

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 9 – 10, 2000

Ocean City, Maryland

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MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 9 and 10, 2000

Ocean City, Maryland

The Executive Committee meetings were held in Ocean City, Maryland, at the Headquarters Station of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company. President Roger A. Steger, Sr. called the meetings to order at 0900 hours and called upon Chaplain Rev. J. Harvey Dixon for the invocation and the pledge to the flag. President Steger introduced Michelle Myers, President of the LA OCVFC, who welcomed everyone to Ocean City. President Steger also welcomed everyone to Ocean City, and introduced the following Past Presidents who were in attendance: D. Kirk (63-64), T. Reynolds (71-72), E. Dunn (76-77), R. Dempsey (80-81), 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), R. Knippenburg (98-99), C. Edelin (99-00). President Steger introduced those guests in attendance, which included LAMSFA President Peggy Webb.

PRESIDENT Steger discussed the various meetings he and his fellow officers have attended on behalf of MSFA. He attended the Yellow Alert, MIEMSS meetings, department anniversaries, association meetings in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware, and several open houses. They attended the funeral for L. Sachs mother, FF Robert Humphrey, FF Howard Taylor, April Ashton, on behalf of the MSFA and offered their condolences to the families. The President discussed their meeting with MSP, and several issues they discussed including funding for the Fire Protection Engineer position, and the positions filled in the Fire Marshal's Office. He has a meeting Monday with MVA regarding inspections of fire apparatus and the CDL requirements. He also paid tribute to Trooper Totely, killed in the line of duty. They attended Fall Conference of the LA held in Damascus, and attended the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Services in October at Emmitsburg. He thanked Col. Mitchell for his assistance in the annual red helmet motorcycle ride. They met with Gov. Glendening to go over their budget requests and some legislative issues. They continue to work on the firefighter guidelines, with their next meeting on 13 December. He said each department will get a copy of the final draft when it is ready, and before they act on it. The NFFF has placed a brick at the Memorial Walk of Honor, in honor of the MSFA.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT Mattingly discussed the past two months activities while representing MSFA. He said this is the time for department elections and he congratulated the outgoing officers and good luck to the incoming officers of these departments. He discussed the progress of the Low Interest Loan committee. He discussed the many meetings attended in Annapolis with the Governor, his staff and the General Assembly. He discussed the conventions and parades attended by the Presidents these past two months in the state. He discussed the MOSH meetings attended on firefighter safety. He thanked Dr. Bass, C. Wills and L. Sachs for their input to the medical section of the MOSH proposals. He congratulated several departments on their anniversaries, and extended his condolences to the families of the fallen firefighters on behalf of MSFA. He commended Frederick County for the program they held at the memorial this year. He attended the retirement of W. Gott Deputy Chief Fire Marshal and attended the 80th birthday celebration of Past President J. Glaubitz.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Worthington expressed his concern with the many deaths across the State of our fellow firefighters, and he sends his condolences to their families. He introduced the new folks with us here today as: John Long (President Anne Arundel County), Jack Thompson (President Harford Co.

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Assn.), Ray Stevens (Cecil County), Don Howard (Somerset County), and Jack and Margaret Gouty. He discussed the county association meetings he attended and the exchange of information conducted. He said the Low Interest Loan committee has received 150 survey requests for \$85M. The committee has requested an additional \$10M from the Governor. He reported that the Nextel program has been turned over to the Marketing Committee for recommendations. He discussed their meeting with the Governor to discuss our legislative package, but there is no additional funding forthcoming. He attended the NVFC meeting in Daytona Beach, Florida. He talked to M. Brooks (DNR) regarding the vacant supervisor position in DNR. She said it has been elevated to top priority to be filled. They met with Dr. Bass to discuss the MIEMSS legislative package, and the \$3 increase to the tag fee. He attended several banquets and presented to LAMSFA President Peggy Webb, a cash contribution for the Bessie Marshall Fund from the Abingdon VFC. He attended the Prince George's County Memorial Service and Ring of Honor Ceremony, and the Miss Fire Prevention contest in Harford, Carroll and Frederick. He represented MSFA at a presentation by the Takoma Park Lions Club of \$100,000 worth of equipment and apparatus to Peru. He thanked Carlos Alfaro for his leading role in this effort.

SECRETARY King reported the officers and committees have had difficulties with our internet server and e-mail system. The Minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting have been distributed and they are also on our website. A mass mailing to all member departments and organizations is being prepared covering the annual dues notice, annual credential forms, memorial forms, convention and conference events, and notices of all awards with their closing dates. Everyone is asked to check on these mailings and return the Credentials Forms to the Secretary's Office, and the annual dues payment to the Financial Secretary, the Memorial Service Forms to Chaplain Dixon. An application for Associate Membership has been received from the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Association. Registration during the 2001 Convention and Conference will start on Sunday morning. The Credentials Form is set up so it may be sent to the Secretary's Office by e-mail. Departments that will be celebrating 25, 50, 75, and 100 year anniversaries, are asked to notify one of the Presidents or the Secretary's Office ASAP. The 2000 Convention Proceedings Book is being worked on and will be distributed to all member departments thru the Executive Committee members, Officers, Past Presidents, and committee chairpersons as soon as possible. Each person will be required to sign for the books. The Secretary's Office, Convention Committee, Historical and Archives Committee, and the Public Relations and Bulletin Committee is working to locate and provide still photo's to several of the Past Presidents, for their respective conventions. Any Past President that did not receive their photo album and still photo's, let him know. He reminded each officer, committee chairperson, and organization representative, to turn in a written report to the Assistant Secretary, along with 30 copies of their report, prior to the meetings. Each committee and organization has been requested to turn in a written report. If someone is not able to meet their scheduled reporting time for the meetings, please contact the Secretary's Office so any concerns can be met. He recommended to President Steger, that Ronald E. Watkins be appointed as the third Assistant Secretary to assist the Secretary's Office. One of the copy machines will be placed with Ron and will also be used by the Public Relation and Bulletin Committee. He thanked Assistant Secretaries E. Cross and J. Cooper, and the other individuals for their continued assistance and service to the Association and the Secretary's Office.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY Jacobs presented his written report for the period ending 30 November, 2000. He provided an explanation of the two statements as presented.

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TREASURER Saville read and distributed his written report noting the current balances. He said that three CD's have come due since our last meeting, and they have been transferred to the MLGIP. He presented and discussed the independent auditor's financial report. The auditor said the convention funds are not really restricted funds like the Trustees funds would be. He has filed the 99 Form. He said he has signed the letter stating that everything in the report is correct and he responded fully to all inquiries made during the review. He thanked his assistants for their assistance.

CHAPLAIN Rev. Dixon discussed his written report and his activities since August. He discussed the training conference that he and Chaplain Hetz attended in Vancouver, British Columbia. He said he was selected the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Director for the Federation of Fire Chaplains. This area includes: Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia. The next training conference will be held in Fort Worth, Texas in October. He discussed the Funeral Manual which will be given to each department. He thanked FCC Ed Stauffer, and Bill Hawkins of VFIS for their help in obtaining these manuals. He thanked the MSFA Chaplains for the work they have been doing.

ATTORNEY Powell discussed the credit card program saying the last quarter was just under \$800, and it was given to the Financial Secretary with a copy of the report to the Treasurer. Those with FD tags will be receiving a card from MBNA offering you the opportunity to invest in a savings account that will pay you about one percent more than the banks offer in interest.

LAMSFA President Peggy Webb introduced her officers here today; Bessie Marshall Chair Pat Orlove, Sr. V. P. Nora Ryan, Chaplain Rose Pandolfini, and V. Chaplain Lois Hetz. She discussed her activities and travels since the Convention. G. Worthington thanked the Ladies for the work they do as they always do whatever is asked of them and it's a pleasure to work with them. He led applause for the Ladies.

MISS FIRE PREVENTION Rachelle Lyons discussed her activities and travels since the convention. She discussed her hometown Rachelle Lyons Week celebration and she has her photo album here today for all to see of her activities. She asked everyone to call her if she can be of help in their Department, or MSFA activity.

Executive Committee Chair Hales asked that we act on the application of Associate Membership for the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Association. The following motion was made by C. Edelin and seconded by W. Donaldson:

MOTION: To accept the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Association into Associate Membership of the Association. Motion approved.

BESSIE MARSHALL FUND Chair Pat Orlove presented her written report and discussed their finances saying they had paid out sixteen cases to date. She held a raffle today to give two pictures that were donated by C. Edelin. They also set up a table here today with Christmas items to benefit the Fund.

MFRI Director Steve Edwards discussed their operating Budget and the EMS Fund. They will be moving from Berwyn Heights to College Park and plan to have the latest technologies in that facility for training and communications. He discussed the anticipated 15% reduction in EMS funds to MFRI. The issue is the \$3 tag fee increase proposal which if not approved, would effect the 15% reduction. He listed the ways this 15% reduction would affect the training on a statewide basis, and the impact on the students. L. Sachs

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asked if this is an already approved decision, or is it based only on the failure to approve the \$3 increase? He said it is based on the failure to approve the \$3 increase. He said there will be no new programs without the increase. They also discussed the CRT certification liability. J. Lau asked about possible fees being charged to offset any reduction in budget? He said there is no money impact on the Departments unless they request a certain extra program to be taught. They do not now plan any dollar increase in their Industrial Programs. B. Shimer said the tag fee is 80% of MFRI operating funds, as the University of Maryland provides no monies. The Upper Eastern Shore facility is now at the 50% point. The proposed new facility at the Southern Maryland site is being worked on with 95% documentation complete. The construction work for the new MFRI Headquarters facility is delayed and the July 1, 2001 occupancy is virtually impossible. They will then be in temporary quarters until the other facility is completed. He said their Annual Report has been released for FY-2000. The National Fire Academy in conjunction with the North American Fire Training Directors, have reached an agreement on a number of program enhancements. This means for Maryland, that several MFRI courses have been accepted as NFA endorsed and the student will be able to receive NFA credit and certificate. The Annual Fire Service Training for Congress and Congressional staff went well on 18 October, 2000. He discussed the Drill Manual, which every fire station will receive, along with a printed copy of the MFRI Drills of the Month from July 1999 to July 2000.

TRAINING Chair Dan Stevens presented and discussed his written report, and the recent meetings designed to obtain regional input for the update of the 10 Year Training Plan. He thanked C. Wills and the EMS Committee for their input in the 10 Year Training Plan. The committee toured the facilities at each of the centers they met at, including the site of the new Upper Shore Training Center. The meeting at Cresaptown on 27 October, was attended by Director Steve Edwards. His attendance gave the other attendees the opportunity to express their concerns directly to the Director, concerning class size and length. He said the cadet programs were also discussed at each of their meetings. Chairman Stevens pointed out the job of the Training Committee, which is to act as the voice of the MSFA with reference to training and the needs of the members.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Acting Supervisor Maureen Brooks and Gerald Bickers discussed their written report. She discussed the vacant State Fire Supervisor position, which has been approved to be filled and will be advertised both internally and externally. She said that Maryland's Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) program was increased this year to \$32,000, with \$2000 for Volunteer Wildland Fires Training, \$10,000 for installation of dry hydrants and Nomex wildland PPE, and the remainder as 50/50 matching grants. They did receive 26 grant applications and all were awarded matching grants. In Southern Maryland, \$2600 is committed to the dry hydrant program and \$5000 has been allocated to this portion of the grant program. She said Frederick County Department of Fire & Rescue will be utilizing \$5000 for bulk purchase of Nomex PPE. This is also a 50/50 match funding. Crew Training in Maryland is scheduled for 19-21 May 2001 at the Broad Creek Scout Reservation in Harford County. She discussed the Western Fire assignments and the number of Maryland crews dispatched from April through September of this year. She discussed the Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP). She said they have received two replacement dozers with one going to the Eastern Region and the other one assigned to the Southern Region. C. Jewell asked if any money is available for the rehabilitation of ponds. She did not have this answer, but would find out. This is usually done on a case by case basis. Vice President Mattingly asked if they needed any pressure from MSFA regarding the filling of the Supervisor's position. She said no, it is being taken care of, and will be filled very soon.

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EMS Chair Charlie Wills presented his written report and presented the Committee recommendation to the Executive Committee to implement the three listed rules as part of the CRT to EMT – EMT-I program:

1. Once implemented, the program would be 80 hours over a period of four years.
2. State testing would be at the completion of the 80 hours, and each student would be encouraged to take the National Registry examination for recognition, but not mandated.
3. The MIEMSS and MFRI be encouraged to develop a 20 hour preparatory program to assist students wishing to sit for the National Registry EMT-I exam.

MIEMSS Dr. Robert Bass presented his written report, and discussed the meetings attended throughout the State discussing the possible use of the Intermediate curriculum for Maryland CRT's. He discussed the idea of doing the Maryland Bridge Program, and then has a Maryland evaluation at the end of the Bridge, and if they voluntarily chose to upgrade, they could. He said he is for the curriculum and they are not ready for mandatory National Registry exams. It is a good curriculum, but we must be careful how we proceed. If we act too aggressively by requiring the present CRT's to have the National Registry, we could lose a significant number of CRT's in several areas. L. Sachs asked Dr. Bass if he understood him correctly, that we are not ready for mandatory exams? Dr. Bass agreed, yes. L. Sachs thanked him for attending the meetings and partnering with the MSFA to do this. B. Kurtz discussed this issue and expressed his hopes that the Executive Committee supports this recommendation to have no mandatory testing for the National Registry. The following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION: That the Executive Committee support the recommendation made by the EMS Committee as it relates to the CRT to EMT – EMT-I Program.

Discussion on the motion by J. L Thompson (President of Harford County Fire and EMS Assn.) of the concerns by the CRT's and the question of the costs of the program. He said they have a hard enough time keeping up with their present skills, and now they want an additional 20 hours training. Who is going to pay for this training? He further discussed the hardships this can possibly causing many of the present CRT's to just revert back to EMT's. L. Sachs discussed our reassurance that our goal is to have the 80 hour Bridge, taught by MFRI and without cost to us. The next question, which we do not have the answer to, is after the four year 80 hour training, how to keep the certification? R. Yinger (EMS Board member) said at the EMS Board of 2-8-00 approved that the CRT could stay the same if they so desired, or those that wanted to Bridge, could do so. Dr. Bass discussed the proposed curriculum of the Bridge training. C. Edelin asked about the future of the CRT program? Dr Bass said the CRT is going 20 hours more, and for the Bridge they will have 80 more hours of training to do. He said of the 80 hours bridge, 51 is class time, and 29 is hospital clinical time. What then about the new person, are we going to discourage them from wanting to go further? C. Wills said the reason we have less CRT's now is because the institutions that were training the CRT's are now out of business. The worker-Bee of the future is the CRT. L. Downes said we lose the CRT's because we train them then they leave to go paid. L. Sachs said that is true and it's not going to change. He discussed the changes in the last 24 years in training and service, but in the overall picture they looked at what need to be done and that is why they took the stand that they did. B. Kurtz said now for the CRT, training is 40 hours (medical, trauma, and local option), the EMT-P also has disciplines, pharmacology, OBGYN, and psychology. After you become an "I", there has to be additional training requirements later. Dr. Bass said the EMTB program is now 130 hours. H. Hetz (Beltsville FD) discussed the issue and said time is money and assets to a business. He Discussed the time and money involved for the volunteer to serve. P. Sterling restated his motion and the question were called. **Motion approved on vote of 10 yea, 1 nay.**

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Dr. Bass discussed the importance of the \$3 Bill and the introduction by MIEMSS to change the commercial ambulance law to permit the licensing of non-transport EMS programs and transport services other than ground ambulances, e.g., helicopters. He discussed the deficit they will have after next year, without the \$3 increase. They are slowly drifting away from Social Security Numbers to a unique number at MIEMSS. He reported the Yellow Alert Task Force is doing well, but we have not had a bad Flu season this year, yet. We are better off than we were last year. He discussed Equipment Issue, asking each jurisdiction to annually inventory the MIEMSS equipment for verification that it is still located within that jurisdiction. They are also working on a matching (50/50) program for future purchases of AED's and monitor/defibrillators. He discussed Weapons of Mass Destruction saying that hospitals are already stretched to the max because of cutbacks, etc, much less an additional concern of (WMD). They are acquiring some software to collect patient care reports as well as NFIRS 5.0 compatible. They had collected bids and hope to have a decision soon. He talked about AED's being placed in certain locations (airports, businesses, organizations and facilities, etc), and discussed list of contact persons and facilities for layperson AED use in Maryland. They are asking all jurisdictions to make themselves aware of these locations. Discussed the inter-facility transports Issue regarding complaints received from hospitals, nursing homes and EMS services, that the commercial ambulances are turning down transports of patients. The bottom line is that Medicare has been rationing what they will allow to be transported. They have said that with respect to EMS transportation, Medicare is of little benefit. This is by law. Medical necessity requirements are being made and if patients do not meet these requirements, Medicare will not pay for their ambulance transport. This is a real issue that affects us all in the EMS service. These are non-emergency transports. The fix is to change the Social Security law. He discussed Outcome Data from Cardiac Arrest. They need help as they want to be able to collect data and track patients to see if they are discharged alive. They need additional information that is not on the MAIS. He discussed the handout Maryland EMS Cardiac Arrest Form which they would like each EMS unit to fill out and FAX to MIEMSS ASAP. The information along with the patient will be tracked and the information given back to us. He discussed the issue of concern as to how they are going to notify jurisdictions, and EMS facilities, when someone has had a final disciplinary action thru the EMS Board. This is public, not private, information and that needs to be made available to let the people know what is going on with such Actions. The issue is still to be talked about as to how to best get this information out to the proper people. R. Powell said the issue is where do you cross the line. He said he thinks it is wrong to go beyond the in-house issue. He also mentioned the right to privacy in tracking a patient after he leaves the hospital. Chairman Hales asked if this is advice or opinion? He said it is a consideration. L. Sachs said 28,000 copies of the Bulletin are distributed, and if J. Doe is put in the Bulletin, then 28,000 people are aware of the action taken against him/her. He said he thinks we should not condone this publishing of the person involved, and suggested use of the term, Provider A, and not the person's name. He thinks the jurisdictions could be notified in a different way. He said he is concerned with the e-MAIS that MIEMSS is pushing, in that a report is done in the ambulance and again when back at the firehouse on the computer, and one might say something different of the other. This will produce a million problems to the volunteer fire companies that are just trying to do their job. This can also produce a very legal liability. R. Powell said he agrees with L. Sachs on this issue. Dr. Bass said he understands the concerns and they are willing to sit down and discuss them. He also feels they can work out something where they can do electronic data collection and not have to do two reports. C. Wills said Dr. Bass is only providing software, the big problem is the report writing. The solution may be a lap top in every ambulance.

Prayer given by Father Newman before lunch at 1210 hours. MEETING recalled to order by Chairman S. Hales at 1245 hours.

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EMS (cont'd) Chair Charlie Wills said what we need to do now with the CRT Bridge program is to contact Chief Roger Simonds (EMS Board member), and anyone else who is on the Board, and tell them our side of this story. He said he will make a list of those Board members and give it to our EMS members so they may contact a member known to them. He said the vote on this issue will be in February and we need to get our groundwork done before the Joint meeting in January. He discussed his committee's lack of action on the awards program these past two years, and said they will push the Josiah Hunt Award this coming year. He thanked his committee and D. Stevens for their work on the Bridge issue. V. P. Mattingly thanked C. Wills and L. Sachs for the work they have put into this.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL Rocco Gabriele provided a written report and said their Fire Protection Engineers have received a one-grade pay increase effective 1 Nov. 2000. They will fill the Fire Protection Engineer vacancy in Southern Maryland on 10 January 2001. He said they have been working on an update to the Fire Protection Code and NFPA 101, The Life Safety Code. It is planned to be presented in February 2001 and adopted by September 2001. There is a committee now to adopt a Rehabilitation Code, and the Fire Service has four members on that committee. Deputy Fire Marshall Warren Gott retired on 1 November 2000. He has been replaced by Jack Waldner Jr as Deputy. Deputy Joseph Flanagan will replace Robert Thomas as Legislative Liaison for the Fire Marshal's Office. The Fire Marshal's and the MSP will introduce two Bills in 2001. The first rises the allowable age of being able to purchase black powders in any quantity, from 18 to 21 years. The second bill clarifies the existing language of all public safety related laws, and will include Article 38A into one article. He thanked this Association and the LA-MSFA for our support of the 2000 Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference. He said Mr. Ken Bush will Chair the Conference Steering Committee in 2001, with the next Conference meeting on 25 September 2001 at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab Kosikoff Conference and Education Center. He discussed the Maryland Incident Reporting System and they are still having problems with Departments not submitting their reports. He discussed the stats in the handout of his report. He said the Western Regional Office will be moving two blocks away from its pre- sent location, in the next few months. Deputy Derek Chapman was honored in October for outstanding civic service. He thanked this Association for our support to his office.

PARLIAMENTARIAN Richard Brooks said the Parliamentarians have had many calls from member Departments regarding By-Laws problems. They are glad to work with the Departments on their problems, but they need more lead time than, "can you meet with us tomorrow".

SHOCK TRAUMA Brenda Fosler and John Spearman discussed their written stats on patient admissions, O.R. cases, beds occupied, patient diversion trends, and their income statement. He discussed their key issues, which consist of experienced critical care nurses, EMS operations fund (the \$3 tag increase), and the violence intervention pilot. He discussed the pilot and how their patients come to their facility (violence, etc). She discussed their Educational Programs which consist of Tours, Case Reviews, ALS skills lab, observation program, and on-site clinical programs. She also discussed the 3-year implementation grant being anticipated. Scholarships were asked about, and she said that Bill Olsen has the applications and information on them.

SCHOLARSHIP Chair Olsen was not present, but his written report was received and distributed. In the report he stated all invoices for the Fall 2000 Semester have been received and submitted to the Treasurer for payment. The continued support for Chris Linnell has been denied due to lack of receipts requested for the Spring 2000 Semester. They anticipate the graduation of Matt Stevens in 2001. Due to the confusion relative to qualification of EMS applicants for scholarship awards, he sent an article and Ad to 19

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Associations as was listed in the latest Proceedings Book, in the Volunteer Trumpet, and in the MIEMSS Newsletter. To date they have received 10 queries for all awards, and each has been given an application and guidelines. He said the \$1281.00 was received and also the check for the Fall 2000 Semester. The Scholarship Account balance also includes the Shock Trauma Grant of \$5,000.00. After payment of the tuition he calculated a fund balance of \$9700.00. They anticipate 7 continuing students for the 2001/2002 academic year (three will be supported by our donors, and four with MSFA appropriated funds).

BOARD OF REVIEW Chair Donald Moltrup presented his written report, which stated they have about \$483,000 available in the Fund for the remainder of this year. He discussed Application 01-04 from the Flintstone Vol. Fire Department requesting \$40,000 and a grant for \$145,000 toward a new rescue-pumper. He said this was a re-submittal application. After discussion of the finances of Flintstone, the Review Board approved the application for a loan of \$35,000 and a grant of \$145,000. This was \$5000 less than they had requested, and thought to be outside the scope of the replacement vehicle as it was for equipment (hydraulic reel and cord). They said they had not applied for a loan thru the new low Interest Loan Fund. The Board advised them to do so. He discussed Application 01-05 from the Fairmont Vol. Fire Company requesting a grant of \$300,000 and a loan of \$100,000 with matching funds of \$5,000 from the County, and \$94,768 from the Fire Company, for a new firehouse building. The present building is not theirs. They have acquired three (3) acres of land for a new building, which they own outright. The low bid obtained for a new building was \$324,835, and based on this figure, the architect prepared a budget estimate for the project of \$499,768. They had been turned down by a Bank for a loan with a 9% interest rate, and they had not applied for a low interest loan yet. The Board of Review denied the application based on the amount requested, exceeds the amount remaining in the fund (assuming the request from Flintstone is approved). The Board recommended they find out how much they can obtain with a low interest loan. They were also asked to scale back the project to a more realistic level, and include a sprinkler system in the design. D. Moltrup discussed the relationship of the Review Board and the new Low Interest Loan Fund, and they agreed to meet with representatives of the Low Interest Loan Fund Committee in the very near future.

F. Cross said that standard pumpers vs custom pumper prices, was discussed last year. This application is for a custom pumper. He also discussed Fairmont's request for a new building and that they just came on in 1999 and the building was inspected then. It was pointed out that the present building does not belong to them. L. King said the building does meet our specifications. Flintstone's pumper being out of service, was discussed as out of service for this past year. L. Downes asked about their previously owned pumper? This was discussed and explained by D. Moltrup. W. Donaldson asked if this is considered an emergency. Yes, D. Moltrup said as they do not have a class A pumper. R. Steger said when a Department is in need of a piece of apparatus all they have to do is ask and one will be found for them. He also discussed the delay of their reply to and by the Board. Everyone needs to be treated the same (fairly) for the applications. Chairman S. Hales discussed this and the preceding applications and the bid rules to be used. These must be approved by the Executive Committee. He said we just need continuity in the rules. D. Moltrup said to his knowledge, the rules have remained the same, and no changes made. He commented on the applications made and why. L. King pointed out that apparently they have only been without a Class A pumper since June of this year. D. Moltrup discussed the Standard vs the Class A pumper issue, and the needs of a particular department. R. Powell discussed the right of any department to apply to the Board of review, emergency assistance only. The following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by C. Edelin:

MOTION: To approve the recommendation by the Board of Review for Application 01-04 from the Flintstone VFD for a loan of \$35,000 and a grant of \$145,000. Motion approved by all.

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Vice President Worthington asked if we can work with Fairmont. D. Moltrup said they hope to. W. Donaldson and J. Lau asked about the funds carrying over to the new year. R. Steger asked the committee for a copy of the Procedures from the Board for the Executive Committee. D. Moltrup said he can give the Executive Committee a copy today. V. P. Mattingly reiterated that if a Department is in need of a piece of apparatus, someone needs to let an MSFA officer know so something can be done. L. Sachs said the committee needs to work with the other department (Fairmont VFC) for a new firehouse. J. Lau and W. Donaldson asked about the Board funds carrying over to the next year. D. Moltrup said he understands the money in the Fund does carry over from one year to the next. S. Hales discussed the different bids possible for the chassis, then the cab and body. D. Moltrup said it is considered, but is not a policy of the Board.

LOW INTEREST LOAN BOARD Chair J. McCrea presented and discussed his written report. He and the Legislative Committee, met with the Chairman of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, The Harford County Delegation, the Speaker of the House, and the President of the Senate regarding the interest of this committee. He discussed their meetings and the Procedures, Program Guidelines and other information they have presented in writing today for the Executive Committee's consideration and approval. If these Procedures are approved, they will then be presented to the State of Maryland Board of Public Works for their approval. L. Downes asked about the 50% renovation total cost maximum loan, compared to the 75% for new apparatus maximum, of the purchase price. Joel said the law allows them to go up to 75%, but the committee felt they should not exceed 50%. He said that language will be added to the application so that when their President signs the application, they will be attesting to the fact that the statements made in the application, and all attachments, are actual and correct under penalty of perjury. He said under building loans, the program will accept a 2nd lien on the mortgage. They will lend only up to 50% of the value of the property. The following motion was made by B. Kurtz and seconded by C. Stack:

Motion: That the Executive Committee approve the Procedures and Guidelines as set forth by the Low Interest Loan Board.

Discussion: C. Jewell asked about non-payment, foreclosure, etc? He said that the Association is the lien holder and therefore, the mortgagee. Where the money comes from was explained by Joel as it must be approved by the Board of Public Works before the money is completely approved. The state does have controls and the Committee will be audited, and they must submit an annual report. C. Edelin asked if we can use the interest earned to pay administrative costs? Joel said yes we can. C. Jewell asked what liabilities we incur as a lending institution? Don't have the answer at this time. It was pointed out that every Department in the State can avail themselves of this loan money. **Motion Approved.**

MFRETC Chair B. Shimer presented his written report and discussed their meeting with Secretary of Higher Education, Karen Johnson, to introduce her to the leadership of the MFRETC and give her a brief history of the goals and objectives of the Fire Training Commission. She did pledge her support to the MFRETC. They also attended a presentation by the Network Maryland group, regarding legislation HB-847 of 1998 to create a High Speed Networking Task Force. He stated that Governor Glendening has re-appointed Dr. Jo Ellen Kelly to the MFRETC. He has not heard anything yet on the reappointment of his term. He discussed the Training Center Enhancement Task Force, Training Center Standards sub-committee report in which the MFRETC did adopt the Training Center Definitions and Identification Standards, as recommended by the sub-committee. He said the certification standards and procedures for emergency service instructors in Maryland book is being reviewed. He said that he and B. Cumberland attended the 23rd Annual Conference of the Mid-Atlantic Association of State Fire Commissions in

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November, in Charleston S.C. A copy of that report was given to the Executive Committee members. He discussed the need to support the proposed \$3 fee increase Bill which the Commission did agree to do. They have asked the state for funds to support a Specialty Training Center, which he said would not be in competition with MFRI. He discussed the possible costs of the Center which could be located at BWI, and what facilities the Center would include. He said all programs would be coordinated with MFRI to ensure that MFRI funding is not impacted by the facility and that programs are not duplicated. The Commission did vote to support the Special Emergency Services Training Facility at BWI. The Commission's next meeting will be held on 13 February 2001 at BWI.

RURAL WATER SUPPLY Chair Herman Rhue presented his written report and discussed a rural water supply drill they held in October at Pittsville. He said it was a very successful day.

FIRE LAWS BOOK Chair Mark Bilger had no written report, but reported the new Fire Laws books are here and will be given to the County reps for distribution. He said to please look at the book as there have been some changes made to it. Each Book will be signed for by each department.

911 BOARD Phil Hurlock presented his written report. He said they now have four vacancies on the Board, and are awaiting the Governor's office to fill them. They have a request from Worcester County for an upgrade in their phone system and other associated equipment. This request for funding was approved. They also had a request from Montgomery County for funding to upgrade their Logging Recorder that would synchronize with their CAD system and 911 equipment. This funding was approved. They had a request for funding from Allegany County to complete their sign project in conjunction with their numbering system as part of their 911 system upgrade. This funding was approved. Requests from Calvert, Frederick, Somerset and Talbot Counties will be presented at the January meeting. A request from Caroline County EOC was made to purchase a different style and make of Logging Recorder than what they had previously approved, due to dissatisfaction with the product. This was approved. A recent Legislative Audit recommended hiring of an Accountant to assist in monitoring the Trust Fund account. A committee is updating some of the public safety Articles in the Fire Laws Book. Their next meeting will be held on 30 January 2001.

AUDITING Chair Elmer Dunn presented his written report and discussed their records review of 17 August 2000. He said he has the recent Independent Auditors report which he felt did not properly disclose the cash balances as of 30 June 1999. He showed the correction regarding the Convention Funds as being restricted for use in the Regular Funds. Elmer said he would like permission from the Executive Committee for him to be able to talk directly to the Auditor. He said the Convention Funds are restricted and he needs permission to talk to him about them. S. Hales said the Board has no objections with him talking to the Auditor. He asked for a letter from the Secretary to this effect.

AWARDS Chair Ron Graf discussed the changing of some of the awards. They will be producing a book on the awards very soon.

DATA SYSTEMS Vice Chair Lewis Harvey apologized for not having a written report. He said the Web site and e-mail problems are known about. Our outside Service Provider recently changed his Internet Service Provider, he went from one person to another. The Web site is still undergoing some issues. If anyone has any problems, please e-mail him and Chair R. Snader. He gave us another e-mail address as: LHarvey1@IX.netcom.com. These issues are hopefully being resolved. He noted that the new Fire Laws

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Book was printed but not in an electronic format because of the expense. In the future it would be nice to be able to put this on the Web site.

STATEWIDE COMPUTER SYSTEM Chair B. Knippenburg discussed his meetings and their attendance which has died off to about 5 or 6. One of their problems is they have no funds to let them look at computers. Since June, they had the survey, and returns are back from 13 Counties, 3 other agencies and 19 fire departments. They are now trying to bring some E-MAIS on line, and NFIRS, so they can get a test and see what is happening. They will probably run the test in Baltimore County. He discussed need to get from the station to the county level, and from the county to the State level, but how to do this is still an issue. They plan to now start meeting every other month. They need people who are computer literate, software literate, etc. to come to the meetings and give them some guidance. He feels the lack of funding is why they are no further along than they are. The State is upgrading to wireless which is about 50% done, and 30% on the fibre optics. They hope to be completed in about three years. This will be a potential growth area for MIEMSS, etc. in the State. He said he hopes in the near future to slide on the coat tails of the Criminal Justice System if they get any funding. He discussed the Lithographs given away at Emmitsburg, and he said that O-Leary's Emporium does have our ok to sell our Lithographs. This was previously reported at an Executive Committee meeting, where it was approved. Since that time, he has found them to be selling for \$25.00, and our cut is \$18.50. He has been questioned as to why they were selling them. This is now at no cost to us, as they have long been paid for.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR Chair Mickey Harris said he has no written report. He wants to bring more attention of this award to the Departments, and L. King has agreed to do this in his mailing notifications. He discussed the need to have more applicants for this award. He suggested to those departments that have a Firefighter of the Year, that they then send that persons name on to the State.

FALLEN FIREFIGHTER Fred Cross said the Raskin Memorial Plaque has been missing for a long time now, and they are getting it upgraded, but since we are getting the Memorial in Annapolis, with all of the Fallen Firefighters names on it, they would like to each year have a plaque that could be given to the family of the deceased member. That would mean a change in their SOP, and they would like the ok from the Executive Committee to do this. The following motion was made by T. Thompson and seconded by C. Edelin:

MOTION: To authorize the Hall of Fame Committee to change their SOP by their making a plaque each year to be presented to the deceased firefighters family. Motion Approved.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION Chair Marcine Goodloe presented her written report saying they have completed the video for the 1-800-FIRELINE, and plans are to distribute it throughout Maryland. The Governor assisted them with the video, and she thanked Bill Bernard (Gov. Asst.) and Jim Brown of MIEMSS, for their assistance in this video. They showed the video to the Executive Committee at this time. There are two videos (a 1-minute and a 30 second video). They are asking that this video be aired as much as possible and they need the Departments to make use of the video in their area. Bill Cooke said the committee is now developing guidelines for its distribution. They want every county and department in the State to use the tape and get as much publicity as possible with it through local Cable TV, etc

Closing prayer for today given by Rev Donald Harris. President Steger recessed the meeting at 1530 hours. The Executive Committee meeting was recalled to order on 10 December 2000 at 0900 hours at Ocean City VFC by President R. Steger. Opening prayer was given by Chaplain H. Hetz, who

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asked of our prayers for Herman Rhue and Roy Wood who are having health problems. He then led the group in the pledge of allegiance. President Steger thanked those who attended the Christmas party last night at his house. VICE PRESIDENT Mattingly thanked Roger and Peggy for the party last night. He said anyone interested in serving on a committee next year, applications are available at the side table, please take one. VICE PRESIDENT Worthington welcomed new people here today as Laurie Packer of Level, and Paul Atkins President of Ocean City VFC. President Atkins welcomed everyone to Ocean City and apologized for not being here yesterday. PRESIDENT Steger introduced the following MSFA Past Presidents in attendance: D. Kirk (63-64), E. Dunn (76-77), C. Riley (83-84), L. King (85-86), C. Carpenter (86-87), B. Cumberland (87-88), B. Shimer (88-89), J. Robison (89-90), T. Mattingly (90-91), B. Smith (91-92). Other guests in attendance were introduced including LAMSFA Pres. P. Webb.

Chair S. Hales continued with the committee reports as:

NVFC Delegate B. Cumberland presented his written report, and discussed the Fall meeting in October in Daytona Beach, Florida. He said that he, Steve Cox, and G. Worthington represented Maryland at the meeting. He discussed the problem we had with Prince George's County and the IAFF, and he did relay this to Chairman Fred Allison who will be meeting with the new President of the IAFF, Harold Schaitberger, in Washington D.C. He thanked to Mary Ann Gibbons and Fred Allison who served on the Fallen Firefighter Foundation and worked to get Taps and Amazing Grace put back into the memorial Program. Alan Clark is the new Executive Director of the IAAI, and wants to partner with NVFC. The council is working with Operation Respond Institute in getting OREIS software into areas covered by volunteer fire companies. They want to track hazardous material by rail in a pilot program in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Washington State. He listed in his report the recent Legislative victories they claim to have done. He said the Marc Mueller Award has changed its name to the NVFC Fire Prevention Award. The council will hold a Volunteer Fire Summit in December at the National Fire Academy. He discussed his previous plan to run for the Second Vice Chairman of the council this year, however, now he is not, but he is a candidate for the Executive Committee. The Spring council meeting will be held in April in Wenatchee Wash. He said we need to get more involved with our local government people to get started the programs we would like to see done. W. Donaldson said we need someone at the NVFC level to be kicking the doors for us now. He said we need you (Bob) to be kicking the water cooler at the NVFC meetings and making those people take some action at the National level. Bob said that is what he is trying to do. He said he did not have this information from Howard County last weekend at Emmitsburg, or he would have raised the issue then. Wylie said the local level politicians understand the volunteers and the money they are saving the communities. We need to get to the National level. V. P. Mattingly said this problem festered at the National level, and then down to the counties. Some paid people have already been told they cannot volunteer. He said the VOLUNTEER council should be representing us at their level to nip this in the bud now. It is at the point of almost out of control, rather, it is already out of control. He asked R. Powell for a ruling as to this being legal or not. T. Thompson discussed the status of this in Howard County. He said they need help with this now. R. Powell discussed the threats to the people's jobs being in jeopardy. He said the individuals involved have to come forward and complain about this suppression of their rights. He said we probably can only complain about this action, but he said something needs to be done in the name(s) of the individual(s). This is a First Amendment Rights of Freedom of Association being abridged issue. It cannot be done in the name of an association, as our rights are not being affected. A taxpayer may do something as it could affect his tax rate because they have lost the volunteer fire and EMS protection that he had. T. Mattingly said we have many major players here in the state. President Steger said he will form a committee to work on this, and anyone who receives any letters of this type, make sure the MSFA

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officers get a copy ASAP. He discussed the problems in the counties when they lose the volunteers, but the career people don't want to be on our side, as we're fighting them on this MOSH issue. We do need to take a stand on this issue, and do what we can. J. Long (AA County) discussed the Howard County letter and their loss of people because of the letter. If the people are under the age of 22, they are afraid to publish their names for fear of repercussion. Chairman S. Hales asked J. Long to cooperate with the committee now being formed by President Steger. P. Sterling said we need to take a stand and bounce a letter back to the union to show our position, and we will not put up with their actions. T. Mattingly said we should use the media, newspapers, to express the problem to the public. P. Sterling made a MOTION that the Association send a letter to Howard County letting them know what is happening. No second, motion fails. R. Brooks discussed the problem and he suggested we support the few people we are having the problem with. Let them know it is the volunteers who made it possible for their present paid positions to now exist. R. Powell said this union issue is too important to gloss over. The Executive Committee needs to know that someone has to give their name to this process. The union does not care what we do, but they will care if an individual speaks up and challenges his right to do these things. L. Sachs discussed the letter saying it is too early for us to send the letter now. The new committee needs to be formed and get busy and surprise the union with maybe a full page ad in every newspaper in the state, and get a PR person to help write the article. He discussed the Safe Harbor Restocking as useless to us even though it seems on the surface to be a great solution, it is useless because the hospital cannot charge for the items they restock. This means no one will restock. It is an empty solution. He asked the NVFC to get us a better Safe Harbor. Bob said they will work further on this at their next meeting. Chair S. Hales asked Bob for a copy of the minutes of the council he serves on. He said ok. He said he will take a copy of this letter to the Councils Office on Monday. P. Sterling said we do need to do something on this union issue and not just let it die without doing something.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS Chair Patti Gordy said the committee has not met and therefore no submittals made yet. If anyone has a change to submit, make sure you do so by the February Executive Committee meeting, and make sure the committee chair has a copy at that meeting prior to presentation.

CONVENTION Chair L. King, V. Chairs T. Mattingly, and R. Siarnicki presented a written report saying the most positive parts of the 2000 Convention and Conference, were the Memorial Service the reception that followed, the Honor Guard contest, utilization of the Control Center, The Awards Session the Joint Installation and Reception. They increased the amount of training and education sessions, the golf tournament, and the Combat Challenge were highly successful. The most concern was the lack of attendance during the exhibits evening session, and the breaks in the main floor program. They tried this, it didn't work, so they will go back to the old way. They have made a recommendation to the Convention Center Administration that the food contractor have more than one snack bar set up, and having a Bank Card Machine in the convention Center. The also recommended permanent screens on both sides of the stage. The program Book Committee has already started on the 2001 Book. T. Mattingly said they will be sending out the packets around 1 February 2001 for the Program Book. Please get your information copy ready by 1 April 2001. He said there should not be any big changes in pricing as it went well this past year. The exhibits committee has already started their work. He read and discussed the distributed schedule of events, noting changes as Miss Fire Prevention on Monday at 1500 hours, Parade on Wednesday at 1300 hours, Executive Committee meeting on Thursday at 0930 hours, and the Firefighters Challenge at either 1200 or 1400 hours (this is being negotiated). He discussed the input received on the Parade which was to change it back to Wednesday. R. Balta asked about the Discs they have the committee reports on, asking that when they are returned, they have the previous years report on it too. T. Mattingly said the disc are clean. She said the reason for the clean disc is the chance of a virus. Maybe it

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could be put on the web page and down loaded from there? L. King said please work this out with the Data Committee. R. Balta said he would like to see some sort of benefit given to those people giving the seminar. L. King said put together a topic, name of presenter, etc. and if the committee likes the topic and the budget allows it, then we'll have it and do what they can to give benefits. The following motion was made by D. Hall and seconded by W. Donaldson:

MOTION: to approve the Agenda for the 2001 Convention and Conference as presented. Motion Approved.

L. King thanked Prince George's, Montgomery, Howard and Baltimore Counties, MFRI, MIEMSS, State Fire Marshal, the Governor's office and the Maryland State Police for their help and cooperation. He said that R. Watkins is taking photos for the Program Book today. R. Watkins said when a big name seminar is being done, please get the information to him ASAP (before 1 February if possible) so the publicity can be put in the Trumpet.

MARKETING Vice Chair R. Siarnicki presented their written report and discussed the Trifold that the Executive Committee approved at the August meeting. The Trifold was done as a part of the Marketing Plan for the MSFA. He discussed what they have added to the Trifold is an insert to accompany the Trifold. The inserts are not yet approved by the Executive Committee. He said we have both internal and external customers that this Association has to deal with and market ourselves to. They want to make an insert designed for each committee, each Officer, and some of the major functions of the MSFA. He discussed and described the insert and how to use it. They are also looking at displays, programs, media, newspaper articles, etc, to promote, and show the benefits of belonging to the MSFA. They are working on the Fire and EMS Service Display for the Lowe House Office Building in Annapolis. They plan to work with V. P. G. Worthington on the Smart Gold, the Web Page, Cable in all Fire Stations and DSL service for the Stations at a reasonable rate. Chair S. Hales pointed out that this idea came from our Retreat at Emmitsburg. The following motion was made by W. Donaldson and seconded by D. Hall:

MOTION: To approve the insert for the tri-fold as presented by the Marketing Committee.

Discussion: V. P. Mattingly said the e-mail addresses on the insert need to be changed. Ron said the front of the inserts are all the same, and the backs are tailored to the need of what they will be used for. He discussed the needs and an operating budget of about \$5,000 per year. R. Steger suggested that the committee make the decision of what needs to be put on the tri-fold and Insert card. D. Mooney said each committee could include a dollar value for the tri-fold as part of their budget. W. Donaldson amended the original motion that the concept of the Insert card be approved and printed according to the need of the committee, and with the discretion of the Chairs of the Marketing Committee. Amendment was 2nd by D. Hall. L. Sachs verified the committee budget is for the mass production of the tri-fold and the Insert would be paid for by the committee wanting the Insert. Ron said yes. L. Sachs also pointed out the typos on the presented tri-folds. Ron said these tri-folds and inserts presented here today are for display purpose only. Included in the written report is an Insert Card Request Form is for everyone to use. **Motion Approved.**

FIRE PREVENTION Chair Bobby Collins presented his written report and discussed their meeting last month at the Frederick Training Center. He thanked J. Mattingly, G. Worthington, and T. Thompson for their attendance at the meeting. He said the committee has agreed to share a Billboard with Ocean City to display a Fire Prevention message year round. If anyone wants a 911 Simulator, contact Alan Ryan.

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Their next committee meeting will be 21 January 2001 at Level VFC. Laurie Packer is now working on the Miss Fire Prevention contest for next June at Ocean City.

HALL OF FAME Chair Don Mooney presented his written report and discussed their committee meeting of 21 October 2000. He discussed the committee's recommendations as printed in his report, and asked that the By-Laws be amended to include as duties of the committee, "the Marbury Gates Service Cup Award and Roll of Honor". He asked that beginning in 2001, induction into the Hall of Fame be limited to ten (10) individuals who are members of a volunteer fire, ambulance or rescue companies, either living or deceased, and three (3) individuals who are not members of volunteer fire, ambulance or rescue company, either living or deceased. They also recommended the frames be upgraded for the certificates, and the hats be upgraded, and the plates on the plaques in the Regional Offices be corrected. The annual selection will be held on 10 May 2001 (place to be determined). He reminded us that anyone in this Association can submit a nomination. He said the guidelines for the three outside individuals are the same as now for being in a fire company. W. Donaldson said the Hall of Fame is a sacred organization and he does not want to see it abused by the inductees of a flash in the pan nomination. The following motion was made by C. Jewell and seconded by D. Hall:

MOTION: To approve the recommendation of the Hall of Fame Committee increasing the number of Hall of Fame Inductees to a total of up to thirteen (13). Motion Approved.

C. Carpenter discussed the people on the Hall of Fame committee, and the people who are put on a committee but never actually serve the committee, yet get credit for being on it, and this is part of the qualifications for their being nominated to the Hall of Fame. The fact that someone never actually served on a committee, does not mean that person shouldn't be nominated for the Hall of Fame. Some people have been associated for 30 or so years with the MSFA and yet because they never served on a committee, they are not nominated. This is wrong. Don Mooney said serving on a committee is not mandatory to being elected to the Hall of Fame. L. King discussed those persons that do a lot in their own Company and County, but not in the State. If they are active in their Company and County, then let's bring them to the State level to get them active here.

MEMORIAL Chair D. Mooney said he had no written report because he had no progress to report, however, on his way to this meeting, he was given the Easement Agreement Draft, and it looks like they will be agreeing on this now. They hope by the February Executive Committee meeting to be able to report some very positive things about the Memorial.

LEGISLATIVE Chair Bernie Smith presented his written report and said the most important issue facing the Emergency Services is funding of the EMSOF and the Low Interest Loan Program. They have talked to our Delegates and they are sympathetic to our causes, but don't seem to be doing much to help our causes. The Senate President told them to get 24 votes and it will pass. They already knew that. They did meet with the Governor and they did get their marching orders for the Emergency Services \$3 tag increase, and the surplus. The State surplus is really a deficit for the next several years. The FY2002 Budget shows a \$5.6 Mil shortfall in the Emergency Operations Funds and that does not include the \$1 Mil to be added to the Low Interest Loan Fund. They have met with the Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Management (Eloise Foster) who said that every dollar of the surplus has already been committed. He said the new Senate Building will be dedicated on 9 January 2001, to Senator Mike Miller. C. Riley said the reception this year will be held in the old Senate Office Building, as in the past, on 5 February 2001. He discussed the handout chart showing the EMS Operations Fund Statements. He discussed the tag fee saying it has been

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self supporting for the past 10 years, and now we ask it be increased by \$3.00. S. Hales said he has heard grumbling about the increase as the tags are now being renewed every two years. This makes the PR job ahead for the \$3 increase, more difficult. C. Riley said the Bill reads \$8 / \$11. and it is for one year. So twice that for two years. They asked that each of us talk to our State Legislators, Delegates, and Senators, and urge them to support this increase. He said do not plead your case negatively, but show them your case and let them see our needs. He discussed the FY2002 Budget and the increases to it in the past three years. He said they had requested from the Governor, \$10 Million (\$85 Mil is needed to fill the Low Interest Loan requests). They received the \$.5 Mil indicated, and they hope to get at least the additional \$1Mil indicated. He said they have told the Legislators if this fund does not receive some kind of ongoing funding in FY2002, the fund will be \$5.6 Mil in the red. Therefore, each organization will receive a 15 percent cut in their budget. L. Sachs asked about the rumor of not a 15 percent cut across the board, but a “last in / first out” concept? C. Riley said he heard it too. He said there is no official projection at this time. He discussed some of the people in Congress who are supporting our cause. C. Jewell asked to change the subject for a minute, and he discussed the Virginia “right to work law” and why not a Maryland “right to work law”? He said this should be considered. B. Smith said they will take this for consideration and talk to some of our legislators about it and get their opinion. Chip said even if this is defeated, it will get the message to the public.

MAYOR OF OCEAN CITY, President R. Steger introduced Ocean City’s Mayor Mathias. The Mayor welcomed MSFA to Ocean City, thanked the Association and their families for being here this weekend. President R. Steger introduced Lee Bainbridge (President VFIS). L. Bainbridge discussed an offer to the Association to help us publicize the deeds of the Fire and Rescue Service. He discussed Grants and how to obtain that money in the form of a “Grant Writing Program” they would teach us at a cost of \$225 (minus \$15 discount) per person for an 8 hour class. President Steger recommended we turn this over to our Marketing Committee for follow-up. So done by Chairman S. Hales to J. Lau. C. Riley continued his committee report saying that all Agencies are asked to write a fact sheet of the impact to your department, to your Legislators, if the cuts should occur. J. Long (AA County) asked C. Riley about the Howard County problem. B. Smith said this committee has to take his directions from the President of this Association. L. Downes discussed the article in the newspaper regarding the \$3 increase and the Maryland surplus. C. Riley said those projections are not based on whether the \$3 is approved or not, but on the General Fund and the income to the state in the form of taxes, etc. P. Sterling said if the \$3 increase does not pass, is there a backup plan in the works? B. Smith said the Governor has to put money in the Budget and it is up to the Legislators to keep the money in the Budget. They have asked the Governor to do this. This is a \$3 increase plus the money in the Budget. V. P. Mattingly said apparently we need to get 24 Senators to support this Bill, and then it will pass. C. Riley said as of right now, we don’t even have a draft of the Bill, so you can’t get commitments without a Bill to show them. V. P. Mattingly said he has been told by our local legislators, that as long as the media shows a State surplus, this Bill will never pass. He said next year is an election year, and you do not get any money in an election year. We have no backup plan, so this time next year, we should be in the red. C. Riley said he thinks the legislators are not going to let us go under, but will come up with some kind of backup plan to offset the \$3 increase if we do not get it. V. P. Mattingly said maybe we need to put a package together and do a media blitz to show the public what is going to happen if the \$3 increase does not happen. C. Riley said a media blitz would be wrong at this time, with the Bill is not even written yet. J. Lau said the Legislators are looking at this issue and also hearing that the helicopter fleet is in great shape at this time, so the MSP helicopter’s don’t need the increase at this time. C. Jewell asked if we are the “fall guys” in this money cut? B. Smith said the MSP Aviation have just upgraded their fleet and are in fine shape at this time. R. Powell said we are not an agency of the State of Maryland, we do not submit a budget to be included in the state budget, therefore, we

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are at a disadvantage. We are an outside agency begging a state agency to include us in their budget. He said in regard to the “right to volunteer” being an appropriate solution, we should not do this, as the need is not here yet. He said we should not threaten our credibility in Annapolis by doing something wrong at this time. C. Riley said the legislators are mostly waiting to see what will be in the Governor’s Budget before they can commit themselves. He does not feel the legislators will shut us down. V. P. G. Worthington said the helicopters really are still an issue because they still have operating costs. B. Shimer said we are carrying part of the load, and the other organizations should help us or get out of the way. He said MIEMSS knew it was in trouble last year and that the cut might become, and yet they are still hiring people. So, they must not be too worried about a fund cut. B. Smith said the EMS display in Annapolis is coming along real well and is in cooperation with our legislators to our letting them know who we are. C. Riley said the other side of the money crunch, is if we get the \$3 increase it will carry us until the year 2012.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Chair C. Riley presented his written report saying since the committees last meeting in August, they have paid out \$44,371 in benefits. The beneficiaries are 32 widows, 6 children, and one disabled fireman. He discussed the presentation of the first check to Mary Burton (Charlie Burton’s) wife. He said since our last meeting, another line of duty death occurred to Robert W. Humphrey of Maryland Line VFC in Baltimore County. He described what happened, and said the Board approved this claim yesterday.

CRESTLINE INDUSTRIES INC – Steve Sass (President) was introduced by President Steger. S. Sass demonstrated a fire protection retardant (retails for \$19.96) which he offered as a fund raiser. He also had an item that hooked to a hose and acted as a fire extinguisher.

INCENTIVES PROGRAMS Chair Joan Robison presented her report as written saying if anyone has any questions, please contact her regarding LOSAP or the Maryland Income Tax Deduction Incentive Program. Her report discussed the stats for both programs, and discussed House Bill 1303 which modified the Tax Deduction qualifications, by lowering them starting in 2001. Her report also included the names of the Incentive Programs Committee members.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT Chair Joe Robison presented his written report saying the Fire Bills (HR 1168 and S 1941) are tied up in the funding disagreements in Congress. The committee has sent a letter to Senator Barbara Mikulski in support of the Fire Bill. He said that HR 2498 and S 1488 Bills are meant to create a mechanism to identify and prioritize federal buildings for placement of the AED’s. He said that Congressman Curt Weldon (PA) is running for the Chairmanship of the House Armed Services Committee. He is a long time friend of the fire service. He said the new Medicare Ambulance Fee Schedule will not now go into effect on 1 January 2001 as planned. There is no new effective date yet.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP Chair John Long had no written report, but asked about if in order to have this type of committee, should there be a By-Laws proposal, and he is not sure how to go about this. Lee Sachs said they need to put a package together that consists of a proposed By-Laws change benefits, what they need to do to obtain their purpose, etc. They will then bring it back to the Executive Committee who will put it in its proper place.

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OUT OF STATE COORDINATOR B. Cumberland had no written report. He said there are three Conventions scheduled for next year, and all are in August 2001. He is working with them to be sure we can attend all of theirs, and they can attend our Convention.

The blessing for lunch was given by Rev G. Grimm at 1220 hours. The meeting was recalled at 1255 hours by Chairman S. Hales.

INSURANCE ADVISORY Chair Doyle Cox presented his written report and said the vehicle insurance premium is due for renewal at the cost of \$4,587. This is an increase over last year of \$34.00. He asked authorization to purchase the new Presidents vehicle from Prince Frederick Motors for \$20,758.60. He noted that the bid went out of state this year, and the committee felt it should no go out of state. He asked authority to advertise for sale, the 1998 Ford (now used by V. P. Worthington). It will have about 120 to 130 thousand miles by June 2001. They plan to accept bids until 17 April 2001, which will be opened on 21 April 2001 at Rocky Ridge. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by C. Stack:

MOTION: To approve the three requests made by the Car Committee. Motion approved.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND BULLETIN Chair Ron Watkins presented his written report and said the current edition of the Trumpet is at the printers, and will be ready before Christmas. They are evaluating the mailing list, revising it to include Committee Chairmen, and removing those who wish to be deleted from it. They would also like to remove deceased names from the list but are not always made aware of them. He asked that anyone knowing of such incidents, please let him know. Anyone who would like to be added to the list, let him know. He thanked Dan Tabler, Emmons Horner, and R. Steger for their articles for the Trumpet. He said they have not met formally yet, but should do so before the next Executive Committee meeting. He discussed printing prices obtained that range from \$527 to \$1300 for the package. He said that L. King offered the use of the Secretary's Office copier to do the job, which will reduce the cost to about \$100. He said he is taking pictures today for the Program Book. He asked for articles from everyone for happenings throughout the state. J. Lau said she will get him the information on the tri-fold. She also said the Marketing and the Public Relations Committees need to work together, as there is a direct relationship between the two. Ron agreed.

SAFETY Chair Bobby Balta presented his written report and discussed the posting of their Minutes on the Web page, and it is being taken care of. The major issue is the Health and Safety Standards from MOSH. He said we need to make sure that document is sent to all Departments in the state. He said they might want to hand carry the document to each of the Departments and have them sign for it. The Pocket Masks will again be given out at the Convention in 2001.

17 STATE CIRCLE Chair Jim Ferguson presented his written report and discussed the status of the building, primarily the painting of the building. After the challenge of locating a painter who knew how to add sand to the paint, and willing to do so, the painting has been completed. Touch ups need to be done and will be, as weather permits.

STANDARDS Chair Bill Huttenloch presented his written report and discussed the proposed Medical Standards of the MOSH and the NFPA 1710 and 1720. He said they now have the Regulations for the Health and Welfare of the Fire/EMS Personnel. He stressed the importance of reading this document and (in detail) the Medical Requirements for the Physicals. He said the funding is supposed to come through the Office of the Secretary of Labor during this Legislative period. That is why he needed the number of

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active members of each Department in the state. He still lacks answers from three counties. We apparently have about 20,000 firefighters that need physicals. He is also concerned with who is going to pay for the physicals, not only the first year, but every year thereafter. They discussed the cost of the physicals which were estimated by L. Sachs as between \$600 and \$1000. C. Jewell said this could be a bigger impact on us than the tag fee. L. Sachs said the sub-committee had agreed that the proposed physical would be implemented when it is funded. He said after the document goes out, they need to get everyone's input. The funding statement needs to be said again. W. Donaldson asked about the 20,000 needing physicals and what about those that may already be taking physicals? L. Sachs said all members will take the same uniform physical. Bill said this will be a regulation, not a standard. A regulation has to be followed, and it will be under the Department of Labor. R. Steger discussed the different physicals now being done and if this is enacted, the physicals will all be the same. He said that MSFA pledged they will not take a vote on this issue until the document is received by every Department in the state. This will hopefully be discussed at the convention and MSFA can finalize our side then. C. Jewell asked about one or more physicals? It will only be one physical. L. Sachs said we can't approve this now as there may be forthcoming other ideas and suggestions to consider first. VP J. Mattingly said remember, this is the Maryland version of the 1500 standard, so if we don't accept this document, then we have to live with the 1500 document. W. Donaldson said we hope the funding of the physicals will be approved in whole, not in parts. L. Sachs said the physicals part is tied to the funding, the rest is not. He also said use of your own doctor for the physicals is NO. B. Cumberland discussed e-mail where the IAFF President has invited all of the California firefighters to join the NFPA, so that in April they can vote for 1710. Their dues would be paid and also a stipend of \$200 for attending the meeting. He said the Council is opposed to the dual standards, but they are supporting 1720. R. Steger said he did get an e-mail from IAFF (not just California), they would give you air fare as well to go to the meeting and voted. He answered the e-mail suggesting they use that money on a health and wellness and physical program instead. He received no answer to that.

President Steger presented the OCVFC LA \$1,190. for the delicious food and hospitality this weekend.

STATISTICAL Chair Lynn Gilroy presented his written report and discussed their meeting of 17 September 2000 and the format for the new Form, and what they will be asking. They also discussed the requirements under Article 38A. He thanked the three Presidents for their attendance and participation at the meeting. He presented and discussed the Statistical Report form to be used this year, along with the instructions for use of the form. He said as of today, 55 Companies have not turned in their Statistical Report for 1999, and only 9 Counties have 100% participation in reporting. He asked the Executive Board for approval of the attached new Form. They would like to have this form, if approved, placed on the MSFA Web page, and also have it developed into a Database. They would also like to develop a Report Book from all the information gathered from the Departments, MFRI, MIEMSS, Fire Marshall Office, etc. He thanked Jim Doran and the Baltimore County Firemen's Association for their work in promulgating this form and assisting with the mailing to the committee members. He thanked the members of the committee. The following motion was made by T. Thompson and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To approve the new Statistical Report Form as presented. Motion Approved.

SURPLUS PROPERTY Chair Skip Massey presented his written report and discussed the turnout gear that has already been issued to the Pine Grove VFD in West Virginia. They were very grateful for the Gear. He discussed the list of clothing available. He is still waiting information on two Hurst Tools and

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some PASS devices. The diesel generator is at Indian Head and has been checked out and it does supply the rated power. He discussed his talk with M. Brooks (DNR), about a new process for the surplus property program, in the Assistance To Firefighters (Under Title XVII Section 1072). This states that the Secretary of Defense is authorized to transfer excess personal property to firefighting agencies if the property is determined suitable of use in providing fire and emergency medical services. Presently EMS people are not authorized to use the program, but this new article would authorize them to now do so. He also discussed the Task Force which does not include the Forestry Service, and he said we need to support this action.

TRANSPORTATION Chair Tom Flint presented his written report and asked approval by the Executive Committee to leave the FD tag fee at \$3.00 for the year 2001. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To approve the FD tag fee to remain at \$3.00 for 2001. Motion Approved.

WAYS AND MEANS Chair John Means had no written report, but did report the Raffle Tickets are out and he asked everyone to get out and sell them all, so we can pay for the new car.

BUDGET AND REVENUE Vice Chair Gene Curfman presented his written report and discussed the numerous requests made this weekend. The committee also reviewed the Budget for areas of over expenditures. He presented the following Budget adjustments for action:

1. Increase the Administrative and Misc. line item (16) by \$3,300.00 to cover printing costs and other expenses associated with the Supreme Court case. The following motion was made by W. Donaldson and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$3,300. in line item 16. Motion Approved.

2. Increase the NVFC line item (31) by \$1700 to provide sufficient funds for two representatives to go to Wenatchee Washington in April. The following motion was made by L. Downes and seconded by G. Blanco:

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,700. in line item 31. Motion Approved.

3. Increase the Attorney's line item (44) by \$4744 to cover the Attorney's fees for the Supreme Court case. The following motion was made by B. Kurtz and seconded by D. Hall:

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$4,744. in line item 44. Motion Approved.

4. Give the Board of Review a budget of \$500 to cover costs of postage and printing. The following motion was made by G. Blanco and seconded by T. Thompson:

MOTION: To add a line item budget of \$500. for the Board of Review. Motion Approved.

5. Increase the Marketing Committee line item (89) by \$4500 to cover the estimated cost of the marketing program that the Executive Committee approved at the Retreat. The following motion was made by B. Kurtz and seconded by C. Stack:

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MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,500. to line item 89. Motion Approved.

6. Increase the Goodwill line item (93) by \$1500 to provide sufficient funds for the remainder of the year. The following motion was made by C. Stack and seconded by L. Sachs:

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,500. to line item 93. Motion Approved.

7. Put \$1500 in the Fire Prevention line item (26) to correct an error incurred when the budget was originally prepared. The committee budgeted \$1500 of donations for Fire Prevention Awards, but didn't put the money in the Fire Prevention budget. The following motion was made by W. Donaldson and seconded by T. Thompson:

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,500. to line item 26. Motion Approved.

8. Transfer \$2150 from the Convention Savings account to cover the Transportation Committee's Budget. This will enable the Treasurer to pay the Transportation Committee expenses without having to go to the Convention Committee each time for approval to be able to pay the invoices. The following motion was made by J. Lau and seconded by T. Thompson:

MOTION: To approve the creation of a line item for the Transportation Committee of \$2,150. From the Convention Committee Account.

Discussion by Bob Saville on the Budget, and L. King said a motion is not needed to get this done, as the Convention Committee has always approved the expenditure of the Transportation Committee, at no time has the committee ever been turned down for legitimate requests for payment. **Motion disapproved.**

ACTION ITEMS - - -

The following motion was made by J. Lau and seconded by D. Hall:

MOTION: To bestow the title of Parliamentary Emeritus on Past President Gerald A. Glaubitz, and that this be done at the Annual Convention and Conference. Motion Approved by all

C. Jewell reported that Jason Baer is recovering from surgery and doing fine. Tom Altman had a heart attack and is recovering. The Point of Rocks Station will be opening soon in Frederick County. They did get an engine at no charge from Montgomery County. Discussed individual in the EMT class coded in the ambulance and she was brought back and is recovering fine. T. Thompson reported that the new Fire Chief in Howard County is Joe Herr. He said the Reese and Carroll County Association ambulance billing is being worked on and they hope to get it worked out soon. He said the President needs to give some assurance to Howard County what the plans are in this matter. President Steger will discuss this with the needed persons involved, after this meeting today. He listed those persons to attend this meeting. P. Sterling reported that one department in Montgomery County is trying to come under a local city government. He said that Jack Ferguson's son is a police officer and he was assaulted in Montgomery County. He is now in a rehab hospital. He said that Scotty Cameron is very sick with cancer. C. Stack asked to keep Herman Rhue in our prayers next Tuesday. He said the train garden is open now in Cambridge at the Rescue Fire Company. B. Kurtz advised everyone to meet with your local legislators ASAP. L. Sachs asked about the draft handout on Military Department Proposal 1, Attachment 1, which

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brings back the Mutual Aid Legislation? President Steger said he received it last week and didn't have time to get his report on it together. This is a proposal that will not impact the Fire Service, because their Mutual Aid Agreement was already approved by Maryland Legislators. He wants this to go to the Executive Committee and the Legislative Committee to review and give comments on it. The MEMA rep said he would like to attend our February meeting. This is supposed to be a help to the emergency fire service so we do not have any problems in getting needed equipment in an emergency. D. Hall said we will have input in the presentation as they want our support. L. Downes discussed the need for support from MSFA in getting Rt-404 upgraded to a dual lane road. It is partly done and needs to be finished. It is a dangerous road the way it is now. He said that Helicopter 6 in Queen Anne's County is only part time and they would like to get it full time. He said it is the 2nd busiest helicopter in the state (L. Downes' statement). He would like a letter sent to Col. Mitchell requesting the full time status for Helicopter 6. President Steger said on both of these issues, to give him some information in writing, and he will give it to the Colonel at their next meeting. C. Jewell asked about our involvement in bad roads, etc? P. Gordy discussed the RT-404 road situation, the amount of traffic moving over it, and the problems with emergency apparatus getting over it. L. King said this is the growing pains you are experiencing on the Eastern Shore and that the metropolitan areas have to deal with this everyday. C. Jewell asked that this be handled by our President as they have an open door policy to the Governor's Office.

Chaplain H. Dixon asked the date that pictures and names are turned in, be changed to 1 March deadline (instead of 1 April). They need more time to make proper preparations. He would also like the Ladies Auxiliary to send their pictures to their Chaplain, and the Fire/EMS send their pictures to him. He also asks that a name and the department be put on the back of the picture. He said if your County has a Chaplain, you can get the pictures to them. Chair S. Hales thanked everyone for their patience and participation this weekend. President R. Steger wished a Happy Holidays to all and thanks for coming to Ocean City. Closing prayer was given by Rev H. Dixon. There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned at 1430 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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

MOTION SUMMARY

MOTION: To accept the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Association into Associate Membership of the Association. Motion Approved.

MOTION: That the Executive Committee support the recommendation made by the EMS Committee as it relates to the CRT to EMT – EMT-I Program. Motion Approved on a vote of 10 yeas and 1 nay.

MOTION: To approve the recommendation by the Board of Review for Application 01-04 from the Flintstone VFD for a loan of \$35,000 and a grant of \$145,000. Motion Approved.

MOTION: That the Executive Committee approves the Procedures and Guidelines as set forth by the Low Interest Loan Board. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To authorize the Hall of Fame Committee to change their SOP by their making a plaque each year to be presented to the deceased firefighter's family. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the agenda for the 23001 Convention and Conference as presented. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the insert for the tri-fold as presented by the Marketing Committee. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the recommendation of the Hall of Fame Committee increasing the number of Hall of Fame Inductees to a total of up to thirteen (13). Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the three requests made by the Car Committee. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the new Statistical Report Form as presented. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the FD tag fee to remain at \$3.00 for 2001. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$3,300. in line item 16. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,700. in line item 31. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$4,744. in line item 44. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To add a line item budget of \$500. for the Board of Review. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,500. to line item 89. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,500. to line item 93. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the increase of \$1,500. to line item 26. Motion Approved.

MOTION: To approve the creation of a line item for the Transportation Committee of \$2,150. from the Convention Committee Account. Motion Disapproved.

MOTION: To bestow the title of Parliamentarian Emeritus on Past President Gerald A. Glaubitz, and that this be done at the Annual Convention and Conference. Motion Approved by all.