

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 26 & 27, 2000

Solomons, Maryland

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MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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The Executive Committee Meetings were held at the Solomons VRS&FD. President Roger A. Steger, Sr. called the meetings to order at 0900 hours on August 26, 2000. Chaplain Harry Hetz presented the Invocation and led the group in the pledge to the flag. President Steger welcomed everyone to Solomons and introduced the following Past Presidents who were in attendance: D. Kirk, 63-64; J. Glaubitz, 70-71; R. Wood, 73-74; E. Dunn, 76-77; O. Baker, 78-79; C. Riley, 83-84; L. King, 85-86; C. Carpenter, 86-87; R. Cumberland, 87-88; R. Shimer, 88-89; J. Robison, 89-90; B. Smith, 91-92; P. Hurlock, 93-94; F. Cross, 95-96; S. Cox, 96-97; D. Davis, 97-98; and C. Edelin, 98-99. President Steger introduced those guests in attendance, which included LAMSFA President Peggy Webb.

PRESIDENT Steger thanked his wife and son, the Ocean City VFC, Mayor and Council, and his fellow employees at Public Works for allowing him the time to represent the MSFA. He discussed the various meetings he and his fellow officers have attended on behalf of MSFA. He attended viewing of Mary Smith (wife of PP John W. Smith), and services for L. Sachs' mother. He attended the Lt. Governor's birthday party at the Baltimore Zoo, retirement ceremony for Jim Heller, retirement of Bob Shimer, and retirement of Tom Wilson (MFRI). He continues to work on the Firefighter Safety Guidelines, with the help of Dir. Edwards and Dr. Bass. He attended the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia to show support for programs we are trying to get passed at the Federal level.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT C. Mattingly welcomed everyone to Southern Maryland. He thanked his wife and children, the Hollywood VFD and Ladies Auxiliary, Southern Maryland Assn. and the campaign committee for time effort and understanding they have given him. He discussed the past two months activities while representing MSFA. He discussed the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Last Alarm Memorial Service at the Ft. Lincoln Cemetery in Brentwood. The Garden was dedicated to the memory of Past Chaplain Pierce Damewood. He gave his condolences to the families of Mr. Leonard Raley of Ridge VFD, Mr. John Nipple of Frederick, Mr. Francis Chapalier of Benedict, Mrs. Debra Mc Kay of Ridge VRS, and the mother of Lee Sachs. He attended the Zoo party for the Lt. Governor the Firehouse Expo in Baltimore. He commended President Steger for hosting a very productive Retreat in Emmitsburg and discussed the results of the Retreat and recommended we implement the ideas that came out of the Retreat. He discussed the St. Mary's County Fire and EMS Appreciation Day events held in Leonardtown. He attended the Virginia Firemen's Assn. Convention in Hampton Va. and the Five States Presidents meeting in Harrisburg, Pa.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT G. Worthington thanked everyone for their confidence and support shown to the Officers of the MSFA. He sent his condolences to those who have lost loved one's recently, and his wife's grandmother who passed away. He thanked everyone for their cards, phone calls, and sympathy, it was greatly appreciated. He thanked Doyle Cox for his efforts this year in the communication equipment, and the package he has put together for us for

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this year. He said the Low Interest Loan Committee are putting together guidelines and procedures to enable them to administer that fund. He discussed the success of the Retreat 2000 at Emmitsburg. He thanked all that attended the Retreat for their attention and concern of the Retreat. He mentioned the request for new faces to be brought to this meeting today. This was only a total of three new faces, so let's try to do better at the December meeting. He and Bob Cumberland attended the West Virginia State Convention, and it was a very informative event. He also attended the Virginia Convention, the Cumberland Valley Assn. and the Five States Presidents meeting. He attended Open House at Senator Bidens, in Delaware, which he provides to the Fire Service. He encourages the departments to meet with the Training Committee members as they travel around the State to the training centers to discuss your regional concerns. The 10 Year Plan is presently being updated and they need your input to make this a more realistic document. He asked that we look favorably on the Nextel package being proposed by the Communication Committee. He discussed partnerships with businesses to bring funding into our organization.

President Steger introduced Solomons President Tony Jones and Jimmy Mattingly, and thanked them for making the preparations for the meetings. President Jones welcomed MSFA to Solomons. He thanked the Solomons Ladies Auxiliary for the breakfast. Jimmy Mattingly also welcomed us to Solomons, relax and enjoy the weekend. He invited everyone to attend the Memorial Service for Solomons new Memorial in front of the Firehouse, this evening, in memory of past members.

SECRETARY L. King thanked V. P. Gene Worthington for his years of dedicated service to the Secretary's Office. He welcomed on board the new Asst. Secretary Joe Cooper (Bay District VFD) who is already involved and busy since being appointed. Minutes of both meetings at Ocean City have been transcribed, copied and distributed. The mailing list and Directory are being revised, help is still needed for updated information. An active membership application has been sent to the Dentsville Vol. EMS Department in Charles County. No answer back yet on that application. The Calvert County ALS Department has had an application for active membership, they are currently an Associate Member that has not yet been returned either. He mailed an application for associate membership to the Frederick County Vol. Fire and Rescue Association. They will each be acted on when they are returned. If anyone knows of any other department or organization that may be in need of an application, please let him know so it can be sent out. He said this meeting's notice was made and mailed under a revised format, and after talking with Chairman Hales and President Steger, this format will now be followed. He reminded everyone that if you cannot meet the time schedule, please let him know so arrangements can be made. If you have something important for the Executive Committee to act on, please get it to him so the Committee can have a chance to review it before it is placed before them at the meeting. He asks that he receive items at least two weeks ahead of the meeting, if possible. The new Directory is not out yet because only half of the Chairpersons have responded to the request for information for the Directory. Copies of the draft copy were passed around today for corrections and updates, and the deadline for inputs is this Friday at 5 p.m. When it is completed, it will be distributed thru your elected officers and the Executive Committee. Each

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Executive Committee member is asked to make sure that the current officers, mailing addresses, and other such needed information of the various county associations and representatives are correct and forwarded to the Secretary's Office. This information is needed for the Proceedings Book. Attached to the Secretary's report is a recap of Retreat 2000. It has been posted on our web site, and there has been feedback on it, which has been passed on to the Presidents. He thanked President Steger for the very productive retreat. The Retreat was very beneficial and enjoyable for everyone. He briefly discussed the groups of the Retreat, their purpose and their members. He thanked VFIS for providing the two facilitators, they did a good job. Everyone is reminded that they are to turn in to Lee Sachs, all equipment and property in your possession that belongs to the Association. He needs that to update the inventory records. Some of the stationary for the officers and committees has been prepared and distributed. Those who have not received any, please let him know so it can be taken care of. Pocket Bullions have been ordered for several people that we are aware of needing them. Anyone who feels they are due one, please let him know. The 2000 Convention Proceedings Book transcribing has been started, and it should be at the December meeting. The Secretary's Office has amassed an assortment of materials and if they have a form, etc, that you may have a need for your committee, let them know. He congratulated President Steger and the newly elected officers, the new Executive Committee members, and new Committee Chairpersons. He said the Secretary's Office is a team, and thanked Asst. Secretary's Eddie Cross and Joe Cooper for their assistance. Special thanks to Bob Jacobs, Bob Saville and the others who help the Secretary's office.

President Steger said the report on the Retreat is out to the Executive Committee members. It is on the web page if anyone else would like to see it.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY B. Jacobs presented his two written statements and provided an explanation of the statements. L. Sachs asked what the misc. item is. B. Jacobs said the \$5500 represents the sale of the car, and the \$300 represents the computer and printer. He also discussed the Raffle funds received at the Convention.

TREASURER B. Saville presented a computer printout report on the financial accounts and balances since the last Executive Committee meeting. He said that he has transferred to the Maryland Local Government. Investment Pool which has over \$200,000 in it now. He said as the CD's come due, he is transferring them. He discussed the Sweep Checking Account asked of him at the April meeting, which he obtained from the Fidelity Bank who told him it would be very expensive for us to have such an account. With this in mind he went to the bank where we have our general fund, and they said the same thing. It would cost us too much money. Such an account requires a very high amount which must be kept in the account, (\$20,000). Not satisfied, he went to a third bank, and of course was told the same thing again. Therefore, he has not opened a Sweep Checking account for that reason. He reminded everyone to be sure to sign the attendance book of the Executive Committee meetings in order for you to receive your mileage and lodging. He thanked his Assistants, Dave Kirk and John Shuhart for the help they have given him.

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CHAPLAIN Harry Hetz read from the provided written report from Chief Chaplain H. Dixon who sends his regrets at not being able to be here today. He read the many services the Chaplains have been able to serve the MSFA. He passed around a Prayer List for today, read the names and paused for reflection on those individuals.

LAMSFA PRESIDENT Peggy Webb said they will hold their first Fall Conference 16 September at Damascus. The next meeting will be on 20 April 2001 in Woodsboro.

Chairman S. Hales said Executive Committee members reports and action items will be presented on Sunday.

PP C. Edelin distributed a written report, and discussed project he started last year on the retention of good, dependable members. He discussed a benefit to keep these people in the Association, and the most desirable one which is at no cost to the Association, is the Mobile Phone program. He discussed the phone he ordered and paid for in March, or April, with B. Saville's blessing. He discussed different systems and how the systems would be tested and the best program determined. He recommended we try a program for one year then decide what is best to do. The member would put up a deposit, pay his Bills (a low rate) and it costs the Association nothing. L. Sachs questioned the costs, who pays the Bill, and who sends the Bills out. Chairman S. Hales said we will hold this item until tomorrow.

BESSIE MARSHALL FUND written report read and discussed by Chairman Pat Orlove. She said she is selling Raffle tickets for the Boat Cruise for ten people. She discussed her visits around the State to the Association meetings with the intent of raising funds to build this Fund so we do not always have to ask for donations.

ATTORNEY Roger Powell discussed the MBNA credit cards and their now being available to the individual departments, as well as the members of the Association. He said they have now received about \$950 for the second quarter from the card. He said he plans to have the Presidents carry a card on behalf of the Assn. instead of using the various cards for gasoline, etc. He discussed the copyright of our logo emblem which should be trade marked with the MSFA. This would cost \$250 to apply for the copyright. The process takes about 6 months to complete. He discussed the Chase case in Baltimore City (which involved a lawsuit by the estate of a woman that died and the issue of negligence was made. He discussed the process of the case and the path it has taken to date. This case involved the legality of the Good Samaritan Act. They became involved when they filed a brief on behalf of the MSFA in that case. He said the Court of Appeals has ruled without actually ruling. They have eliminated any addressing of the opinion of Section 5603, which is the Good Samaritan Statute, and they found immunity for Baltimore City under Section 5604. It left the decision of the Court of Appeals standing out there to be tested again. This has to do with Billing and Section 5603. Each Company that elects to Bill for EMS services should do so with knowledge that they are taking a risk of voiding their immunity under the Good Samaritan Statute. He said there is one more thing because of what happened with this case. Section 5606 which is another immunity statute for volunteer

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physicians. A provision in that sub section does grant immunity to volunteer physicians to the extent that they charge for necessary expenses. The Legislative committee is already going to the Governor to say lets put this sentence in our statute to protect us. C. Jewell asked about there being another Section for Fire as there is for the EMS. R. Powell said there is apparently another section for Fire or they would not have stated the EMS (only). C. Edelin asked if he is saying for Company's to get insurance or be sorry if they are billing. R. Powell answered, yes. R. Powell further said once you start Billing, you're in business according to the IRS. Next you should contact your insurance service to make sure you are covered under enough liability coverage if you are sued. This should also affect (raise) your insurance premium. C. Edelin asked about the indemnity set up in our booth at Ocean City, what about that affecting us. R. Powell said it is a good program and does not hurt us at all. L. Downes asked that we back this card for our officers and do away with the gas cards. Chairman Sales said this will be handled tomorrow. C. Riley asked about the Good Samaritan Law protecting us in our training, not in doing something we are not trained to do. He asked how Billing affects the Good Samaritan Law. R. Powell answered the question as previously stated above. B. Smith said that Dr. Bass has been asked by the Governors office to look at this. He said that Dr. Bass plans to get all involved party's together to discuss this and try to find a fix for it. L. Sachs said having insurance is a high priority for all Departments because anyone can be sued. Without insurance, you pay your own legal fees, which can add up to more than you could lose in a judgment.

PARLIAMENTARIAN Richard Brooks says it is a pleasure for him to be here and he thanks P. Gordy and J. Glaubitz for their guidance. They are working on one issue presented by a member company, and they do have some input back to them today regarding procedures within their company. If they can be of any service to any other Company, please let them know.

MFRI Assistant Director Russell Strickland presented a written report from Director Steve Edwards as he could not be here today. He read and discussed the statistics for this past year. He said the Upper Eastern Shore Training Center contract has been signed, and the project time frame is 12-14 months. Funding is \$3.6 Mil. The Southern Maryland Regional Training Center architectural design funding and construction is \$4.2 Mil. He discussed what will be done to bring this Center up to the same level as the other Centers. The Institute Headquarters building they are now in and will be turned over to Prince George's County. New construction should begin on the building at College Park some time in September 2000. New item now on the MFRI homepage, is the Quiz of the Month, which will be on a different topic each month. He discussed the field instructor meetings attended these past several weeks. A new item this Fall is the Virtual Fire & Rescue Expo, which will be conducted from 11-22 September 2000 at www.vfre.com. The Haz Mat training track will also be presented during that time. Firehouse.com has now linked them to the MFRI Drill of the Month. Instructors are encouraged to submit drills that could be used on the homepage Drill of the Month. The revised Firefighter I and II programs are entering the field this fall. L. Downes discussed his trip to the Upper Shore Training Center, and he explained the work that has been accomplished to date.

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INVENTORY Lee Sachs had no written copies of his report, but reported on the Inventory he has put together. He said he has most of the items now on the inventory. They are missing some serial numbers, vendors, warranty information, etc. He thanked B. Saville, R. Snader, and L. Harvey for their help on this work. This inventory should be tied directly to the Treasurer when he pays the Bills and when a piece of equipment becomes obsolete, it will be noted on the inventory and immediately circulated. The people best fitted to do that procedure are the Data Systems Committee. It is now his recommendation that the Executive Committee assign this project to the Data Systems Committee, who has said they are willing to take this on.

TRAINING Chair D. Stevens presented and discussed his written report. He thanked the members of the committee and Bobbie Stevens is the new member now on the committee. They have had two meetings since Ocean City, and the Minutes of them both are on the Web site. The meeting at Carroll County Training Facility was primarily to look at the facility, and let the members become familiar with it. They also reviewed and critiqued the Ocean City seminars. They appreciated being involved in the seminars this year, and hope to do so again next year. At the Retreat 2000, they looked at the State Cadet Program and he has a tentative meeting set up with them in September. They met on 20 August at the North East Regional Training Center in Aberdeen where they looked at the update of the 10 Year Plan.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Bob Hartlove provided a written report, and thanked the members of the Association for their support of him as Acting Supervisor last month. He said he will be returning to the Southern Region next month upon his request. He discussed the funding increase of \$10k specifically for the installation of dry hydrants and the purchase of Nomex wildland PPE in the 50/50 matching grant. He said that 6 dry hydrant installations have been approved in Southern Maryland and two in Western Maryland. They are making a \$10k purchase with Frederick County, for PPE in jumpsuits. He discussed the Wildfire stats in Maryland which is one half of normal for this time of year. Western Fires Training Camp was held 12-14 May in Harford County. He gave the stats for the Western Fire Assignments and those persons sent to different states. He discussed the Federal Excess Personal Property stats for this year. When Fire Departments are thinking Federal Excess vehicles, they should indicate if they would be willing to pay for shipping for out of state acquisitions. Two replacement dozers have been received and two new transport vehicles were ordered last spring. C. Edelin thanked B. Hartlove for taking over the position as he did. D. Stevens asked of the letter we endorsed last year on this Supervisor position which is yet to be filled. Bob said there are three positions they are trying to fill and the Fire Supervisor's position is third on the list. He suggested we contact Asst. Secretary Stan Arthur on getting the position filled. 1st V.P. J. Matting said they are to meet with them soon and they will be sure to discuss this with them. K. Fairfax agreed this is the person to contact and he would be glad to help if he can.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL Rocco Gabriele provided a written report and brought greetings from the Governor, Lt. Governor, Colonel B. Mitchell, and all the officers and staff of the office of the State Fire Marshal. He discussed their processing of sprinkler contractor licensing to those

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who qualify or can do so within the next two years. He said legislation was passed and signed to allow the hiring of civilian Fire Code Enforcement personnel. Ten new positions have been asked for in the new Budget. The Governor has appointed a Smart Codes Advisory Council to prepare a Statewide Building Rehabilitation Code. He said his office is moving soon to just across the street from where they are now. He discussed the in-house retirements and promotions within the Agency. The Mid-Atlantic Fire Safety Conference will be held on 5 October 2000 at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Laurel. He urged all Departments to participate in the Fire Prevention Week activities of 8-13 October 2000.

SHOCK TRAUMA Brenda Fosler said that John Ashworth and John Spearman send their regrets they cannot be here today. She provided a written report which she reviewed regarding the Goals and Objectives of the Shock Trauma Center, as keeping open communication channels with the Fire, EMS and with the MSFA. She discussed the Scholarship Fund, which provides the opportunity for EMS providers to receive a higher level of education. She discussed the educational programs which include tours, case reviews, ALS skills lab, observation program, and on-site clinical programs.

MIEMSS: Dr. Robert Bass presented a written report. He then discussed the ambulance restocking issue. This is an extension of the anti-kickback law. He said that MIEMSS has submitted a letter to the Dept. of Health & Human Services office of the Inspector General on its proposed rule regarding re-stocking arrangements between hospitals and ambulance companies. If the rule becomes final, it would create a "Safe Harbor" that would prevent an ambulance re-stocking arrangement that meets the rule requirements from being a crime. They made three suggestions concerning the rule which are stated in the letter attached to his report. He discussed the Chase case saying they plan a meeting with all interested parties to try to come up with a legislative solution to the questions that have been raised. He discussed the Yellow Alert Task Force regarding the impact of over crowded hospitals, which continues to occur. He discussed the many reasons for this and some short term solutions they are working on at this time. He discussed the eventual replacement of two helicopters. The Replacement Committee will meet again on 14 September at MIEMSS. He discussed equipment issues, and inventory lists have been mailed to each jurisdiction, listing each item of MIEMSS that was provided to the jurisdiction, and asked for verification of the item being still with them, or not. They have a plan to turn over the defibrillators to the local jurisdictions. They will continue with their subsidy of the defibrillators on a statewide basis, but would require a 50 percent match. The radio's will still be owned and maintained by MIEMSS. He discussed the ALS CRT Curricula issue. They are planning a meeting shortly of a group to develop recommendations to the EMS Board. They are developing their regulations for EMS education and training programs. They have a committee looking at neuro-trauma standards and criteria. This task force consists of neurosurgeons, trauma surgeons, hospital administrators, and nurses. He discussed the work plan for Weapons of Mass Destruction which they are finalizing. He said that MIEMSS has sent its Managing For Results submissions to the Department of Budget and management. They have a work group for the Statewide Communications System. This is for a 10 year plan which includes schedules for the elements of the systems and integration of modern technology. They

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have received some funding for the e-MAIS project for this year and next year toward a program of electronic data collection. They are looking at the Legislation of two Bills, one to maintain the EMS operating fund, and the second to address the issue of non-transport commercial services. They also want to address the immunity issue and what needs to go into its legislation. The next meeting of the AED Task Force will be on 25 September at the MIEMSS offices. He said there are many AED's out there now (EMS, Fire, Airports, etc). The Prehospital Immunization Program was discussed as the hepatitis B, Influenza, and TB Screening program, which they hope to have in place by 1 October 2000. MIEMSS is also working on the Perinatal Designation of hospitals that do perinatal care, complicated OB and other neonatal care. This program does not really apply to the Fire and EMS people.

B. Kurtz asked about the equipment issues of 50/50. Dr. Bass said it will go into effect in 2001-2002. He also asked on the training for the CRT's, can the existing CRT's be grandfathered to the new level?

Dr. Bass said they have concern about the confusion of two levels of CRT's, and they do plan to have a painless transition to the new level and upgraded thru the CME program. L. Sachs commented on other issues not stated and that this is not a done deal, a lot of things still need to be talked about. He said that when they get to their recommendations, they should meet with all of the CRT's in Maryland to see how they feel about the recommendations. Dr. Bass agreed. G. Worthington asked about the e-MAIS program and asked if this is in concert with the State? Dr. Bass said yes, they do try to stay in concert with that. They are looking at the Software and the State is more the communications system that would allow the information to go from point A to point B. Gene said that Bel Air is in the process of implementing the computer program in the ambulance itself reporting system for the Run sheets. Dr. Bass was not aware of this. Dr. Bass cautioned this saying whatever we do, we should be doing the same thing together, and otherwise we lose our database. B. Cumberland said Washington Co. has been collecting EMS information by one of the vendors, which is then sent into one central server. L. Sachs asked how we can live up to our legal responsibilities and protect ourselves, if we send the report to the hospital after we get back to the station? Dr. Bass said usually a work sheet is left at the hospital, and then when they get back they do a more complete form and send that in. Their plan is to have a PC in the ER so the form can be done right there. R. Powell said the work sheet is a dangerous thing. What happens is the final report is different from the work sheet. This can't be, what you leave the hospital with, has to be it. L. Sachs said the designed system has to be what is needed, and protect us at the same time. C. Wills said the main problem with e-MAIS is if we don't get anymore input into the new e-MAIS than what we have today, we have a major problem. He said the form out there now is hated by everyone, and it needs to be replaced. He discussed the many problems with the existing form. Dr. Bass agreed the existing form has its limitations and they do want to move on to the new venue.

MISS FIRE PREVENTION Rachel Lyons and 1st RUNNER UP April Workman discussed their busy schedule since Ocean City. They said they are available to attend our many functions,

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meetings, etc. and asked that you call her (them) if they can be of any help. LAMSFA President Peggy Webb presented Bessie Marshall pins to Rachel and April.

EMS Chair C. Wills presented his written report, and discussed Legislation on the funding for the EMS Fund (the \$3.00), which is needed to keep the fund viable. He said we backed off last year, but we can't back off this year. He said that at the committee meeting of 6 August, they unanimously endorsed the motion to endorse Federal Senate Bill 2858, which is the "Medicare access to ambulance services act of 2000". This Bill would increase the monies available to payments of transport services. He discussed the Billing services done in the state. He said only 6 counties in the state do not Bill for services. He did ask that this Bill (S.5828) be an Action item for tomorrow. He discussed a needle stick while on a call, with the patient, a known drug user, refused to have his (or her) blood tested. As a result, the person that was stuck, had to start the series of the drug regimen. We should better provide for such a situation, and this was a volunteer, not a paid person. He discussed what the state of Florida was doing in this type of situation, which is a statute that pertains only to HIV, in which if there is a conformed exposure and the patient refuses to be tested, the person stuck can take it to a Judge for a decision to make that person get tested. He discussed the possibility of such a Bill in Maryland and the problems that may arise from it. He said he does plan to pursue this unless told otherwise. He discussed the CRT issue that Dr. Bass had discussed saying the committee is ready to work with him on this. He discussed the MOSH/OSHA Committee to work on the physicals. That committee has not yet met. He said that he has been appointed a principal member to the NFPA Technical Committee on Emergency Medical Services. He thanked C. Edelin for his support in his nomination to this committee. He discussed the committee goals which are to continue to be a clearing house of its subcommittees, and to work with MIEMSS for the enrichment of the State EMS system and its volunteer providers and any other duties assigned by the Association. He reported they have discussed the EMS Awards program. He requested that the Executive Committee members return to their areas and encourage participation in this program. B. Smith said they were not aware of the Legislation discussed, and the committee needs to let them know of such legislation. R. Powell discussed the proposal (Florida Statute) made by C. Wills. He discussed the 508 issue, how it came about, and that we are still entitled to this money. On the issue of Billing, he said ambulance Billing is obviously going to be a way of life. He mentioned the home owners insurance policy, which includes services for fire, and if we're going to Bill for EMS, we might as well Bill for fires too.

President R. Steger broke the meetings for lunch and called upon Father Newman to give the blessing. The meeting recalled to order by Chairman S. Hales. He thanked the Solomons VRS/FD caterer for the delicious meal.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL B. Cumberland presented a written report, and discussed their next meeting is in October at Daytona Beach, Florida. He discussed Operation Respond as he is working with the other counties to get software put in for Rail Transportation Hazards. You would then need the train or car number to pull up the information. He is trying to get the initial software donated. The Fire Act is still up and alive, and he explained it as an

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Authorization Bill with no money tied to it. The Bill has been attached to the Defense Budget in the Senate. He asked the Association to endorse him for the position of 2nd Vice Chairman to the National Volunteer Fire Council. The position will be open at the Spring meeting when the Chairman steps down and everyone else moves up. The nominations are done at the Fall meeting. He discussed classes for the Volunteer Incentive Committee at the Fire Academy. In FY01, 6 classes are scheduled with plenty of openings, and they encourage your participation. He discussed the new simplified guidelines for CPR. He discussed EMS Billing, and there will be a new fee schedule starting in January 1, 2001, that fall under the Medicare Part B program. He discussed letter he received from the Congressional Fire Services, April 25th is the next CSFI dinner. He said that in the letter it said the biggest change they are going to make, is the dinner program. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m. and end promptly at 10 p.m. R. Powell pointed out that in regard to the Medicare Billing, the new guidelines to be phased in, are only for Medicare Billing. The insurance companies are still liable to pay the Bills.

AUDITING E. Dunn presented a written report, and discussed their meeting. They reviewed the financial records and found everything in order. He thanked L. Sachs for his inventory which was very helpful. He said they felt the auditors of last year should have broken the cash down a little bit further than they did. He discussed the figures in the written report. He relayed that some sort of recognition should be made to Henry Purdy in recognition for his many years as chair of the committee. C. Jewell asked of our bonding amount. He did not know how much our bonding amount is. It was agreed this should be checked on. C. Mattingly asked about the mentioned over expenditures that should have been approved by the Executive Committee? E. Dunn said they were not great amounts, but feels that any over expenditures should be approved. C. Mattingly said he feels this should be taken as an action item. Chair Hales asked for a list of these over expenditures. He asked if there were any other issues we should be aware of. E. Dunn said no. He said the committee is going to expand the audit to the entire Association. President Steger further discussed the non approved expenditures, saying if a committee needs additional money they are to go to the Budget Committee and it is put in their report and the Executive Committee acts on that report. He said what they did recently was to adjust all of the Budget figures and what was carried over, into the new Budget. This is what is normally done. S. Hales said in the past sometimes this is just a line adjustment item. R. Steger asked if the Convention Funds are for the Convention use only? E. Dunn said the interest from that fund can be used elsewhere. L. King said the convention is not designed to make a profit, but the convention money is for the convention. The tag money is supposed to go to the convention. The Tag Book costs more than we receive from the tags. L. Sachs said the funds are not actually restricted funds. T. Flint discussed the money the tags did actually take in. C. Mattingly discussed the convention money and questioned the restriction of it. L. Sachs discussed the Treasurer giving bond to be approved by the Executive Committee, and we should do whatever is necessary to make sure we are properly bonded. Chair Hales referred this to the Insurance Committee, and we will take this as an action item. L. King said maybe the By-Laws Committee should also be involved in this item. B. Saville said he will look up the Bond value and let us know.

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AWARDS Chair R. Graf said this year they will produce an Awards Manual. They plan to update the 21 awards planned for this year. He said if there is a want for a new type of award, let them know about it so they can put it in the book. They hope to have the book produced and distributed in January 2001.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS Chair Patti Gordy asked that any changes proposed, be submitted to them by the February meeting. They need them so they can be sent to all departments and put in the minutes.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR Chair M. Harris had no written report, however stated they need more applications for Firefighter of the year or just do away with the committee. He discussed the lack of applications for this award.

FIRE LAWS Chair Mark Bilger presented his written report, and discussed the legislation that has been reviewed by the committee. They placed an order to produce the new books, but did not order the CD ROMS (money not allocated for those). They gave approval for Lexus to print additional copies of the 2000 edition to market and sell them at \$45.00 per copy. The Association will receive \$7.00 credit towards future printing for each book sold.

CONVENTION Chair Leonard King presented and discussed his written report. He said it is your convention and the committee always wants to know what else you may want and need to change it. He thanked everyone involved in the recent critique of the convention. All suggestions are being taken into consideration for the next one. He said the most positive of the critique, was the Memorial Service, being held as a stand-alone event on Sunday. Also good was the corporate partnership program the main floor programs, the Honor Guard Contest, the joint session covering the awards, the training and educational sessions, the Golf Tournament, the Picnic, and the Combat Challenge. The one most positive item was the food vendor at the Convention center. The areas of most concern was the lower than normal participation in the Parade (which they felt was due to the new President being from Ocean City, Maryland City and Worcester County), the breaks in the main floor programs, the lower number of exhibitors, and the number of individuals and the amount of confusion behind the stage during the nominations process. They do not have a financial picture of the 2000 Convention and Conference. A proposed budget for the 2001 Convention and Conference, will be available by the next meeting. They will again recommend that a Bank Machine be installed in the Convention Center. He thanked Mayor James Mathias, the City Council, Public Works, Transportation, Police Department, Ocean City VFC, and the entire staff of the Convention Center for their total cooperation and assistance. They are getting better cooperation from the business community each year. He mentioned the cooperation and assistance received from the Prince George's County Fire and EMS Dept., Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services, Howard Co. Dept of Fire and Rescue Services, MFRI, MIEMSS, State Fire Marshal's Office, and the Governor's Office. The individuals on the Steering Committee, and the various support groups are to be commended for the total team effort. The amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws passed at Ocean City, says the Executive Committee must determine the Order Of Business as listed in his

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report. The committee feels there is some fine tuning to be done and this will be completed with the help of the Steering Committee, the Presidents, and the entire Convention and Conference Committee by the next Executive Committee meeting. He said they are concerned with, and need comments on: the Joint Installation of officers, the numbers and types of exhibitors, the day of the parade, delays on the main program floor, and the amount and types of education and training seminars. They would also like to have comments on a Softball Tournament that would start before the Convention and Conference, in various regions of the state, and the finals at Ocean City. He said the Hotel Bills have not yet been paid. The vendors open times, etc, was asked about. L. King discussed the different times tried this year, and the different times that will be done next year for the vendors. Tom Mattingly discussed the critique survey and the items of prime concern by the vendors. L. King said we were down 13 vendors this year, which is a lot. He said MSFA did not raise any prices this year, and do not plan to do so next year. Judy Lau asked if we were down a certain type of vendor? L. King said it was primarily Bingo vendors which he explained. T. Mattingly said they may send someone to other shows to solicit our show for vendors. C. Edelin discussed the 8.1 rating received from the vendors for the Convention this year, which was good. L. Sachs agreed it was a great Convention. He asked about the need for the Executive Committee to act on the Order of Business at this meeting? Chairman S. Hales ruled this will be acted on at the December meeting.

FIRE PREVENTION Chair B. Collins presented his written report and discussed their meeting. He said that Lori Packard, Miss Fire Prevention Sub-Committee Chairperson, discussed with the committee, having the Queen Contestants at Ocean City, taped by MFRI. The committee feels the taping could be used to acquaint future applicants with the contest. He thanked Richard Brooks for the outstanding job with the Queen's contest, and Phil Hurlock for his assistance. He discussed the Contest being held on Monday night, and in the future, they would like to have one of the Presidents present at the event. He thanked Alan Goznell for judging the Fire Prevention Books and Floats. He discussed the upcoming events planned and said their next meeting will be on 12 November at the Frederick Training Center. He said that Bonnie Arnold tripped at his firehouse and sprained her ankle. She is doing fine. R. Steger said if they get an invitation, they will attend the contest next year. He said that only the President was invited this year, and that is his schedule. J. Mattingly said he understood that it is the duty of the President to attend the contest. B. Collins presented a check for \$5000 to R. Yinger and P. Webb for the Hearing Impaired Smoke Detector program.

HALL OF FAME Chair D. Mooney said he had no written report as they have had no meeting yet. He said their next meeting is scheduled for 21 October, place to be determined. They will be looking at some recommendations for the Hall of Fame. He discussed comments made and heard regarding who should be on the committee, etc. He said they are open to recommendations to the committee.

MEMORIAL Chair D. Mooney presented his written report, and he said they are scheduled to go before the Board of Public Works for approval, on 20 September, or 4 October 2000. The Board will be briefed a week before the meeting, and they will be calling on the Leadership of

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this and other organizations for support of the project. The purpose is for approval of the Easement Agreement. They still need donations to finalize the design and construction of the memorial. He thanked the Ladies Auxiliaries, as they are coming thru better than the Fire and Rescue Departments.

LOW INTEREST LOAN BOARD Chair J. McCrea said he has no written report. He said this is a new committee with membership of himself as Chair, Vice Chair Joe Robison, Secretary Eugene Kaufman, Craig Alexander, Steven Wisner, Charles Riley, Lewis D'Camera, Bill Bliss, Dan Stevens, Bill Hildebrand, Jeff Hurley, and David Walston. They have met twice and worked on the guidelines for the committee loans. Once they are finished, they will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval then they would be presented to Board of Public Works. Upon their approval, the \$500,000 would then be turned over to the Association. At that time, the Board will start reviewing the applications, and dispersing the funds. He discussed the history of this committee and then realized that a lot of departments did not want to apply, knowing that only \$500,000 was in the till. They still need to document the funds that they need, so they came up with a very short (one page) application form, which has been given to all of the committee members to distribute in their respective counties. They have received about 12 applications so far. S. Hales asked if they are receiving applications at the same time the Emergency Assistance Board is receiving one? He said he has no idea. J. McCrea said he has addressed the Board of Review to explain the committee and its purpose, and to establish lines of communication. They have not yet gotten to the point of reviewing the applications, as they need the guidelines in place first. W. Donaldson, said maybe this group needs to say as part of the guidelines, that you apply to one committee or the other, but not both. J. Lau questioned the guidelines of the two committees being so defined that only one can actually approve an application? He said he hopes so. R. Powell discussed the qualifier of the two loan committees. L. Sachs said nothing says, at this time, that you cannot apply and qualify for both loans. R. Powell discussed the ability to repay the loan. J. Glaubitz asked about the low interest rate, what is it? This rate has to be known before we can apply for the loan. S. Hales said this figure will be known at the December meeting.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND BOARD Vice Chair J. Baer presented his written report, and said he is here because the Chairman was not able to attend. Copies of his report were handed out today. Chairman S. Hales asked that copies be given to this Board before the meeting in the future. L. Downes said we cannot act on this when we have not had time to review it. The following motion was made by L. Downes and seconded by W. Donaldson.

Motion: That the Board of Review be instructed to provide copies of their applications to the Executive Committee in advance of the meetings as in the past. Motion withdrawn after discussion.

Chair S. Hales said he has received concerns of doubt about the application from Eldorado-Brookview VFD regarding the bids for the apparatus, their funds available, and an apparatus already received that was paid for. Chair S. Hales said this will be further discussed in

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executive session and will be continued tomorrow. J. Baer discussed the department's financial statement, their anticipated income, and found them in order. L. Sachs said the Board needs more information before they can act on the application. J. Baer said they approved the \$117,181.00 because the department was to contribute \$55,000 plus the \$5000 which adds up to the needed \$117,181 as described in the committees report. Chair Hales said the other committees are coming up with standards and it wouldn't hurt to see an audited financial statement submitted with the applications. He also mentioned that in the past, there have been grants approved for departments that did have money and maybe should not have received the grant from the committee? Not all, but some. They need to work toward better guidelines for the grants. J. Baer said they have guidelines, and they have the proper requests answered, and they do ask for their Form 990, which is filed with the IRS, so that they can note any discrepancies in what they say they have, and what they told the Government that they have. He said that after interviewing the applicants, they take that material and send it to each member of the Executive Board. B. Kurtz said that since we are dealing with State Government funds, we might want to require a financial audit, made by an independent source at their expense. C. Jewell said that an audit can cost from \$5000 to \$7000. This could be more than the department can afford. C. Edelin said most departments cannot afford an audit and that is why the Form 990 is required. There are ways to do this without causing a hardship to the department. Chair Hales asked about some departments coming back for the grant time and again. The following motion was made by L. Downes, and seconded by W. Donaldson:

Motion: To postpone any action on this request until tomorrow. Motion passed.

Copies of the applications will be given to the Board members today so they can review them for tomorrow's meeting.

INCENTIVES PROGRAMS Chair Joan Robison presented a written report and discussed the busy summer with requests for manuals for LOSAP information. She has answered request from out of state agencies asking help with their LOSAP programs and the Income Tax Incentive program. She read the stats of the Income Tax Subtraction Modification program for the years since 1996. She discussed House Bill 1303 which reduces the length of service required before qualifying, was introduced, passed and signed by the Governor on 11 May 1999. Each Department was given a copy of Bill 1303. She said at the Retreat 2000, she was asked to identify the number of fire, rescue, and emergency services personnel in the state. That information showed 8601 First Responders, 12,709 EMT-Bs, 623 CRT's, and 1633 EMT-P for a total of 23,566. The total for volunteers qualifying for the Income Tax Subtraction Modification was 13,847.

LEGISLATIVE Chair B. Smith presented a written report and said the Law Review Committee is studying Article 38A, and suggested word changes were made and submitted to the Attorney's to look at and the draft will then be reviewed. Their next meeting is scheduled for 29 August 2000, in Room 406 of the Lowe House Office Building, to discuss the Emergency Service Display in that building during the 2001 Legislative Session. J. Lau asked when they will be

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meeting with the Governor? He said not yet, the request is in but no answer yet. He said there are no Pre-File Bills, nor any carryover Bills from last year. R. Powell said the rewrite of Article 38A is an ongoing thing. It has been fine tuned and is under control. C. Jewell asked about the Tag issue. B. Smith said that is Dr. Bass's issue and we are going to support it as a necessary item. It is a \$3.00 increase. He has not heard if the Loan program will be tied to the tag increase. J. Lau asked if we can be informed of what is happening before something does happen not after it is over. He said we are told as soon as they can. Richard Yinger said the \$3.00 is from the EMS Board, and \$1.00 of that is Shock Trauma. B. Smith said the \$4.00 issue is not yet set in concrete. He said the other \$1.00 is for the helicopter. T. Thompson discussed the money Bill and who is going to get what part of it. As usual we will get little of it. Terry said we are doing 80 percent of the work and not getting 80 percent of the funds. C. Riley discussed the money Bills and how much we get, and we are getting it now, and the \$1.00 is for the helicopter replacement fund. He said they have to plead for the money we get. It is not just handed to us every time we show up. R. Steger said he did meet with B. Smith this morning, and they plan to call the needed party's together to discuss what we want to go to Annapolis and ask for. R. Yinger said the \$4.00 is in a committee study, only, right now. R. Powell said when the Legislative session goes for us, Charlie or Bernie will FAX him a copy of the Bill for his comments and recommendations. He said sometimes when they do get word of an issue, the only way we can act is to react, and that is what they do now.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT Chair Joe Robison presented a written report and discussed the Fire Act, HR 1168, which authorizes \$1 billion per year over five years in direct grants to the fire service. He discussed the kick-back Bill, previously discussed by Dr. Bass, which concerns the restocking of the ambulance by the hospital. The AED's are being worked on by the Federal Government. He said on 30 June the President issued an executive order for the establishment of the Presidential Medal of Valor for public safety officers. These officers include firefighters and emergency responders as well as volunteers. The medal will be out December 2000, along with the criteria for it.

MARKETING Chair J. Lau presented and discussed the booklet on the MSFA which consisted of the Mission Statement, Memberships, Efforts, and History of the MSFA. She said this is a draft. They are open for suggestions and recommendations on this endeavor.

WATER WITCH Chair W. Donaldson presented a written report which he read and discussed as to the purpose of the committee, and what progress has been made toward the purchasing of the property. They received help from the Governor's office in obtaining the price and possibility of purchasing this property before it was listed with a realtor. On 7 August 2000, he received word that the property had been listed with a realtor for \$1,035,000. It was determined the price is too high, and no further action should be taken. Wylie thanked the committee members for their work. Chairman S. Hales thanked the committee.

DATA SYSTEMS V. Chair Lew Harvey had no written report but discussed the inventory of the data systems equipment, and presented an updated copy to the Chair. He also discussed the

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change to the Inventory Control Form, which he submitted to the Chair for comments by the Board.

RURAL WATER SUPPLY Chair Herman Rhue presented a written report and said that he had meet with members of the Pittsville Fire Department to discuss plans for a water shuttle drill. They did have a good discussion on the drill, and he will return to do some testing prior to the drill, which is scheduled for 22 October at Pittsville.

The meeting was turned over to President Steger who called upon Chaplain Hetz who gave the closing prayer for the day. The Executive Committee was recalled to order at 0900 on Sunday, August 27, at Solomons VRS/FD by President Steger. Chaplain Harry Hetz read from the scriptures and gave an opening prayer. He led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Steger introduced the following Past Presidents in attendance: D. Kirk, 63-64; R. Wood, 73-74; E. Dunn, 76-77; O. Baker, 78-79; C. Riley, 83-84; L. King, 85-86; B. Cumberland, 87-88; B. Shimer, 88-89; J. Robison, 89-90; T. Mattingly, 90-91; B. Smith, 91-92; and C. Edelin, 99-00. He also introduced other guests in attendance which included LAMSFA President Peggy Webb. President Steger welcomed everyone here today and said he looks forward to a productive meeting. He then turned the meeting over to Chair S. Hales of the Executive Committee.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND BOARD V. Chair J. Baer discussed the applications discussion of yesterday. Chair Hales said everyone has a copy of the report and the applications, and has had a chance to review them. J. Baer said yes, the committee does still recommend the application from the Eldorado-Brookview VFC. J. Baer said the Mt. Aetna VFD wanted a replacement tanker pumper, and submitted three bids. The problem was they wanted to replace a tanker pumper with another, when they already had two class A pumpers in service. They advised the company to rework their specs for a tanker, which is what they really wanted in the first place. He said they tried to justify the pumper tanker, 6 man cabs, when they have a paid driver during the day, and this may be the only piece that gets out. The application from the Flintstone VFC for a Rescue Pumper was denied originally because the committee funds had been depleted. They did reapply since then, for a different piece of apparatus at an increased cost. The committee felt they needed more justification due to the change of apparatus. The Eldorado-Brookview VFC application was originally for a tanker. The bids were in parts which had to be combined for the final apparatus bid. The total cost was \$117,181 with \$5000 matching funds from Dorchester County and \$55,000 from a savings CD. They examined their financial sheets closely and saw they could make their way for this piece of apparatus, so they agreed to the application. J. Lau said she understood the \$5000 was to be used to pay off the pumper balance and the building. J. Baer said that is not so, he asked them about that also. W. Donaldson asked if the committee received any requests for equipment that is actually an emergency? He doesn't doubt their need for a pumper, but is it an emergency? He noted they only had 49 calls last year, and they have two Class A pumpers and a tanker. He said this does not fit the emergency category. J. Baer said this is true and in the applications of the past 10 years, they are mostly like that. He said an emergency means something that needs to be done

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right now, yet, the guidelines for their operation also call for submittal of a set of specifications, bids, etc., and this takes time. He agreed most applications were not of a true emergency nature. Donnie Hall questioned the first two being turned down and this one being approved, when they are very similar, and also the 990 form not being required until after the application was already approved. J. Baer said the 990 was requested before the process started, they did not have it, but said they would get it. He said they judged the criteria on the application form, and the 990 was just to make sure their financial statements were in order. L. Sachs said the committee needs to have the 990 form in hand before a recommendation can be made. He said with their net worth at \$1.5 million, the emergency criteria do not apply here. This is a perfect case to go to the new Low Interest Loan Committee. He said a re-look of this application is in order. C. Jewell asked about the discrepancy in the three bids obtained, and maybe they should have rebuilt it. J. Baer said that is probably true, but the specifications they had were such that they could not meet all of them. C. Stack said he agrees this should go out for a loan, and not to this committee. J. Baer discussed the committee's determination of a grant or an interest loan, and it's not the kind of incentive to talk to these people about a loan. C. Jewell asked if this is an advisory body or what? The Board agreed it is the final authority. L. King said there is one step past this Executive Committee, which is an Appeal Board. C. Jewell said maybe we should not reject it, but rather refer it back to the committee for reconsideration. L. Sachs made a motion to table this until the December meeting, and refer it back to committee. R. Powell said the law does provide that this Board can approve a grant or loan, and since the consensus seems to be that this should be a loan. It was noted that the committee funds not expended, goes back into the Fund, but gets deducted from next years grant, and technically you lose the money. R. Steger said according to the By-Laws, we either pass it or reject it (Law 505). The following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by C. Stack:

Motion: That the application from Eldorado-Brookview be returned to the Board of Review for reconsideration and report back at the next Executive Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

OUT OF STATE COORDINATOR B. Cumberland presented a written report and stated that D. Cox and G. Worthington, attended the Va. State Firefighters Association Convention, and they also attended the West Va. State Firemen's Association Convention. He, the officers, and L. Downes attended the Five State Presidents meeting in the Cumberland Valley Vol. Firemen's Association in Newport, Pa. The upcoming Pennsylvania Convention is scheduled for 20-23 September in Norristown, and the Delaware Convention is scheduled for 27-30 September in Dover. He discussed the coalition against large trucks (proposed to 100k lbs and triples). He discussed the cost recovery program in Pa. regarding Billing for fire, rescue, and EMS calls. He said Pa. has also put out a manual on the Junior Emergency Service in Pa. He said the FSSSI Executive Director position is open and needs to be filled this year. C. Mattingly said they were told of a vol. Fire Chief who was killed in a training exercise, and fund raising organizations that used that tragedy, to raise money for other purposes.

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PRESIDENTIAL VEHICLE Chair D. Cox presented his written report, and said they recommended the amount of insurance not be raised on each car, but remains as it is. They also looked into an affordable life, health, and/or accident insurance for the individual members of the Fire, Rescue, and EMS Departments. Information on this is forthcoming in near future.

COMMUNICATION Chair D. Cox presented a written report and stated that they have issued new telephones to the Executive Officers (three Presidents and on down). They took the old phones back, and will somehow dispose of them. He and the Presidents have been meeting with Nextel and some of their requirements are listed in his report, if they can come on as a partner in the Association. He read the requirements listed. He said this is a service that could be offered statewide to the Volunteers. The Association would not be involved with any Bill collecting, nor receive any collection from the individual. It would all be through the Corporation. If an individual wants to be in the program, they would contact Nextel themselves. They are also talking to Cell-1, and Verizon. They are now working on a plan that can be offered to the volunteers. Chair Hales asked about any tie of this committee with what C. Edelin told us yesterday. C. Edelin said he did not work on the same plan as D. Cox. D. Cox said he would like the Executive Committee to give the committee approval to proceed with looking into this and then bring their recommendations back to the Executive Committee. L. Sachs asked if there is a direct net capability of any value to the officers, or is it too spread out? D. Cox said Nextel is no good west of Cumberland, and some parts of the Easter Shore, and Southern Maryland. L. Sachs asked the benefit of this to the membership? He said they are still working on that. S. Hales asked who have the phones now? Cox said that the President, 1st V.P., 2nd V.P., B. Smith, L. King, B. Shimer, and B. Saville now have a phone (a total of 7 phones out). R. Powell asked if any of these company's plan to market the phones using our name. D. Cox said yes. D. Cox said the benefit we would receive for their use of our name is a \$20 credit for each phone purchased. L. Sachs asked if this would be unrelated income? R. Powell said he is not sure of this. W. Donaldson asked of their exposure at our convention, free booth, etc. L. King said at this years convention, they did receive a free both. He explained that their offer was of a dozen devices for our use at the convention. He said, however, they never did work right. C. Edelin said that several police agencies are using them for their use and he hopes we are not a stepping stone for them to get in to the fire service. D. Cox said they are looking for some type of direction on what they should do with the old phones (they have five). C. Edelin said he understood we would get a \$30 credit for each phone turned in. C. Mattingly discussed two other phones, which have now been terminated and the bills will be submitted. He asked about the approval for phones paid for by the MSFA? C. Edelin discussed his and his fiancée's phone as part of the study, and with the ok from B. Saville. B. Balta said that Southern Maryland Association did this a couple years ago and the only problem was with the bills, as it went thru the Association. Any agreement which this Association enters into should be with the individual, not the Association. The Executive Committee agreed to let the committee pursue their looking into a suitable service and bring it back. C. Jewell asked about the bonding issue discussed yesterday, and D. Cox said they will take this back for action.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS Chair R. Watkins presented his written report and said the Trumpet should be out by 1 September. He welcomes all items and bits of news so he can print it. He discussed the media guide which gives tips on dealing with media people. He thanked Johnnie Roth for this idea from last year. The following Trumpet should be out by 1 December. He said he will take pictures at the December meeting for the Proceedings Book of the Executive Committee and Committee Chair persons.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION William Wagner presented Marcine Goodloe's written report. He thanked the members for their participation at the Convention in June. He said the Governor did tape the intro into their recruitment and retention video, on 25 August. They will be meeting with the Governor to plan the public release of this video.

MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION Chair B. Shimer presented a written report and thanked those that attended his retirement luncheon. He said a vacancy still exists on the committee, which hopefully will be filled very soon. Karen Johnson has been appointed the new Secretary of Higher Education, and a meeting is scheduled with her on 18 September. Bob Knippenburg is scheduled to be at the next meeting to report on the Computer Networking System. The Training Center Enhancement Task Force will also be meeting on 18 September. The Training Facility Certification will be presenting their final draft at the next Council of Academies meeting on 7 September in Cumberland. He discussed the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board. There has been a problem with the National Board and they will be meeting together in October to resolve Maryland's Option 2. He said that MEMA reported a Chemistry of Hazardous Materials Program that was given to MFRI for review. The cost of the course is \$10,000. MFRI hope to redo the course at a greatly reduced cost. He discussed their upcoming meetings, which are listed in the report.

SAFETY Chair B. Balta presented his written report and reported on their meeting of 20 August and the major concern was the proposed safety regulations now under a MOSH sponsored committee. They plan this year to host four mini seminars around the state, to inform the membership of the pending regulations and to gain information of the regulations. He voiced his concern with receiving only one applicant of the Smith Stathem Award. This is very unsatisfactory. They plan to put together a boiler plate format for the Companies to fill out as an application. This is a short, few line application form. He will be attending the Metro Chief's Safety meetings, at the request of President Steger.

STANDARDS NFPA ADVISORY Chair B. Huttenloch presented a written report and said they are keeping a close eye on NFPA 1720 (Standards for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Emergency Medical Operations and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments). The most enforcing part of the Standard is the health and Safety NFPA Requirements. They are looking to develop their own plan which should be ready soon. It is not a good document. The physical requirement is only in the draft stage at this time. It has not been accepted by MOSH. A copy of the NFPA 1720 is part of his report. He gave a copy of the form to the Executive Committee. It is to be filled out on the information needed to show the

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active members of the Departments that do need to have a physical. This is needed back by the end of September. C. Mattingly agreed with Bill that we need to proceed with MOSH to fight 1720. B. Cumberland discussed the 1720 and said the NVFC has been studying this and are staying on top of this. He said yes the NVFC did agree with the contents of 1720. W. Donaldson asked how they can think this way? B. Cumberland said the NVFC is listening, but is not hearing very well. T. Mattingly discussed the Union views a few years back. Someone needs to tell someone that the Fire Service can not operate this way. Maybe we need to fight back thru the NFPA membership. B. Cumberland said the one person to talk to, is Andy Anderson, and maybe we should talk to him.

STATISTICAL Chair L. Gilroy presented his written report and discussed the challenges facing them this coming year such as trying to balance the reports not returned by some of the departments. He said as of today, 76 Company's (which he listed) have not turned in their report. They plan to modify the current report to make it more user friendly. They want to interface with the State Fire marshal's office and MIEMSS reports, to reduce reporting redundancy by the companies. They plan to work with the Low Interest Loan Board, the Legislative Committee, and any other MSFA committee to provide information as needed. He discussed how they hope to accomplish these ideas. He said there are only seven counties that have 100 percent participation in the reporting. B. Kurtz agreed they need to simplify the report and also some counties operate on the LOSAP year instead of the calendar year. The calendar and the fiscal year differences do make the report a little more difficult. It was noted that the LOSAP and Income Tax Incentive operates on the calendar year.

SURPLUS PROPERTY Chair S. Massey had no written report but discussed storage of surplus property which is being worked with Forestry, who said it is no problem at this time. P. Sterling asked the status of apparatus. Skip said he had been approached by out of state people, but not in state departments.

TRANSPORTATION Chair T. Flint presented his written report and reported the Tag Coordinators have been sent envelopes and postage for the certifications on a monthly basis. This year there will be a committee to handle the collection of unpaid tag fees. They also plan to consider a display and booth at the convention in June, to accommodate the needs of the members. He also discussed the lack of badges for the committee members this year and they may do the T-shirt scheme this year. It was pointed out that the Safety Committee paid for their own shirts.

WATERCRAFT Chair J. Schlotterbeck thanked Bobby Balta for his participation on the committee last year. He discussed watercraft within the Fire Service, and they are waiting for hard copy of that information to come back from the Coast Guard. They have a new survey form they plan to put out this year to keep the information current. He discussed concerns made regarding mutual aid on the water, and they are looking into this now. The next Port Seminar is October 21 & 22 at PAX River, and the prime topic is aircraft crashes in the water. The next committee meeting will be 22 September at Mytags in Linthicum.

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WAYS & MEANS Chair J. Means presented his written report and stated that the raffle produced a profit of \$19,000. This was a decrease of \$3000 from last year. The new raffle tickets have been ordered and they will be available at the Ladies Fall meeting.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Chair C. Riley had no written report. He said they met yesterday and since June they have paid out a total of \$22,800 in benefits. He introduced Secretary Clarence Carpenter. He said that the Landover Hills VFD did submit a line of duty death claim for Secretary Emeritus Charlie Burton. All paper work was properly executed and he read the Medical Examiners opinion on the cause of death of Charlie Burton. The report says that Charlie Burton did die as a result of a fall in the firehouse. The claim was approved by the Board of trustees. The \$5000 will go to Charlie's wife, and she will also receive \$325 per month, for the rest of her life. He discussed the Procedures Manual given out at the convention, which is a new manual with up to date changes. He said a Chief read the manual, and now has made a claim to C. Carpenter of some incident that happened years ago. C. Riley said they cannot go back, even one year. Claims are to be made within 10 days.

BUDGET & REVENUE Chair P. Fabiszak presented his written report and said the committee met. He said they did review the Budget and after adjustments for the raffle income and the new car expense, the balance on hand for the year ending 30 June 2000, was \$59,918.99 in surplus funds. The appropriation account shows \$1,291.81 available to be carried forward. Attached to his report, is a revised State Appropriation Budget for consideration and action. He said that D. Cox requested that Line 90 (Executive Communications) be increased by \$3,000. Due to the increase in the cost of gasoline, the Committee recommends that Line 57 (Gasoline Expense) be increased by \$4,000. D. Cox also recommended that Line 58 (Fleet Maintenance) be re-established to \$2,000. The Treasurer requested an addition of \$3,000 to Line 22 (Executive Committee Travel). It was recommended to place \$1,929 in Line 16 (Administrative & Misc.). To cover all of the above requests, they recommended carrying forward \$53,000 of last year's surplus into this year's Budget. He discussed a request, received today by B. Saville, to pay a Bill for a committee travel expense that occurred on 28 February. They will pay it, but they will be asking the Board to consider a time limit for the presentation of bills for reimbursement. The following motion was made by C. Edelin and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To adopt the Budget & Revenue Committee's report (and revised Budget) as submitted. Motion passed.

J. Lau asked about the Bill that is 5 months late being submitted. D. Stevens explained the bill, which is his, and why he was late submitting it. He apologized for the delay.

17 STATE CIRCLE Chair J. Ferguson submitted a written report saying they have a commitment to spot scrape and paint the building in compliance with the Historical Society Standards for about \$5200. He said the committee will re-secure the loose railing and put up screen to keep the birds from getting behind the Association sign.

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SCHOLARSHIP Chair B. Olsen presented a written report and welcomed their new member, Faron Taylor to the committee. He said they are near invoice time for the Fall Semester, and they anticipate the expenditures for the Fall Semester, to be \$3,000, with total expenditures for the academic year, to be \$6,000. He thanked the family of Mr. Vincent B. Napoli for their donation to the Scholarship Account. He said the total amounts received thru June was \$655.00. He discussed any confusion as to the eligibility of EMS personnel for receipt of scholarship awards. He explained recent applicants that did not qualify for a scholarship. He discussed the application and guidelines which are published in the Trumpet, MSFA, Web Page, and the MSFA Awards Information Manual. There should be no misunderstanding as to the scholarship being available for the different curricula.

ACTION ITEMS presented by Chair S. Hales: He said the first action Item is that the 1st and 2nd V. P. be given credit cards. R. Powell discussed the recommendation of yesterday, by L. Downes to promote the MSFA credit card and the three Presidents be given the card. Do away with all cards that do not take taxes off on gasoline cards. Those that do a discount on the gasoline, should be kept. Bob Saville discussed the burden of the credit cards, personal purchases, etc. He said the State card does not give us gasoline cheaper than the street price. Only one card do they not pay taxes with. He said only a Fleet card would take the tax off, but they would charge a monthly fee. C. Jewell discussed our officers having to pay a bill out of pocket, then get reimbursed from B. Saville. Bob said he pays the Bill as soon as it is submitted. W. Donaldson said we should use our credit card for everything. R. Powell said the billing shows an itemized list of charges and the personal charges are shown on the list. R. Steger said we should use our card, as we do get a credit from it. The following motion was made by L. Downes and seconded by W. Donaldson:

MOTION: That the three Presidents be issued a MBNA M.S.F.A. Credit Card for use of M.S.F.A. business. Motion passed.

Chair Hales said the Trade Mark issue is an Action item. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To authorize our attorney to go ahead with the plan to trade mark the MSFA logo at a cost of \$250.00. Motion passed.

Chair Hales said the legal issue to take the lawsuit against a fire company is an action Item. R. Powell discussed the status of the case and what is the next step to take. R. Powell discussed the expenses involved with this appeal, and if the department is sued. He discussed the time, hours and money that could be involved. L. Sachs said we are paying \$75.00 per hour to Rogers's office. Roger said if they do hear our petition (chances are 1:100), then the Executive Committee will have to address the expenses ahead to proceed further. P. Sterling agreed this is a big step for this Association, and it is setting precedence for local issues. C. Riley asked if our Attorney General, Joseph Curran, could help us in this matter? R. Powell explained that he has already been to the Attorney General's Office, and they said they could not help us, but keep

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them abreast of what's going on. Roger said he will call Joe Curran tomorrow asking him to meet with them. The following motion was made by W. Donaldson and seconded by G. Blanco:

MOTION: To authorize our attorney to file a petition with the U.S. Supreme Court to reconsider the 4th District Court of Appeals decision on the fire departments being a State Actor. An amendment from C. Edelin to set a dollar limit at this time of \$6,000. accepted. Motion passed – 10 yea and 1 nea.

J. Lau discussed the MSFA booklet she presented earlier, and asked for suggestions for the booklet as this one is a draft copy.

The meeting was turned back to President Steger. He called upon Father Newman who offered grace. President Steger recalled the meeting to order, thanked the Solomons department for their hospitality for the weekend and presented the department a check and collection for the weekends meetings expenses.

Chair Hales asked to act on the endorsement of R. Cumberland as Vice Chairman of the NVFC. The following motion was made by G. Blanco and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION: To endorse Robert Cumberland for the position of Vice Chair of the NVFC. Motion passed.

Chair Hales asked for reports from around the State. G. Blanco said their Emergency Management Director is gone and Allegany County is looking for a new one. W. Donaldson said that Anne Arundel County has made some inroads with Miss Owens, and finally had a meeting with her. She has indicated she would like to meet with them again on a quarterly basis. Their convention is next month in the Crofton area on 5-9 September. J. Lau said the Prince George's County convention is 23-30 September. She discussed a situation regarding career personnel who volunteer. A resolution introduced in Chicago at the IAFF Convention to reestablish each corporation in Prince George's County, as a rival hostile competitor. She read the Resolution as it affects the volunteers. B. Cumberland asked for a copy of the Resolution for the NVFC. It all means that action can be taken against those career personnel that volunteer. L. King discussed the Fair labor, two hatter that hit Montgomery County, and they went to the NVFC then, and received no help. What can they do for us in this matter? B. Cumberland said he did not know the answer, but he would like to try to do something. J. Lau asked of the Budget of the NVFC? B. Cumberland said he would get a copy to her. S. Hales asked if we could obtain a copy of their minutes as we are endorsing you, and we would like more information on the NVFC. He said yes he would. T. Mattingly said we are only fighting among ourselves as the NVFC is the only ones we have representing us on a National basis. C. Jewell congratulated Jason Baer for his position as President of Washington County Association. He also congratulated Deputy Chief M. Bilger for his new assignment. He said that Tower 1 in Frederick County, had a fire and the apparatus was a total loss. It is now being replaced. Also discussed engine involved in a fatal accident recently. It will probably wind up in litigation. He thanked

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President Steger, President Webb, and Wylie Donaldson for their visit to Frederick recently to the grand opening of their museum. Everyone is invited to visit the museum. D. Hall discussed an accident last week involving an engine from the Naval Base. It was a rollover accident with open jump seats, and all four were out of hospital the next day. He said Potomac Heights is celebrating their 50th on 30 September. L. Downes said they are looking to get the Upper Eastern Shore Building finished for Kent and Queen Anne Counties. September 17 the Eastern Shore Firemen's Association will hold their meeting in Centreville and he feels the Safety Committee should come over and let them know what's going on. L. Sachs said Baltimore County Annual meeting will be on 15 September in Arbutus. The Volunteers are functioning even stronger than before. B. Kurtz said from Harford County, he discussed a letter received on their Workmen's Comp, regarding two incidents they had last year. They received notice they had been dropped. They in turn put a claim in an appeal process. They just received an answer that the Insurance Company has to pick them back up. C. Stack said the Dorchester Firemen's Association will hold their Annual meeting on October 2nd at Church Creek. The Delaware-Maryland-Virginia Vol. Firemen's Association Fire Prevention Parade will be held on October 8th in Federalsburg. Chair Hales said their next meeting in Worcester County will be on September 12th. He thanked the Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs who gave their reports, and the Executive Committee. The meeting was turned back to President Steger.

President Steger said that Chief Ron Siarnicki is running for Treasurer of the International Association of Fire Chief's, and we need to support him. He said we should send a letter to the International Association of Fire Chief's, Volunteer Section, asking support or assistance on the Prince George's County situation. He said the Waterwitch Committee has now been changed to the Museum Committee. He said we should send a letter to DNR Forestry regarding the open supervisor position. Vice President Mattingly said he has taken that for an Action item for tomorrow morning with his contacts he plans to talk to. He discussed letter from the Congressional Fire Service Institute, reference to a part time Internship position now available. It is a paid position. Vice President Worthington reiterated his goal to increase the membership of this meeting. LAMSFA President Peggy Webb said they look forward to working with the Executive Committee. If there is anything they can do or be of help with, please let them know. Chaplain Harry Hetz gave the closing prayer, and wished everyone a safe trip home.

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned at 1330 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Office of the Secretary
Leonard T. King, Sr., P.P.
J. Edward Cross
Joseph A. Cooper

MOTION SUMMARY

MOTION: That the Board of Review be instructed to provide copies of their applications to the Executive Committee in advance of the meetings as in the past. Motion withdrawn after discussion.

MOTION: To postpone any action on this request until tomorrow. Motion passed.

MOTION: That the application from Eldorado-Brookview be returned to the Board of Review for reconsideration and report back at the next Executive Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

MOTION: To adopt the Budget and Revenue Committee's report (and revised Budget) as submitted. Motion passed.

MOTION: That the three Presidents be issued a MBNA M.S.F.A. Credit Card for use of M.S.F.A. business. Motion passed.

MOTION: To authorize our attorney to go ahead with the plan to trade mark the M.S.F.A. logo at a cost of \$250.00. Motion passed.

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MOTION: To endorse Robert Cumberland for the position of Vice Chair of the NVFC. Motion passed.