

**MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 31-November 1, 1998**  
**Hebron, Maryland**

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# Maryland State Firemen's Association

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 31 - November 1, 1998

Hebron Volunteer Fire Company

The **Executive Committee Meetings** were held at the Hebron Volunteer Fire Company on October 31 and November 1, 1998. The meeting was called to order at 0930 by President Robert E. Knippenburg. Assistant Chaplain Harry Hetz offered the invocation and spoke of individuals who needed our prayers, followed by leading the group in prayer and the pledge to the flag. Welcome was delayed by the host company due to an emergency call. President Knippenburg gave his welcome, then proceeded with recognition of those Past Presidents in attendance consisting of: Dave Kirk, 63-64; T. L. Reynolds, 71-72; Roy Wood, 73-74; Ed Preston, 74-75; C. Oscar Baker, 78-79; Charles Burton, 79-80; Robert Dempsey, 80-81; Charles Riley, 83-84; Leonard King, 85-86; Clarence Carpenter, 86-87; Robert Cumberland, 87-88; Robert Shimer, 88-89; Joe Robison, 89-90; Bernie Smith, 91-92; Phil Hurlock, 93-94; Richard Yinger, 94-95; Fred Cross, 95-96; Steve Cox, 96-97; and Danny Davis, 97-98. President Knippenburg then recognized other guests including: Joan Cumberland, President LAMSFA, who brought greetings from the ladies.

### **Officers Reports - - -**

President Knippenburg presented his written report and proceeded to summarize by commenting that it has been a busy schedule representing the Association as the President. Bob then proceeded to talk on the EMS Operations Funding committee. Meetings continue with DLLR concerning OSHA, MOSH and NFPA 1500. Bob and other officers attended the West Virginia convention and Virginia convention. The President spoke on the loss of Chaplain Damewood, praised those responsible for the planning of the services. Bob then spoke on the meeting with the county association presidents, very informative, next meeting scheduled for November 15 in Frederick. The MSFA vehicle has had scheduled maintenance. Thanks to Leonard and the past presidents for the invitation to the crab feast. He and Barbara were guests of the Washington county association for a baseball game between the Suns and the Shorebirds, exciting and fun day. Attending a minor league baseball game is a very reasonable outing. The President then spoke on the annual boat trip of the governors yacht. Many ideas were formulated and projects launched on this enjoyable trip. The President met with MFRI and MIEMSS to discuss testing policy differences. He continued to discuss the meeting with Carrye Brown and the National Fire Academy officials, good forum for open discussion to voice concerns and opinions. On September 17, he met with the Metro Chiefs in Baltimore. Their concerns seem to be in line with the concerns of the volunteer service, with exception of the hiring process. Baltimore County will now allow career personnel to volunteer after signing a waiver, this was based on a federal court opinion in Virginia concerning FLSA. The LAMSFA held their Fall Conference at Union Bridge, certainly commend the ladies on the participation of the day. The President had the pleasure to attend the dedication of the new fire station in Boonsboro. The President gave welcome remarks at the Life Safety Conference, and attended the Pennsylvania and Delaware Conventions. On October 3, he attended the Fallen Firefighter Foundation services in Emmitsburg. Lithographs were presented to families in attendance, and will attempt to mail to the others. The President would like to advertise the lithographs in national magazines. He traveled to Baltimore to attend a memorial service where they honored 44 active and retired personnel, attended the dedication in Clarksville, congratulations

to them for fifty years of service. On the 18th of October, he stayed in Midland where they celebrated with the engine dedication and housing of their new Pierce pumper. He attended the memorial service of Aubrey Schultz, attended the ceremonies in Prince George's County at the fire service building. On October 24th, he attended the dedication of the new fire station in Westminster. A copy of his itinerary was attached, 20,321 miles traveled and 839 man hours given. One year ago Bob completed his chemotherapy, he further spoke on pleasure to travel across the state, thanks to all for their hospitality and being part of our emergency services family.

**First Vice President** Carl Edelin presented his written report and proceeded to comment on the

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contents. This continues to be a challenge and a learning experience, spent 656 man hours and traveled 15,329 miles performing his duties. He reported on the recent deaths of David Brinkley and Preston Patterson, who gave their lives while performing their duties. Governor Glendening ordered all Maryland flags be flown at half staff that day. He spoke on upcoming safety seminar to be held at Laurel, this should be beneficial to many members. He spoke on attending the NVFC meeting, encourages MSFA to oppose increase in dues, and support the expansion of representation. He addressed the issue of IRS audits, since the issue did not affect at the minimum twenty states, therefore they will not be pursuing the issue. The NVFC recruitment has some terrific ideas to advertise the 1-800 FIRELINE. He spoke on the red card issue during the fires in Florida. He then spoke on the proposal forthcoming from the Incentives Committee, fully endorsing the program. He talked about the MOSH committee on studying firefighter and EMS safety issues, all members have agreed the NFPA 1500 standard will not be used in this state. He continued his report speaking on the EMAIS project, this amounts to no more than a non-funded mandate. Another area of concern is the Occupational Wellness program, the EMS committee will further address. SEMSAC has been having difficulty in obtaining quorums for their meetings. He spoke on the blue ribbon report dealing with USFA and NFA, thanks to Steve Edwards and Rocco Gabriele for their diligence.

**Second Vice President** Roger Steger gave welcome to the Eastern Shore, spoke on his activities which have been covered already. He attended funeral services for Donny Howard, Jr. Thanks to the Past Presidents for their hospitality. He gave his itinerary traveling 6,353 miles and spending 342 man hours in performance of his duties.

President Knippenburg then introduced 1st Sgt Tracy of the MSP Aviation Division who updated the activities of the Aviation Division. MSP has curtailed public appearances to reduce costs and flying hours.

**Secretary** Leonard King presented his written report, commented on the activities of the office. The office continues the team effort working for the Association. Minutes of the last executive committee and special meeting with the county association presidents have been transcribed, copied and distributed. The office is in receipt of many support letters in filling the vacancy for Chaplain. Applications for active membership from Hancock Rescue Squad and Sharpsburg Area EMS have been received and forwarded to the standards committee. An application has been forwarded to Pocomoke City Ambulance Service. The secretary requests information from the county and regional associations. Work is progressing well on the 1998 proceedings book, please update pictures that the association uses. Committees needing stationary, labels, etc. contact him. Several boxes of old records have been packaged and will be moved to

MFRI. Another request has been received from MBNA of individual members names and addresses. Question was asked about motion made from last meeting reference parade day change, discussion, will continue during acceptance of the minutes.

**Financial Secretary** Bob Jacobs presented his written statements and explained the direct and indirect funding received. Lee Sachs still concerned about the reporting procedures. Chairman Blanco charged Paul Fabiszak to look at and report back at the next meeting.

**Treasurer** Bob Saville presented a computer print out on the financial accounts. He gave further explanation of the appropriation account, expressed his appreciation for his assistants. Lee Sachs asked question of any funds that are not recorded, response all shown. Question was asked about bonding limits, \$500K blanket bond.

**Assistant Chaplain** Newman gave names of those needing prayers, announced that mass would be given Sunday morning. President Knippenburg announced that PP Jerry Glaubitz was operated on, presently at home.

President Knippenburg introduced the Miss Fire Prevention representatives who addressed the group. Both have been extremely busy, highlighted their activities. The President then introduced Colonel Mitchell of the state police who gave remarks. He talked about the great partnership with MSFA, spoke on behalf of

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Governor Glendening. The meeting was then turned over to Chairman Blanco of the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee Chairman Blanco opened the meeting by announcing that Reverend Harvey Dixon has been appointed as the new Chaplain. President Knippenburg gave the oath of office. Reverend Dixon gave thanks, appreciates support, and looks forward to the challenge of the position. Chairman Blanco then proceeded with reports.

**BESSIE MARSHALL BENEFIT FUND** - Betty Radisch provided a written report, stated they have received 16 cases in the amount of \$12,000 to date. The financial status shows receipts \$21,196 with disbursements of \$13,105. Again thanks to all for their support.

**ATTORNEY** - Attorney Powell reported on the MBNA credit card program coming up on five years, issue whether to renew by convention time frame. Article will be placed in Trumpet about solicitations of members from California Casualty.

**MFRI** - Director Steve Edwards presented his written report and started his oral remarks by giving the training statistics for FY98. He spoke on the MFRI retest policy, 87% of retest students have successfully passed, will continue to monitor and then meet with MSFA officers to determine if any adjustments in this policy are necessary. He continued by updating the regional training centers at southern Maryland and upper eastern shore. The Director spoke on the program development completed. MFRI hosted a reception for Dr. Mote, the new U of MD President who will address the Maryland fire and rescue service via an editorial in the MFRI Bulletin. The congressional fire service training day was very successful. He spoke on the Y2K computer problems and the NHTSA project partnership agreement. Director Edwards spoke on personnel changes within MFRI, spoke on his representation of the panel reference the NFA and the 34 recommendations. Lee Sachs voiced concern about EMS policies taking to the committee first. Bob Cumberland further spoke on the panel recommendations.

**TRAINING** - Chairman Fairfax presented his written report, talked about the forestry red card. State emergency management groups have an agreement that personnel can be moved into

another state for help with requirement of FF1. When the DNR is involved, the red card comes into existence. The training committee suggests that the Executive Committee ask the forestry and MFRI to make available training who want a red card with annual recert. Question was asked about workers compensation requirement, needs clarification. He further discussed changes for the Zembower Training award, anything related that can be verified will be considered. A copy of the state statistical report will have to accompany to determine active membership count. The training center enhancement task force supports the commission in looking at uniformity at all centers, however concerned about funding may be taken away from MFRI training centers. He requested a letter be sent to the commission saying we support the concept, however does not impact the current or future funding, recommended by the training committee to the executive committee. Dan Stevens will be representing MSFA at the FDIC in March. The Chairman spoke on charging for special programs training courses to volunteers, MFRI advised that these classes can be requested through their regional offices at no cost. Chairman Fairfax commented on the new fire station proposed at Flintstone does not have a sprinkler system. The following motion was made by Lee Sachs and seconded by Paul Sterling:

**MOTION: That the Executive Committee accept and endorse the position expressed in the Training Committee letter to the Chairman of the Executive Committee dated October 31. Voice vote taken. Motion Passed.**

Chairman Blanco then introduced Bob Baron, President Mid-Chesapeake Marine Emergency Response Group. Mr. Baron gave a history of MCMERG, stated some of the objectives. MCMERG was established to address the need for a well coordinated, multi jurisdictional response to a major marine related emergency. A brochure was provided.

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**MFRI BOARD OF ADVISORS** - Charlie Wills presented a written report, spoke on the Berwyn Heights facility future, the training center task force. The Board of Advisors by consensus decided to endorse the concept of the training center enhancement task force by letter with comment that the project divert no funding from the expansions, upgrades or renovations of the MFRI training centers. The MICRB new orange manuals are out, 555 certified instructors, 18 instructor trainers, and 136 certified evaluators. Also the business plan is out for comment.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** - A written report was presented by Alan Zentz. He introduced others with him. He reported on the volunteer fire assistance program with distributions of \$19,800 in the form of 28 grants. He then reported on the state fire assistance program will basically remain the same, encouraging. The federal excess personal property review was conducted, 25 site visits, pleased with administration of the program. He talked about the rural water delivery task group meetings. DNR responded to and mobilized personnel and equipment for 18 separate out of state fire assignments, resources were dispatched to Florida, Georgia, Texas and Pennsylvania. He then spoke on the wildland fire training certification, continue to work with MFRI, instructors need to be level II. He provided an explanation of the red card, only required out of state. He reported on the extremely dry weather, gave an update on the heavy equipment recently purchased. Bob Cumberland spoke on the NVFC objective to increase the funding levels. Question was asked about a ban on burning, monitoring on a daily basis. President Knippenburg concerned about the state spending \$28MM to buy acreage. He will look into the concerns.

The following motion was made by Paul Sterling and seconded by Danny Davis:

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of August 8 and 9 meeting at Abingdon.**

Jenks Mattingly requested the motion passed reference the parade be amended. Lester Downes requested the motion to include that the convention gets revamped with parade moving to Thursday. Leonard King stated his opinion, that the Convention Committee is always revamping the convention each year, or correct the motion to include the changes. Lester requests that it be corrected and be added to the original motion that the convention, verbiage stopped. President Knippenburg gave opinion that the tape needs to be heard before giving opinion. Lee Sachs stated that the direction ought to be that the minutes are approved subject to listening to the tape and correcting the motion if that is appropriate to reflect the actual motion and all amendments that were passed at the last meeting. The following motion to amend the motion was made by Lee Sachs and seconded by Chip Jewell:

**MOTION: To amend the motion to approve the minutes by saying that they have to listen to the tape and correct if need be.**

**Transcript from the August 8 and 9, 1998 tapes:**

“Lester Downes - I make a motion we do move the parade from Wednesday to Thursday.

Paul Sterling - would you amend that we notify all member companies within the next thirty days.

Lester Downes - Yes.

Jenks Mattingly - Can we add something

Lester Downes - What do you want to add

George Blanco - Motion made and second to move the parade from Wednesday to Thursday, all in favor please raise your hand.

Jenks Mattingly - Question on the motion, can I have a question on that motion, is that going to be the motion or are we going to listen to Mr. Jason and say move the parade and restructure the whole convention.

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George Blanco - Well I'm just guessing when I'm saying this, but I think Leonard will fill in, things will be filled in from Wednesday and you know

Leonard King - Jenks in answer to your question, we tried to change the convention for the last two, three or

four years and you all, the Executive Committee, and I'm not pointing fingers, the Executive Committee said you cannot, that the constitution and by-laws says the first session will be the Monday of the first day, this type of thing, so therefore the ballot this year eliminated all that. The constitution now says their shall be a convention, I'm not exactly what it reads, but it clarifies all that stuff. Now we have the abilities to restructure like we have been trying to do and not call it pre-convention, post convention, whatever we have been sneaking around with.

Jenks Mattingly - so if you are saying that most likely if the parade was changed from Wednesday to Thursday, that some other parts of the convention would be restructured.

George Blanco - OK, any other questions

Paul Sterling - Leonard, I have a question. Changing the parade to Thursday, will that have any

effect that we know on the Eastern Division Chiefs.

Leonard King - No, cause we have, not only did we have the golf thing scheduled for two places tentatively, but we also have the first dates for the convention center for Thursday and trying to work with this eastern division, they also have a couple of rooms and this type of thing which will be no problem working with that. I don't see that as a positive or negative to the eastern chiefs.

Paul Sterling - Call the question Mr. Chairman

George Blanco - All in favor of the motion, please raise your hand, all against raise your hand, motion passed.

PP Steve Cox spoke on other corrections, page 7 correction of PP Cross's name, year in office corrected, PP Cox year in office corrected, page 8 reference the Daniel J. Raskin plaque”.

**No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

Chairman Blanco recessed the meeting and turned to President Knippenburg who called upon Chaplain Dixon who gave blessing for the meal. LUNCH

**MIEMSS** - John Murphy presented a written report. He then proceeded to report on EMS initiatives in Maryland, rapid sequence intubation and electronic data collection. It appears the E-MAIS software will greatly exceed any amount of money that MIEMSS has, will not go full board with statewide program. The AED task force has drafted legislation concerning public access defibrillation in Maryland, this will be the only legislation MIEMSS has. John Denver spoke on the E-MAIS as an un-funded mandate, Mr. Murphy confirmed his previous comments, however may do a pilot program in house, the program would have been optional. VP Edelin questioned the computers statewide, suggested all parties pull resources together and come up with a system for all requirements. A steering committee has been formed on weapons of mass destruction, MIEMSS has requested budgetary support in FY2000 for planning costs. John Murphy continued on reference to protocol changes, committed to pocket protocol, he is committed to do everything in loose leaf binders. He then spoke on the EMD program, requesting another \$45,000 for the budget to provide continuing education. MIEMSS participated in the red light running campaign. Mr. Murphy gave an update on the SEMSAC activities, problem with getting quorum at meeting. Lee Sachs concerned about issues going to the EMS Board without proper staff work. PP Yinger also concerned about the issues that come to the Board without the needed input. John Denver asked question about vacant positions, Mr. Murphy feels this is not the problem. He continued by reporting on modification to the advanced general section of the law increasing the number of diseases reportable. The EMS operations fund study group continues to meet and is currently discussing alternatives to ensure future fund viability, the report is due to

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the legislature by January 15, 1999. He concerned about the HMO brochures being distributed. At the request of Charlie Wills, MIEMSS has agreed to host another billing conference. Also will host a meeting with Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene relative to the use of glucometers. MIEMSS has been asked to construct 600 plywood backboards, state inmates will be doing the work, Lee Sachs advised on ruling of infectious disease concerning plywood material. He also spoke on the flu shots problem being given by ALS providers, response do not know of a solution to date. Mark Bilger asked if MIEMSS knows the numbers for EMT bridge students, very successful. Craig Coleman spoke on the trauma center response to the recent police officer death from Baltimore

City. MIEMSS has mailed to all companies within the state a listing of EMT's who did not bridge.

**SHOCK TRAUMA** - John Spearman brought greetings, spoke on document handed out, referred to the various charts within the report. Capital requirements for FY99-03 total cost \$31MM with clinical equipment nearly half. John spoke on the scholarship program advertisement. Chip Jewell asked question about personal injury protection, currently beginning the initiative research phase.

**EMS** - Charles Wills presented a handout packet and proceeded to state that Lorenzo Crooper has replaced Paul Fabiszak as Chair of the ALS Sub-Committee, thanks to Paul for the many years of service. Charlie continued to talk about the E-MAIS vendors who were invited to make presentations. Funding issues were again addressed, a motion was made and approved by the EMS Committee to endorse the concept of E-MAIS, but that we demand this program not proceed unless it is funded by MIEMSS without disruption of existing programs, request the executive committee to endorse this motion and relate to Dr. Bass. Charlie then spoke on the glucometer licenses and related fees required to use the devices. Charlie further talked about the lack of attendance at SEMSAC meetings, quorum was not present at the last meeting, suggest MSFA direct letter to Dr. Bass that this issue be researched and appropriate organizations be contacted. Charlie feels the meetings should be held monthly. He further spoke on the billing seminar upcoming and the PBQA ruling of providing flu shots. Two other issues seemed to have died that being medical directors insurance and stipend, any assistance would be appreciated. Discussion ensued about medical directors insurance, the risk could be extremely high. Charlie proceeded to discuss the protocols being worked on. MFRI has agreed to waiver the 15 student requirement for EMT-B classes once for each jurisdiction if necessary. The following motion was made by Lee Sachs and seconded by Paul Sterling:

**MOTION: That the Executive Committee endorses the concept of electronic EMAIS, but that we demand this program not proceed unless it is funded by MIEMSS without disruption of existing programs. No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

The following motion was made by Lee Sachs and seconded by Paul Sterling:

**MOTION: That the Executive Committee expresses its expectation that the SEMSAC meetings will be resumed on a regular basis so that there will be a filter for material going to the EMS Board. Further discussion included letter to Mr. DeVreis. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

The following motion was made by Lee Sachs and seconded by Wylie Donaldson:

**MOTION: That the Executive Committee request MIEMSS to find a way to allow the giving of immunization shots by paramedics within the fire service ALS providers. No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

**STATE FIRE MARSHAL** - Rocco Gabriele presented an oral report, proceeded to bring greetings

from the staff. Rocco has been elected to President, National Association of State Fire Marshals. He extended sympathies to the Preston Patterson family of Hampstead, Chief Dave Brinkley family of Stevensville, Ray Wilkerson of Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Services, and to the family of Ralph Beckwith, member of the Abingdon VFD. All four died of a heart attack within a period of three weeks. Rocco spoke of upcoming retirements, replacements will be slow, updated new hires. As of October 1, HB 1399, all sworn members of the Office of State Fire Marshal were approved by grand-fathering as certified police officers. This will require writing a new policy and procedures manual, target completion date January 1. Groundbreaking was held in southern Maryland for state police barrack, three offices will be for the fire marshal. Thanks to MSFA for their attendance at the life safety conference, approximately 400 in attendance. Congratulations to Judy White for being selected the public fire educator of the year. Fire deaths continue to increase, bomb squad activities continue to increase. Rocco requests a letter be sent to the chairman of the state fire prevention commission in support of proposal to adopt NFPA1. Rocco spoke on the Y2K computer problems and a new reporting system. He reminded all that contingency for getting 508 money is to submit reports to the fire marshal, many are delinquent. A letter will be sent to the county government asking them to hold up the 508 money. Rocco complimented Steve Edwards for his work with the blue ribbon panel. Question was asked about the NFPA1, clarification given. Additional question was asked about a statewide look at the Y2K problems, MEMA contractor will be looking at. Question was asked about the firehouse software presently being used, need to contact the office for answers. Concern was addressed about the 508 requirements, companies not reporting can be identified by calling the office. The following motion was made by Danny Davis and seconded by Judy Lau:

**MOTION: That this Association go on record supporting his request to adopt NFPA-1. No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

PP Riley stated that Harford County has not received 508 money for the first quarter.

**SPRINKLER TECHNOLOGY** - Chairman John Bender presented a written report, spoke on the Omega sprinkler head settlement. This is to be a \$40MM nationwide recall, affects all Omegas sprinklers regardless of style, model number, date of manufacture, or type of piping system. He continued to summarize the Omega settlement.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES** - Chairman Riley presented the report, approved a voucher for 30 widows, 1 disabled fireman, 7 children. The claim of Mr. Donald Trice has been paid due to the passage of HB433. Two more line of duty deaths, David Brinkley and Preston Patterson have been approved for payment pending completion of forms. The Trustees voted to increase the benefits of surviving spouses to \$325 monthly, dependent children to \$200 and death benefit to \$5000, these will be into effect January 1, 1999. Tuition costs will be increased to \$2,500 per year.

**FIVE YEAR PLANNING** - Chairman Jim Raley presented a written report, spoke on action items. Jim provided the following recommendations: #1 second vice president car, #2 website and MSFA technology, #3 communications equipment, #4 independent audit, #5 management study. Bob Cumberland further spoke on the statewide computer network system proposed, possible matching grant money from Dept of Commerce. Mark Bilger stated that action has been approved earlier on the web site. President Knippenburg spoke on the web site problems, Richard Snader further provided explanation. The direction is to have server on line by end of December. The following motion was made by Danny Davis and seconded by Lee Sachs:

**MOTION: That we adopt #2, #3 and #4 to work with the Budget Committee and get the money either in this years budget or if necessary move funding over and let the incoming Executive Committee**  
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**handle for its budget, but to go with those recommendations; #5 needs to go back to the planning committee so they can come back with some type of dollar figure and more input on what we need to look at. No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

Lee Sachs suggested to the Budget Committee to find funding for the audit, discussed too many times, lets do it now. PP Yinger further spoke on the independent audit. Jason Baer made comments reference the improvement/advancement of the Association.

**RESCUE** - Chairman Ed Woods presented a written report, discussed progress on the resource manual. The committee requests a \$600 budget.

**FIRE PREVENTION** - Chairman Bobby Collins presented a written report. Bobby discussed the rule changes to the fire prevention contest, will go into effect 2000. A billboard is on display on route 50 near exit 39, presently working on location in Western Maryland. Placemats are available, fire prevention material is available from FEMA, airplane fly over at Ocean City during labor day weekend. MFRI spring conference will be the first part of May, encourage everyone to attend. The fire prevention queens are attending functions upon request and doing an outstanding job.

**MFRETC** - Chairman Bob Shimer provided a written report, spoke on the three vacancies. Bob further spoke on the training center enhancement task force desires that no legislation would be introduced to take money away from MFRI or any other training organization. Steve Cox has been appointed as the commission representative on the emergency services memorial committee. Bob Shimer attended the meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Fire Commissions. New Jersey has a state law that states if the state mandates a program, then it has to be funded. The Commission supports the recommendations by the blue ribbon panel, took action to send letters to the federal delegates. MFRI presented for review and acceptance a recognition of classroom excellence program.

**GEMAC:** Chairman Bob Shimer presented his written report, spoke on the Y2K problems. MFRI and MIEMSS reported on training related to mass casualties and terrorism. The MEMA EOC is proceeding well. A Peach Bottom exercise will be held.

**TRANSPORTATION** - Chairman Richard Yinger presented a written report. He stated that DOT is holding internal meetings to make changes in the fee structure of the MVA. Question was asked the time frame on the tag books, all the tags have not been certified yet.

**911 NUMBERS BOARD** - Phil Hurlock stated that the group will hold meeting on November 17.

**AWARDS** - Chairman Ron Graf gave an oral report, will put out a new manual this year. Ron spoke on issues concerning the Amoss award, mailed out two entries for the manual for review, also received one from the scholarship committee.

**17 STATE CIRCLE:** Chairman Jim Ferguson gave an oral report, stated inspecting the building on a regular basis, doing the necessary maintenance.

**SAFETY** - Chairman Bobby Balta presented a written report, proceeded to review his report. He reported on the Safety Seminar to be held on April 4, 1999 to be rescheduled to April 10

and 11. The committee is looking into purchasing a display. The Smith-Stathem trophy is being built.

**SCHOLARSHIP** - Chairman Bill Olsen presented a written report, provided invoices for payment of fall semester. The committee would like to put their guidelines on the web page.

**SURPLUS PROPERTY** - Chairman Skip Massey presented a written report, he reported on equipment recently received being turn out gear, compressor, pumper and furniture. He also spoke on possible ambulance available. Skip continues to work with Andy Quinn in trying to allocate items.

**BOARD OF REVIEW** - Chair Doc Moltrup presented a written report, made oral comments from it. The Board has available \$370,000 funding. At last meeting, 4 applications were received.

99-01 Shaft asked for grant of \$27,375 for air packs, approved a grant of \$20,900.

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99-02 Baltimore Pike asked for grant of \$145,000 for new engine, the board approved a motion to reject this application.

99-03 Barton asked for a grant of \$248,000 for new pumper/tanker, the board approved a motion to reject this application.

99-04 Orleans asked for a grant of \$150,000 for a rescue truck, the board felt that Orleans had clearly shown a need but moved to reject this application as presented. The Board members moved to recommend that Orleans resubmit an application. Mr. Moltrup addressed the concern from the training committee reference sprinklers in new fire station construction, the Board agrees that a sprinkler system is certainly desirable but our current mandate is to fund facilities that meet the MSFA minimum standards. The following motion was made by Danny Davis and seconded by Chip Jewell:

**MOTION: To concur with the Board of Review, to reject the three applications and accept the Shaft application. No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

Chip Jewell asked question should we pursue increased funding, response costs are going up, can only fund few applications.

**WAYS AND MEANS** - Chairman John Means reported the raffle tickets have been ordered, available in January.

**FIRE LAWS BOOKS** - Chairman Mark Bilger presented a written report, book is ready for printing after removing of unnecessary verbiage. The price quote is \$29,070 for 850 copies, this will require an additional budget increase. Mark requests consideration for this funding.

**STANDARDS** - Chairman Bill Huttenloch presented written report, stated that inspections were done at Hancock Rescue Squad and Sharpsburg EMS. Both are recommended for membership. Bill also reported on request from Howard County for membership, do not qualify. President Knippenburg asked if they were sustaining member could they serve on committees. Discussion continued about other departments that are basically non-existent. The following motion was made by Danny Davis and seconded by Chip Jewell:

**MOTION: That we accept the Hancock Rescue Squad and the Sharpsburg EMS as members of the Association. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

**NFPA** - Chairman Bill Huttenloch presented his written report, stated that he had been appointed to a special committee to work with Maryland Dept of Labor. MOSH is trying to organize the two in two out regulations throughout the state. The issues being discussed are protective equipment, medical and physical, emergency operations. The firefighter organizations don't want to have, but MOSH is pushing. We need to have the control and set the regulations, otherwise MOSH will do their thing. MOSH wanted to have 1500 as printed as part of the standard, fire service disagrees. Concern was addressed about the cost, both volunteer and career, Baltimore City stated using these restrictions, 50% of his service would be retired. A survey will be forthcoming to all the associations reference physicals. Lee Sachs expressed concern that the volunteers may lose 75% of the membership because of the respirator standard. Bob Cumberland also spoke on the medical and physical standard. Discussion ensued about topics within these standards. Bill continued with his report, highlighted letter from DOL. John Denver asked question for clarity, before response.

Chairman Blanco recessed for the day and turned to President Knippenburg who asked Reverend Taugher for the closing.

President Knippenburg called the Sunday morning session to order, scripture was read, read the prayer list, gave prayer and lead the pledge. Oscar Baker addressed the group, stated that he would not be seeking reelection as Trustee, endorses John Means to replace him. President Knippenburg made remarks,

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introduced the Past Presidents in attendance consisting of: Dave Kirk, 63-64; Roy Wood, 73-74; Oscar Baker, 78-79; Charles Burton, 79-80; Robert Dempsey, 80-81; Leonard King, 85-86; Clarence Carpenter, 86-87; Robert Cumberland, 87-88; Robert Shimer, 88-89; Joe Robison, 89-90; Tom Mattingly, 90-91; Bernie Smith, 91-92; Fred Cross, 95-96; Steve Cox, 96-97; and Danny Davis, 97-98. He then introduced other guests including Joan Cumberland, President of the Auxiliary. Chairman Blanco called for the first report.

**NFPA** - Chairman Bill Huttenloch continued with his report from Saturday. He further explained the letter earlier referenced. MOSH will not be doing any enforcement, will be sending letters to all jurisdictions. Question was asked why not adopt the Delaware standard, will look into, feel should develop own. Discussion and suggestions continued.

**PUBLIC ADDRESS** - Chairman spoke on the sound system speakers, would like to exchange for smaller units at no cost. The following motion was made by Lee Sachs and seconded by Wylie Donaldson:

**MOTION: That we accept the recommendation to trade the speakers in at no cost. No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

**PAST PRESIDENTS** - Bernie Smith commented that the Past Presidents are ready to serve and help anytime. Christmas party will be held in December.

**LEGISLATIVE** - Chairman Bernie Smith presented a written report and reported on its contents. Bernie reported on the Maryland Emergency Medical System Operation Fund which will be broke by 2003, report to be finalized by December. There will be no pre-filed bills this year due to election year. The committee will be ready to welcome new legislators to Annapolis. Again they

request all to be known to the new legislators, don't let them be a stranger.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATION** - Bob Cumberland reported on the activities of the legislative committee within NVFC. He also spoke on new programs, legislative update service and volunteer forum. The NVFC has set five priorities for the 106th congress. 1. To continue to work on additional funding for the volunteer fire assistance program. 2. To reintroduce the legislation on the FLSA with changes as recommended by our consultants. 3. To continue to monitor ambulance restocking and tax-exempt financing for EMS equipment. 4. To introduce "Helping Hands" legislation, this would exempt corporate equipment donors from liability for equipment that they donate to fire service. 5. To support the Fallen Heroes Act. The council will be monitoring the IRS problems with unrelated income.

**NVFC** - Bob Cumberland presented a written report, updated the activities. 43 states were represented at last meeting, Carrye Brown spoke at the meeting. Bob further spoke on the blue ribbon panel report, The NVFC firefighter of the year was William Wutz from Williamsville, NY. The Marc Mueller fire prevention award was presented to Doug Rodenbeck. The appreciation award was presented to Art Glatfelter and Lee Bainbridge for their support and dedication. MSFA presented the council with the memorial lithograph to be put in the national office. Question was asked about the number of citizens protected by volunteers, 85% answer. Concern that we should oppose any substantial dues increase to NVFC. The following motion was made by Danny Davis and seconded by Mark Bilger:

**MOTION: That the MSFA oppose any dues increase to NVFC. Discussion. Voice vote taken. One nea vote. Motion passed.**

Discussion continued about recommendation from VP Edelin in support of additional alternates. Carl spoke further, feels the NVFC needs additional representation at the national level. The following motion was made by Danny Davis and seconded by Mark Bilger:

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**MOTION: That the MSFA support the change to two delegates and two alternates representation of each state to the NVFC. Discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

**OUT OF STATE COORDINATOR** - Chairman Bob Cumberland spoke on dates forthcoming of next years convention.

**INCENTIVES PROGRAMS** - Chair Joan Robison presented a written report and highlighted the report. Harford County has had an increase in their benefits. Washington County now has a LOSAP program. She spoke on SB144 changes that could be made to benefit volunteers, being lowering the length of service to 48 months. Another changes could be lowering the length of service on a graduated payment schedule. Another would be to grandfather those members with 25 years of service. Joan requests that those hurt in the line of duty be looked into. Question was asked about the graduated payment schedule fiscal impact. To grandfather those with 25 years of service would have great fiscal impact. Reminder again that \$3,000 is the subtraction for this filing year. The following motion was made by Lee Sachs and seconded by Judy Lau:

**MOTION: That we authorize the Legislative Committee and the Incentives**

**Committee to work together to try to develop the package, the best package we can get and see where it can go. No further discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

**HALL OF FAME** - Chairman John Gatton presented his written report, stated that the plaques have been made and asked President Knippenburg to present those to the regional representatives. John has received a inquiry from Kentucky reference our program, will be sending info. The Hall of Fame Committee is proposing another means of recognition in the form of a ring, no cost to the MSFA. The following motion was made by John Denver and seconded by Jenks Mattingly:

**MOTION: That the Committee proceed with a ring program. Discussion. Voice vote taken. motion passed.**

John will make up an announcement, advertise in the Trumpet, further details forthcoming.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS AND BULLETIN** - Chairman John Gatton, Jr. presented a written report, most recent issue was released September 15, deadline for this issue is today.

**CONVENTION** - Chairman Leonard King presented his written report, commented the committee is working to finalize all aspects of the 98 convention. Critiques have been held to cover all portions. Many constructive comments and ideas were discussed, all under consideration. Preliminary plans for the 99 convention are underway. Leonard is working on getting the US Naval Academy Band for opening 99 convention. With the passage of the by-law amendment this past year, the committee is planning on totally restructuring the entire convention. Dates for the next conventions are June 13-16, 1999, June 18-21, 2000, June 17-20, 2001, June 16-19, 2002, June 15-18, 2003. The proposed budget for the 1999 convention has not been finalized, will be provided at next meeting. The Treasurer has provided detailed information dealing with the 1998 convention. He further spoke on the cooperation with the mayor, city council and others. The cooperation again received from all was great, a total team effort.

The Convention Committee will remain structured the same as in the past. The policy for banners will be no future year banners will be displayed until after the election process has taken place. Vice Chair Tom Mattingly spoke on the golf course, probably will be held Friday morning. The Firefighter Challenge will be back, no time schedule yet. Lee Sachs asked about a financial report from the convention, Budget Committee has, the Convention Committee does not handle money. The following motion was made by Lee

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Sachs and seconded by Steve Hales:

**MOTION: That the financial report of the 1998 convention be sent to the Executive Committee along with the minutes of this meeting. Discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

**HISTORICAL AND ARCHIVES** - Chairman Ron Watkins presented a written report, commented on reviewing the pictures given to him by the Convention Committee. The Committee has not held a formal meeting. Ronnie will continue to take pictures at events, need to let him know in advance.

**VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ROOM** - Chairman Ron Watkins presented a written report, stated that the committee has not formally met. Work is being done to update the displays.

**MEMORIAL** - Chairman Don Mooney presented a written report, has received letter from the governor in support of our site in Annapolis. He will be meeting with DGS, agenda item will be permission to erect a sign to announce the construction of the memorial. Data collection letters are out, need prompt response. Bank accounts have been established, have received some donations, fund raising efforts will start in the near future. The planning and design committee is discussing conceptual designs and cost estimates with several landscape artists. Goal of the committee is to have the memorial in place this time next year. Bob Shimer had a question about the proposed memorial at DelMarVa.

**DATA SYSTEMS** - Chairman Richard Snader spoke on the Y2K problem. He will prepare an article for the Trumpet to better explain. The problems are far reaching and everyone needs to take very seriously.

**STATISTICAL** - Chairman Worthington presented a written report, a compilation of the report stats for the last year. He reviewed the contents, will be meeting with the by-laws committee to review the question of intent amendment. Next years mailing will go out in mid December.

**PRESIDENT'S VEHICLE** - Chairman Bill Clark stated that a meeting has been scheduled, VP Edelin will be in attendance.

**CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS** - Chair Patti Gordy stated the Committee will hold their meeting on November 7 at Denton, all welcome to attend.

**BUDGET & REVENUE** - Chairman Paul Fabiszak presented the report, reported on the meeting held Friday night. The issue of awards and plaques given at convention needs to be paid for by the committee giving such. The Budget Committee has asked the Convention Committee to establish a dollar amount they need to hold in reserve. The Budget Committee requests to add line 93 for rescue committee funding for \$600. The following motion was made by Chip Jewell and seconded by Mark Bilger:

**MOTION that we support the Rescue Committee's request for \$600. funding. No discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

Second request from the Transportation Committee for a fax line, this needs referral to the Convention Committee with recommendation of justifiable expense. The following motion was made by Wylie Donaldson and seconded by Jenks Mattingly:

**MOTION: That we support the Transportation Committee request to have a fax line installed. Discussion. Voice vote taken. Motion passed.**

Paul further spoke on the audit request and the financial reporting to use same forms. He further spoke on the fire laws book request, appears that Mitchie Company owes MSFA a credit, once the final price is reached, the book will be printed.

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Chairman Blanco asked for any other committees to report, then asked for concerns from around the table. Herman Rhue - Dorchester County central alarm hit by lightning, new system has

been installed, Danny Davis - Southern Maryland is displeased with the action of moving the parade day, Wylie Donaldson - FLSA issue, successful convention in September, Mark Bilger - spoke on Firehouse Magazine cover, Leon Fleming has been hired for the liaison position, will be filling position of EMS coordinator, congratulations to Westminster VFC on their dedication of the new fire station, Chip Jewell - Boonsboro has opened a sub-station, Smithsburg has taken over the fire station at Fort Ritchie, Washington County is advertising for an EMS coordinator, Frederick County candidates night was great, congratulations to Judy White for her recent award, spoke on a school bus accident in Frederick, Lee Sachs - FLSA resolved, career personnel have signed waivers, provided names of elected officers, Judy Lau - thanks to all for expressions given to the Damewood family, also watching the FLSA, talked about the legislative breakfast in Prince George's County, Jenks Mattingly - also commented on moving the parade date, spoke on state program in recognition of most beautiful people, extremely dry, brush fires are increasing, George Blanco - community ran out of water, Christian firefighters hosting Prince George's.

Chairman Blanco continued with action items, being to advertise the lithographs in national magazines. The following motion was made by Danny Davis and seconded by Mark Bilger:

**MOTION: That we advertise the lithographs in two magazines and sell for \$20 plus shipping. Discussion. Voice vote taken., Motion passed.**

Discussion continued about the credit card program. Mark Bilger relayed concern about not receiving a report from the Hazmat Committee for some time. President Knippenburg advised, does not have a chairman. Meeting was returned to the President. The President stated that Reverend Dixon does have the pager in his possession. VP Edelin addressed the blue ribbon report, copies are being mailed to the Executive Committee. President Knippenburg thanked everyone for their attendance and participation during the weekend sessions, asked Harry Hetz to provide blessing for the meal and benediction. There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee the meetings were adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Office of the Secretary

Leonard T. King, P.P.

J. Edward Cross

Gene Worthington

Charles B. Burton, P.P.

# Maryland State Firemen's Association

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 31-November 1, 1998  
Hebron, Maryland

## MOTION SUMMARY

**MOTION:** That the Executive Committee accept and endorse the position expressed in the Training Committee letter to the Chairman of the Executive Committee dated October 31. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of August 8 and 9 meeting at Abingdon.

**MOTION:** To amend the motion to approve the minutes by saying that they have to listen to the tape and correct if need be. - - - SEE TRANSCRIPT - - - Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** That the Executive Committee endorse the concept of electronic EMAIS, but that we demand this program not proceed unless it is funded by MIEMSS without disruption of existing programs. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** That the Executive Committee expresses its expectation that the SEMSAC meetings will be resumed on a regular basis so that there will be a filter for material going to the EMS Board. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** That the Executive Committee request MIEMSS to find a way to allow the giving of immunization shots by paramedics within the fire service ALS providers. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** That this Association go on record supporting his request to adopt NFPA-1. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** That we adopt #2, #3, and #4 to work with the Budget Committee and get the money either in this years budget or if necessary move funding over and let the incoming Executive Committee handle for its budget, but to go with those recommendations; #5 needs to go back to the planning committee so they can come back with some type of dollar figure and more input on what we need to look at. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** To concur with the Board of Review, to reject the three applications and accept the Shaft application. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** That we accept the Hancock Rescue Squad and the Sharpsburg EMS as members of the Association. Motion Passed.

**MOTION:** That we accept the recommendation to trade the speakers in at no cost. Motion Passed.

**MOTION: That the MSFA oppose any dues increase to NVFC. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: That the MSFA support the change to two delegates and two alternates representation of each State to the NVFC. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: That we authorize the Legislative Committee and the Incentives Committee to work together to try to develop the package, the best package we can get and see where it can go. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION SUMMARY CONTINUED - - -**

**MOTION: That the Committee proceed with a ring program. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: That the financial report of the 1998 convention be sent to the Executive Committee along with the minutes of this meeting. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: That we support the Rescue Committee's request for \$600. Funding. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: That we support the Transportation Committee request to have a fax line installed. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: That we advertise the lithographs in two magazines and sell for \$20. plus shipping. Motion Passed.**

