATTORNEY - Attorney Powell stated that he has been in contact with Mitchie Company reference Fire Laws Book. He provided costs associated with printing, dialogue reference sections to be printed, insert to be placed in back of book. Question was asked about the printing time frames, budget line item for printing.

MFRI - Director Steve Edwards presented his written report and started his oral remarks by updating John Hoglund's condition. He updated the PG County School Board's interest in Berwyn Heights by putting money in budget FY2004. He updated the regional training center improvements, will be making regional meetings across the state, looking at field instructors

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application process, MFRI home page for instructors reference new procedures and feed back on courses, drill of the month on internet, continuing the budget process now in the governor's office, MSFA training committee commended, upcoming major courses over the next few months. Question was asked about the increase in instructor pay, in the current budget.

TRAINING - Chairman Fairfax was not present, written report was presented. Committee member gave the report, thanks to all during the statewide visits to the training centers, spoke on the meeting with MFRI. Committee members plan to visit some out of state centers, continue to work on the ten year plan.

MFRI BOARD OF ADVISORS - No written report, Tom Mattingly spoke on the restructure of the Board. Richard Brooks spoke further on the reorganization.

MFRETC - Chairman Shimer provided written reports from meetings held and stated that the problem with a member from Allegany County has been resolved on the MFRI Board of Advisors. He thanked all for their concerns during the death of his father, and spoke on new appointments from those retiring, announced that he has received appointment as the new chair. A luncheon was held for outgoing members, Commission working on mission statement, working on identifying training needs, Joe Weisgerber has been appointed to serve as Chair of the MICRB. A rep from Charles County spoke on a fire science program being developed. He then reported on the meeting held at Ocean City on Oct 17, Chief Richard Armstrong elected as Vice Chair. He spoke on the luncheon honoring retirements, attendance at the life safety and burn conference, national memorial service. He spoke on grants received to further training, Fire Protection Engineering Graduate Program, commission will send letter to Dr. Kirwin reference support. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by G. Blanco:

MOTION - That we authorize President Davis to send a letter to Dr. Kirwin reference the Fire Protection Engineering Graduate Program when he feels it appropriate. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL - B. Shimer presented a written report, stated that Baltimore City has received a grant of \$350,000. Other topics have already been reported.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE - Fire Marshal Gabrielle presented an oral report, proceeded to bring greetings from Colonel Mitchell. He then proceeded to report on the transition to the state police, things progressing well. Rocco talked about the hiring process, presently processing 290 applicants for the position of Deputy FM1. Priority for training will be granted. He spoke on upcoming retirements from senior positions, budget for FY99 has been submitted. Four legislative bills have been submitted, seek MSFA support. Reminder that the incident reports must be submitted. Investigation on the Gatton fire continues, appreciation given for those attendees at the fire and burn conference. The arson grant has been extended, MFRI compiling all of the arson

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classes, video shown at the last conference. Thanks to President Davis for allowing the Fire Marshal to serve on the Memorial Committee. Upcoming meeting with the leadership of MSFA. He then commented on some activities going on across the country.

BOARD OF REVIEW - Chairman Moltrup presented a written report. One application presented from Potomac Valley 98-2 for a fire station, requested a loan of \$162,500 with pay back of 8,125 for twenty years and grant of \$154,790. The Board members generally agreed that Potomac Valley demonstrated a need for a new station. The following motion was made by L. D' Camera and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION - That the Executive Committee concur with the decision by the Board of Review with Application 98-2 from the Potomac Valley department. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

Chip Jewell again addressed the bunk room issue, requested to be forwarded to the by-laws for investigation. Bob Cumberland spoke on the Potomac Valley request as related to the standards. Further discussion followed reference standards of a facility. Chairman Carpenter asked the standards Committee to look into the issue.

LEGISLATIVE - Co-Chair B. Smith presented a written report and reported on its contents. He reported that the Trustees would be meeting with Delegate Conway reference death benefits. He then spoke on business regulation proposed by Senator Baker dealing with solicitations. A letter of request has been sent to the Governor's Appointments Secretary requesting a meeting. Comptroller Goldstein has commented that he is considering introducing legislation to increase income tax subtraction to \$3500, will request to meet with him and ask to lower qualifying years to three and change wording to include those who have 25 years of service. The 1998 session will begin on January 14 at noon, office will be staffed from that date. The reception will be held on Monday, January 19 from 5 to 7pm. He again asked all to notify them of any legislation being drafted at local levels. He then asked for the MSFA to draft resolution and present to the widow and family of Senator William Amoss at an appropriate time. C. Riley further commented on the legislative service from past Senator Amoss, we will miss him. He then spoke on bills that are rumored to be introduced, more information when written. L. Sachs asked if the attorney has reviewed the proposed legislation regarding the death benefits, explanation forthcoming. PP Yinger stated that he was the only member of the EMS Board that opposed increased funding for Shock Trauma. Draft copy of the firefighter death benefits will be discussed Sunday morning at the Trustees meeting. L. Sachs further stated his concerns with the draft. C. Jewell asked to address advanced life support units. B. Cooke also spoke on the wording. C. Riley spoke on the proposed bill to be introduced by Senator Baker on solicitation, asked for guidance from MSFA. The following motion was made by S. Cox and seconded by F. Jester:

MOTION - That we support the Legislative Committee and that our President follow thru accordingly with letters, correspondence, meetings, etc. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

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Further discussion on the income tax incentive ensued, will meet with the Comptroller to discuss further. Question was asked about any possible changes to the Emergency Assistance Trust Fund legislation. S. Cox addressed the concern that a report is in final stages addressing this specific item, C. Riley further reported on feelings of Speaker Taylor. Further discussion about the life of Senator Amoss was offered. The following motion was made by S. Cox and seconded by R. Brooks:

MOTION - That we prepare a resolution for Senator Amoss and present it along with a plaque to the widow and family to be presented by our President at the appropriate time. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

Assistant Chaplain Newman offered grace before the meal. LUNCH Chairman Carpenter called the meeting back to order and asked for continuance of legislation.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION - B. Cumberland presented a written report, reported on the RCFP and RFPC title changes and increase funding level to \$10MM. He also discussed tax exempt financing to include the purchase EMS equipment purchases, federal excess property program title problems, HR2369 reference cellular phones. Next year is the 350th anniversary of the volunteer fire service, a bill introduced commemorating via a stamp. He then updated the chemical safety board funding.

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY LIAISON - B. Cumberland presented a written report, spoke on the national memorial weekend. The Foundation has started a fund raising program for the future of the memorial. He went over some of the changes during the service. Discussion pursued about the purchase of bricks for the "Walk of Honor". Working to set up meeting with Dr. o'Neil and Mrs. Brown with President Davis. Further logistical problems that happened were discussed. Suggestion was made to purchase a brick for \$500 for placement into the walkway in honor of P.P. Gibbons. Concern was raised about the brochure describing the program, seems two copies were present. P.P. Cox concerned about the funding requirements for the purchase of bricks, lack of information being received by our representative, feels this needs immediate attention. President Davis addressed the concerns, has spoken to Mary Ann, definite problems need to be addressed.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL - B. Cumberland orally updated the activities from his written report to include the 21st Century Fund. The Council has a new staff member Tanja Spalinger, who will be a research assistant. The Council will work on holding a volunteer summit as part of the cooperative agreement. He spoke on some recent appointments made, council is trying to have a member appointed to the Executive committee of the NFPA. They approved a resolution that will go the NFPA reference national standard on fire service organization and deployment. The NVFC legislative committee recommended to the board that the NVFC retain a consultant for the purposes of advising the Council on future strategies regarding the FLSA. He spoke on the 1-800-fireline recruitment program. VIP classes will start in November. L. Sachs reflected concerns over current problems.

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FIVE YEAR PLANNING - Chair D. Mooney presented a written report, stated that the committee has set up four sub-committees to review and make recommendations on organization and committee structure, review and make recommendations on funding, scheduling of the annual convention to include the election and balloting process, and recommendations to improve communications and equipment for the officers. No time table has been established. Discussion pursued about the convention mandate.

MEMORIAL - Chair Don Mooney presented a written report. The committee is now a non-profit organization to comply with the state. By-laws have been drafted, L. Sachs will be the resident agent and the principal office is Don's home address. Sub committees have been formed, by-laws, research, design, funding and public relations. The Foundation has decided that they will not employ or ask assistance from professional fundraising solicitors in raising funds. He then highlighted the sub-committee activities.

SAFETY - Chair J. Mattingly presented a written report, proceeded to comment from it. The Committee recommends a safety trophy award presentation be made annually, criteria is being drafted for evaluation. Safety seminars across the state are being considered in partnership with MFRI, appointments made for consideration. President Davis expressed a concern about the membership of the committee, would like to see a representative from each county, a proposed by-law change is being drafted for presentation at the January meeting, however the attached change was written before the Board. The 97 safety film needs the final clip added before distribution. Discussion about the proposed award, chairman recommended that it be presented to the awards committee before presentation to the Board. R. Brooks expressed concern to accept the proposed by-law change on membership make-up and submit same to the Constitution and By-laws Committee. The following motion was made by R. Brooks and seconded by L. D' Camera:

MOTION - That we accept the Article V recommendation of the Safety Committee and forward it to the Constitution and By-laws Committee. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

FIRE PREVENTION - Chair B. Collins presented a written report. At the last committee meeting, John Bender spoke on problems with the Omega sprinkler heads. A billboard has been rented outside Ocean City on Rt. 50, a fire prevention message has been applied. The 911 simulator has become very popular. New ideas were presented such as airplane fly over safety messages, purchase of a MSFA billboard, and the purchase of a TV/VCR. The fire prevention queens have been very busy since convention, question was raised about travel expenses since they are away at college, discussion, committee will review anticipated costs, talk to budget committee for funding and present same at next meeting. Letters of resignation have been received, new appointments made. Further discussion pursued about the billboard concept. The Following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by G. Blanco:

MOTION - That we pursue the concept of billboard advertising through the state and report back at next meeting. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES - Alan Zentz offered thanks to the MSFA after the death of his father. He then proceeded to highlight his written report. \$13,222 was awarded in grants from the RCFP, an increase in the funding to approximately \$20,200 for Maryland next year. Also RFPC funding is up \$7,000 to \$128,000 for state operations. Alan further talked about the merger of these two departments, DNR supports this move if the funding comes along. He then spoke on personnel actions, home page of the web site, and wildfire statistics. Alan gave an update on heavy equipment purchases, and the development of a statewide fire weather monitoring system was approved.

PRESIDENTIAL VEHICLE - Chair R. Leftwich provided a written report, he was not present.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Chair R. Brooks stated that the committee is monitoring the terrorist training programs.

STANDARDS - Chair B. Huttenloch requested further information on the bunkroom standard to be provided to the Committee. Discussion from many on the topic reflecting individual concerns.

NFPA OVERVIEW - Chair B. Huttenloch stated that he has just received a package, not had a chance to review. He commented on some dialogue from a 1200 committee member.

PAST PRESIDENTS - P.P. Smith stated they stand ready to assist the association, nice time at the picnic held at P.P. King's Christmas party scheduled for December 13. The Past Presidents recognized P.P. Shimer for his service to the Past Presidents via the newsletter, made presentation. The Presidential Guidebook will be updated.

IRS REVIEW - Chair L. Sachs spoke from report submitted. A CPA will be working with Elmer Dunn to develop a newsletter that will come out to all the companies advising of IRS issues to minimize the exposure to tax. P.P. Smith spoke on articles from the Wall Street Journal reference non-profit organizations.

INCENTIVES PROGRAMS - Chair Joan Robison presented a written report and stated that there has been little activity, ready for the storm to arrive. There have been no requests for LOSAP, several calls reference the \$3,000 exemptions. She spoke on public law 104-188. Kent County asked question if a volunteer passed away during the course on any given taxing year can take advantage of the tax credit for that year, answer yes. Each company should submit its list of qualifying members to its county coordinator as soon as possible after Jan 1. This year additional information, years of service and number of points is being requested to help identify members who do not qualify. P.P. Roy Wood spoke on request submitted to federal government reference national incentives, requested permission to pursue further, his actions are as an individual. Discussion from many on the subject matter.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ROOM - Chair R. Watkins stated nothing further than printed, however continue to work on the goals established.

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STATISTICAL - Chair Worthington presented a written report that included the computer reports for year end of FY97. Blank forms will be mailed in December to the area reps. Question of intent was passed at last year's convention, would like to discuss at retreat.

ENTERTAINMENT - Chair B. Cooke presented a written report and flyers on the event for March 20 at Timonium Dinner theater, the show "Don't Dress For Dinner". Tickets will be \$23.50 each, 200 advanced seats reserved.

TRANSPORTATION - Chair R. Yinger presented a written report. The committee is in the process of getting ready to re-certify the tags after the first of the year. Marie Soutar will be handling all the MVA forms, random audits will be performed on the existing database. Richard then discussed the old black tag issue, old records will be disposed. A letter is forthcoming to the county coordinators, thanks to Tom Flint for maintaining the database. B. Smith spoke on meeting he attended in Annapolis reference change to regulations of organizational tags. Further discussion ensued reference the old black tags. Concern was raised reference disposing of the old tag records, may need to be retained, will investigate.

MARKETING - Chair R. Yinger gave an oral report, the display unit is in the back of the room, request additional pictures from MSFA committees and activities.

Chairman Carpenter spoke on action item, the EMS Committee asked to endorse the MFRI concept on education. The following motion was made by L. Sacks and seconded by P. Sterling:

MOTION - That we move for adoption of that recommendation. voice vote taken. motion passed.

President Davis made closing announcements, everyone was invited to the convention center on Sunday morning for a tour and breakfast, benediction given, recess. President Davis called the Sunday session to order, Assistant Chaplain Newman read from scripture, gave prayer and lead the pledge. (A power outage occurred in downtown Ocean City affecting the fire station.) The President introduced the Past Presidents in attendance, also other guests were introduced, indicated that the Trustees were meeting. President Davis then commented on the new convention center. Chairman Carpenter asked for concerns from around the table. Mark Bilger spoke on the 800 system in Carroll county, Paul Sterling reminded all of the Montgomery County convention next week. Chairman Carpenter then called for the first report.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS - Chair B. Fleshman stated the Committee requests any proposed changes to allow them to discuss on their November 29 meeting. Question was asked reference procedure to change by-laws, response from the executive committee or from individual company on their letterhead.

SEVENTEEN STATE CIRCLE - Written report was accepted.

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SURPLUS PROPERTY - Chair S. Massey presented an oral report, committee will be mailing out forms to member companies. He further discussed procedures to follow, commented on the utility companies donating excess equipment, and discussed about having legislation introduced.

CONVENTION - Chair L. King presented his written report, spoke on the activities at the convention center this morning. He continued to discuss the future of the conventions in out years. Two rooms will be named in honor of the MSFA at the convention in June. Critiques have been held on the 1997 convention, reviewed the major activities, gave dates for future conventions, June 14-17, 1998. Leonard reviewed the constitution articles that cover the convention, request proposal be drafted to allow more freedom for the convention committee. The proposed 1998 budget has not been finalized due to possible changes in events and the layout of the new facility, will be provided in January. Cooperation has extended under the new mayor. The committee would like to have a definitive authorization from the executive committee to proceed with planning an expanded convention and conference. Discussion continued on comments received from many on proposals for the convention via comments and responses. President Davis further spoke on his guidance given to some of the various committees. Financial information requested was provided and acknowledged.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION - Chair B. Ebling presented a written report and started his report by announcing proposed dates and locations of meetings. He further spoke on attendance at meeting at Virginia Beach, learned some fresh ideas. The family appreciation awards will be given by January 1998, the coordination for the first year has been a little difficult. He has followed up on the 1-800-FIRELINE information, if used need to follow up on request immediately. Concerns were addressed about the FIRELINE program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & BULLETIN - Chair J. Gatton, Jr. presented a written report, 16 page issue was mailed. John again spoke on the address problems, requested all having problems to check the address on the computer today. He thanked all for their concerns, prayers and support over the house fire he suffered.

Chairman Carpenter introduced the mayor of Ocean City for remarks, appreciate the MSFA folks for support of the new convention center. President Davis thanked the mayor for his support to MSFA.

BUDGET & REVENUE - Chair P. Fabiszak presented a written report, spoke on the last meeting activities. The committee reviewed last year's budget year, \$9,128 surplus for FY97 will be carried into this year. New requests included an additional \$1,000 to cover cost of retreat, public address \$2,487 for the new system being used this weekend, \$200 from the surplus property committee since they had no budget, \$500 for the memorial to cover administrative costs. The committee recommends the following changes for action: increase the budget income amount \$9,128, increase expense accounts retreat \$1,000, surplus property \$200, memorial \$500, public address \$2,487, admin/misc. \$226. The next item of discussion was the financial statement, recommend to

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maintain three checking accounts-general, convention and relief, all others closed and have the funds transferred to MLGIP. Discussion was held on the inventory, same budget process will again be used this year with approval scheduled for the April meeting.

The following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by G. Blanco:

MOTION - That we approve the recommended financial changes to the budget. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM - E. Freeman thanked the Executive Committee for approval of the new sound system, thanks to Harry and Bill for their assistance.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES - Chair L. Woods presented a written report, starting to work on things for June.

INSURANCE ADVISORY - L. Sachs presented the written report in absence of the chair, spoke on the proposal by California Casualty, a number of questions need to be addressed. This committee recommends a special committee be appointed by the President in order to pursue these issues. Attorney Powell has been contacted, President Davis will appoint the committee today. Further concerns and discussion about the committee membership.

SMOKE DETECTOR DISABILITY - R. Yinger spoke on the committee appointed by the Governor. 380,000 deaf persons in the state, computer database started, detectors will be distributed via the executive committee members.

Chairman Carpenter asked for action item discussion of the fire laws supplement printing. P. Fabiszak spoke reference the budget, discussion on the makeup of the book, will overhaul the book at next complete printing. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by L. D' Camera:

MOTION - That we not print any supplement to the Fire Laws Book this year. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES - Chair Riley presented the report, gave the financial statement, paid out \$24,582 in pensions, death benefits and tuition's. The death benefit for Mr. Mc Quad was paid to his father \$4,025, others include 29 widows, 1 disabled firemen, 6 children. Work has started on changing the law Article 38A which will broaden the language of active duty. Delegate Conway has contacted committee on draft legislation, discussed in length. The trustees would like to change the submission date for awarding the Colburn Cup to May 1.

PP Alan Bradley of the Eastern Shore Association extended an invitation to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the formation of the ESVFA, banquet to be held in Federalsburg on November 8 at 5pm.

SCHOLARSHIP - Chair William Olsen presented a written report.
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President Davis announced the appointment of the special committee-Chair Bob Jacobs, Leonard King, Fred Cross, Phil Hurlock, Tom Mattingly, Bob Waters, Mark Bilger, David Bradley, and Jonathan Ranson, and Attorney Powell, to look into the request by the California Casualty Insurance Company. President Davis thanked all for their attendance and attention. Assistant Chaplain Harry Hetz gave the benediction. There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Office of the Secretary
Leonard T. King, P.P.
J. Edward Cross
Gene Worthington
Charles B. Burton, P.P.

MOTION SUMMARY

MOTION - That we accept the minutes of the previous meeting as printed. Voice vote taken, Motion passed.

MOTION - That we authorize President Davis to send letter to Dr. Kirwin reference the Fire Protection Engineering Graduate Program when he feels it appropriate. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That the Executive Committee concur with the decision by the Board of Review with Application 98-2 from the Potomac Valley department. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That we support the Legislative Committee and our President follow thru accordingly with letters, correspondence, meetings, etc. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That we prepare a resolution and present it along with a plaque to the widow and family to be presented by our President at the appropriate time. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That we accept the Article V recommendation of the Safety Committee and forward it to the Constitution & By-laws Committee. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That we pursue concept of the billboard advertising through the state and report back at next meeting. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That we move for adoption of that recommendation. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That we approve the recommended financial changes to the budget. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.

MOTION - That we not print any supplement to the Fire Laws Book this year. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.