

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 21 – 22, 2001  
Rocky Ridge, Maryland

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# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**April 21 – 22, 2001  
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The Executive Committee meetings were held in Rocky Ridge, Maryland at the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. President Roger A. Steger, Jr. call the meetings to order at 0900 hours, and called upon Chaplain Rev. J. Harvey Dixon for the Invocation and to lead the Pledge to the Flag. President Steger introduced Robert Mumma, President of the Rocky Ridge VFC, who welcomed everyone to Rocky Ridge. President Steger introduced the following Past Presidents in attendance: R.N. Dempsey (80-81), C.W. Riley (83-84), L.T. King (85-86), C.D. Carpenter (87-88), R.H. Shimer (88-89), J.R. Robison (89-90), B.J. Smith (91-92), P.M. Hurlock (93-94), C.D. Davis (97-98), C.B. Edelin (99-00). President Steger introduced the Board of Trustees as: Chairman C. Riley, Vice Chair R.H. Shimer, Secretary C.D. Carpenter, P.M. Hurlock, and J.W. Means. President Steger introduced those guests in attendance, which included LAMSFA President Peggy Webb.

**PRESIDENT** Steger thanked several individuals for their support and assistance. He discussed the various meetings and other events he has attended, which include the MIEMSS Legislative Committee, EMSOF Committee, EMS Board, MOSH, English Consul Junior Fire Department Installation, State Fire Commission, Eastern Shore Volunteer Association, Del-Mar-Va Safety Seminar and Maryland Weekend at the National Fire Academy. He said the three Presidents, Bernie Smith, and Charlie Riley met with several legislative committees in reference to the \$3.00 increase for the vehicle registration, tax amnesty, Safe haven, and other legislation that have an impact on the Fire, Rescue and EMS services in Maryland. He thanked MIEMSS Dr. Bass, MFRI Director Edwards, MSP Aviation Division Major Lewis, Shock Trauma Director John Ashworth, representatives from the MSFA and EMS Board Chairman DeVries, for the commitment and dedication in meeting with legislators explaining the impact of any decrease in the EMSOF budget on the safety and health of the citizens of Maryland. He discussed the opportunity they had to demonstrate equipment and how the system works as a team in providing emergency services across Maryland. He thanked Delaware State Firemen's Association President Jim Cabbage and Past President Steve Austin for the invite to attend the Grant program held at the Delaware State Fire School. He attended viewings of Mrs. Ethel Wood (wife of PP Roy Wood), David Lankford (retired Ocean City Fire Marshal and Life member), and John P. Adkins II (Ocean City VFC Cadet and son of PP of Ocean City VFC). He offered prayers and condolences to the families, friends, and their Companies, from the MSFA. He thanked L. King and his wife for their hospitality during his week in Annapolis. He said that he, and PP R. Yinger, met with Lt. Governor Townsend and Bill Barnard, to discuss the continued funding sources, Statewide communications, Volunteerism committee representative, office space in Annapolis area, and continued support between the MSFA officers and the Lt. Governor's office. He thanked PP P. Hurlock and everyone else for their assistance in setting up the media coverage meetings on the \$3.00 Increase Bills.

He thanked LAMSFA President P. Webb for their dedication, commitment, and support in promoting the benefits that the Auxiliaries provide to the Fire, Rescue and EMS Companies in

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the state. He thanked everyone who supported the Bill to provide the Income Tax Deduction Incentive to the Auxiliaries. He thanked Ms. Louise Dell and her staff for their volunteer service to print, fold, and stuff, and all the legislation information to the Officers, Representatives, and Executive Members.

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT** Mattingly also thanked several individuals for their support and cooperation. He presented and discussed his written report. He discussed the banquets and Installations of Officers he has attended, and congratulated Potomac Heights VFD/RS on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He expressed his condolences to the family and friends on the loss of their loved ones: Allison Johnson (Hollywood VFD and VRS), Jim Grace (Bay District VFD), Thomas Staken (Midland VFD), John Drury (Leonardtwn VFD), Ethel Wood (wife of PP Roy Wood), Betty Wible (Hollywood VFD Ladies Auxiliary), Ethel Gladhill (wife of Bernard Buck Gladhill), and Mary Lou Bohanan, (mother of Delegate John Bohanan). He discussed numerous meetings in Annapolis that he attended, MSFA Committee meetings, FDIC Conference, and the Five State meeting at Taneytown VFD. He congratulated Judy Copsey (Mechanicsville VFD Auxiliary) on being elected President of the Southern Maryland Ladies Auxiliary.

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT** Worthington thanked everyone for the support and confidence shown him in his travels around the state. He introduced and welcomed the those persons attending this meeting for the first time. He offered sympathy and prayers to the families of the following: Ethel Wood (wife of PP Roy Wood), Ethel Gladhill (wife of Bernard Buck Gladhill), and Josephine Porter (State Ladies music Chairperson). He discussed his attendance at the many County Association meetings (Kent/Queen Anne, Frederick, Cecil, Harford, Harford-Cecil, Talbot, Washington, and Baltimore), and the Harford-Cecil Association Memorial meeting at Jarrettsville VFC. He discussed the legislative meetings attended in Annapolis and the committee meetings around the state. He discussed the meeting with the Executive Secretary of the Board of Public Works to discuss the Low Interest Loan application procedures. Mary Jo Childs, general counsel, provided minor changes, and Chair Joel McCrea gave quick resolution to the concerns. The officers attended a training seminar of the Fire Act Grant process, where the \$300M was cut to \$100M. They met with Phillip Morris folks to discuss the cigarette legislation He congratulated P. Webb and the ladies for a successful campaign for the Incentive Bill passed this year. Discussed the public educational training sessions across the state to further educate the public about the emergency services system, was very successful and we should look at doing this again maybe on a quarterly basis. He said that Chairman Helfrich is stepping down from the MFRI Board of Advisors, and Bob Cumberland will assume his duties as Chairman. He reported that the EMS Board voted to accept the CRT upgrade proposal presented by MSFA. They also voted to begin transition of state owned equipment to the local jurisdictions, and the 50/50 matching grant for future purchases. He said they are making notifications at the county level (as they travel), on the MFIRS delinquent 1999 reports. He discussed the banquets that he and the officers attended. He said the officers request that everyone thank their local officials who supported us during the last legislative session.

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**SECRETARY** King said the Minutes of the last Executive Committee Meetings have been transcribed, copied, and distributed to those on the mailing list. He said the Secretary's Office has forwarded an application for membership to the Calvert County ALS (they are already an Associate Member). He said the 2000 Convention Proceedings Book is finally being published, after the many problems encountered (recording, transcribing, billing contract, and the death of the printer). The Book will be completed within the next two weeks and distribution will start immediately. Additional copies will be available at the convention. Letters officially inviting the Governor, Lt. Governor, Comptroller, and Ocean City Mayor to attend the 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and Conference, have been sent. The Maryland Income Tax Forms have been completed and submitted to the State Comptroller. He reminded all Officers and Committee Chairs that their Annual Reports are due at this time for the Convention Program Book. The Secretary's Office is working with the prospective officers to have the Annual Directory published in a timely manner. If anyone has any corrections or additions to your address phone numbers, pagers or E-mail, please get them to him as soon as possible. Each jurisdiction is reminded that the elections of representatives to the Emergency Assistance Trust Fund Board of Review must be held in May. You are then reminded to forward a letter to the Secretary's Office, before the convention giving the name, address, and phone numbers of your representative. If this is not received prior to the convention, the election for that particular area must be held on the floor of the convention. He said that Asst. Secretary Joe Cooper will be in charge of the Convention Registration, and he thanked everyone who has agreed to assist in the registration. He asked that all departments attend the convention, register in a timely fashion, and be sure to vote. Registration for Officers and Committee Chairs will be held on Sunday morning. Assistance is asked for individuals to be in the Convention Center no later than 0800 on Sunday to prepare the registration packets. He thanked President Steger, Vice Presidents Mattingly and Worthington, and Executive Committee Chair Steve Hales for their assistance and cooperation throughout this past year. He reminded each Officer, Committee Chair, and Organization Representative, that they need to supply thirty (30) copies of their reports, to the Asst. Secretaries prior to the meetings, and that the copy machines at the meetings is not for the purpose of making large numbers of copies. He said the Credentials Forms are due now to the Secretary's office. He said the Color separations for the MSFA emblem trademark for registration, is still being worked on, and will be turned over to our attorney.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** Jacobs presented his written report for the period ending 31 March 2001. He discussed the Direct, Indirect expenses and balances, and the changes from the prior period. President Steger thanked B. Jacobs for making the arrangements for this meeting this weekend.

**TREASURER** Saville read and discussed his written report, noting the current balances of each account. S. Hales asked about the expenses for 17 State Circle, and B. Smith explained the need to expend these funds for labor and materials. Expense reports have been received from the President, and the two Vice Presidents. The following motion was made by C. Jewell and seconded by C. Edelin:

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**MOTION: To approve these reports as presented. Motion approved.**

He discussed an insufficient funds fee to charge for returned checks. In the past they have charged only what the bank charged. They would like to charge a set fee of \$25. The following motion was made by T. Thompson and seconded by C. Jewell:

**MOTION: To approve a \$25 fee on checks returned for insufficient funds. Motion approved.**

P, Sterling asked about the expenses for copier repairs and maintenance contracts. This was explained by B. Seville for the several machines involved. S. Hales asked about the possible leasing of these machines thru the General Services Contract? Bob said this has been looked at before and it was found easier and cheaper to purchase them. J. Lau said that leasing is not as efficient as the purchasing of them. L. Sachs said the contracts are expensive. L. Sachs asked about the appropriation account and the interest compared to the MLGIP account. Bob said the interest is comparable and he will double check on this.

**CHAPLAIN** Rev. H. Dixon discussed his written report and his activities. He said he attended a Sudden Death Seminar at the Shock Trauma Center and the Office of our Chief Medical Examiner, a Critical Incident Planning Session with the Sheriff and local Police and School officials, Mass Fatalities Pre-Planning session with Sheriff Hunter Nelms, and the 5 State President's meeting in Taneytown. He expressed his sympathies to the families and friends of John Paul Adkins of Ocean City FD, Tim Dunagan of Caroline County, Norman Farrins (Preston Auxiliary), and Charles Trader (Hebron VFD). He asked that we keep JoAnn Shimer in your prayers. He thanked the MSFA Chaplain Corps for their work this past year.

**ATTORNEY** Powell had no written report. He asked for continued support of the credit card program. He discussed the MBNA mailing for accounts at 7%. They do plan another mailing and will be at the Convention. It is a fund raiser for us which gives us about \$3000 per year. He has applications today for the Individual and Company credit cards.

**LAMSFA** President Webb thanked the three Presidents and everyone else for their support with the Ladies Auxiliary Tax Incentive Bill and its passage.

**BESSIE MARSHALL FUND** Chair Orlove presented her written report and discussed the 25 cases funded. She discussed the funds they now have in the Local Government Investment Pool and the donations received this year through the lottery, Auxiliary, Fire Department, misc. donations, and the money they have taken in with the various projects they have undertaken. She thanked the MSFA for its support of the Fund. She presented a prize to Vice President Mattingly for selling the most tickets in a recent Basket drawing She thanked B. Cooke for his help with the family in the loss of Mr. Churnock of Waldorf. His wife made a nice donation to the Bessie Marshall Fund. She thanked R. Yinger for his continued donations of items to the Fund so they

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can continue to make more money. She thanked Baltimore County for their donation to the Fund.

**STATE FIRE MARSHAL** Gabriele said that Deputy Chief Gosnell replaces Deputy Chief M. Bilger, who was transferred to the Northeast Region as Commander of the region. Deputy Chief George Kinhart has retired after 31 years of service. They are in process of hiring both administrative and Deputy Fire Marshals. Additionally, they are in final stages of hiring six Deputy Fire Marshal I positions and one Fire Protection Engineer. When these positions are filled, they will still have five vacancies remaining. He discussed the two department Bills in Congress this year, saying that HB205 was approved. He thanked President Steger and his fellow officers and members of MSFA, for their help in getting this Bill passed. He discussed the Sparklers Bill, which passed, which allows the use of “ground-based sparklers”. He discussed the adoption of the Smart Code (also known as the Rehab Code), which will occur about 1 June 2001. He said the DHCD has begun a state-wide series of one-day training seminars to inform and educate code officials, elected officials builders, architects, consultants, and others, with respect to the application of the Smart Code and its application. The Western Regional Office in Hagerstown has completed its relocation, and its new address is 12 Jonathon Street in Hagerstown. They also plan to relocate the Metro Regional Office in Westminster to another location in Carroll County within the next 60 days. He said with expansion of operations by the BWI Airport Fire and Rescue Department, the Bomb Squad office may have to relocate. He will keep us apprised as the changes are made. He said they have received notification that the DHR has made changes to the COMAR regulations. One specific change is in the deletion of the requirement for an annual safety inspection of a Foster Care Home. He announced that DSFM Christine Schubert and Larry Fletcher have successfully completed the So. Md. Criminal Justice Academy, and DSFM Schubert was assigned to the Southern Region, and DSFM Fletcher to the Metro Region. He reported that DSFM Steven Hatchett has had surgery and will return to duty within the next 4 to 6 weeks. He encouraged everyone to attend the 2001 Mid-Atlantic Line Safety Conference to be held on 25 September at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Howard County. He reported that Richard Brooks has been appointed to the State Fire Prevention Commission where he is replacing Daniel Smith Sr. He discussed the Incident Reports saying that 48 Fire Departments have not yet submitted their report. If they are not received by the end of this year, he plans to send a letter to the County Commissioners of those departments, explaining the situation. He said he cannot stop the payment to the county, but hopes the Commissioners will stop the payments to the departments. L. Downes asked for the list of those non-participating departments. Bob Thomas said he will get this list to President Steger. President Steger and Vice President Mattingly said they would help with an accompanying letter from the MSFA.

**SHOCK TRAUMA** John Spearman and Brenda Fosler presented and discussed their written report on Patient Admissions, OR Cases, Beds Occupied, Patient Diversions, EMS Operations Fund, Capital and New Technology Funding Framework for FY01, Infrastructure, Medical Equipment and Replacement, New Technology and the Nursing Shortage. B. Fosler discussed the Educational Programs which consist of Tours, Case Reviews, ALS Skills Lab, Observation

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Program, and On-site Clinical Programs. They thanked the MSFA for their efforts with the \$3.00 MVA fee increase Bill.

**RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION** Chair Goodloe presented and discussed her written report. She discussed the 1 800-FIRE-LINE, saying the tape has been distributed to all local public information TV channels. They had previously given the tapes to the Executive Committee requesting they be distributed within their areas and advise them of the availability of the tapes. They have not, however, heard back on this request. She said that MFRI is relocating temporarily, and B. Cooke has made arrangements to have the line continued to be answered. However, it will be answered only by voice mail. She discussed the half hour given them for their workshop at the convention, as she had hoped for more time. They will have the Sky Room again for their displays this year. The committee is working at providing give away information on recruitment and retention. They have received donations of materials from Smiley White, the Kensington VFD, and Jim Brown of MIEMSS. They are now awaiting information on their tie to the Web Site. Their next meeting will be 30 April at the MFRI Office in Berwyn Hgts. She handed out a list of the Maryland Counties contacts for the 1 800-FIRE-LINE. B. Seville and L. King discussed the \$60 per month the MSFA have been paying for the calls made and received on the 800 numbers. M. Goodloe showed and discussed the new poster they are now using and will distribute. C. Jewell asked about the local advertising board and the involvement of an all volunteer organization. It was agreed that we need to somehow advertise this project more to the public. L. King discussed as an example, the place mats and where they are used (only in the firehouses). We need to advertise outside of the firehouse, in the community. R. Powell discussed the Bill Boards use, and their costs. C. Edelin suggested raising the committee's budget on a 6 month trial period. Then review it to see if it is working, or not. J. Lau asked about where the phone calls are being received compared to where they should be. She also said the contact list needs to be updated more often. B. Balta discussed the need to list all of the schools (high schools and colleges) to put the posters. C. Stack suggested using the Cable Companies to show the tapes. M. Goodloe said the Cable Companies have been contacted. G. Worthington discussed the posters being already in distribution. S. Hales discussed the need to get more support for this project from outside sources. B. Cooke discussed the Tax Incentive list and J. Lau commented on whether the list is really viable, or not. President Steger said we need to get the message to the public, whether by Bill Boards, or whatever. M. Goodloe said more tapes can be made if they are needed. B. Wagner asked about the politicians and their knowledge of this effort or not. Maybe a gathering of them together at one time would better inform them of our intentions of this project.

**MIEMSS** Dr. Bass presented his written report and discussed the passage of Senate Bill 292 and House Bill 1148. He thanked the MSFA, MFRI, Shock Trauma, MSP Aviation, the EMS and Fire Communities, for their hard work in promoting the Bills. He said that Senate Bill 38 (EMS – Ambulance Services – Definitions and Regulations) was passed on the last day of the legislative session. He said this Bill changes the definition of a commercial ambulance, from vehicle to conveyance. This allows MIEMSS to license Aeromedical services. It also allows

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MIEMSS to waive certain licensing requirements if a commercial ambulance service exceeds the standards in our regulations. He reported the Yellow Alerts have decreased significantly in the last month. This year, EMS Week will be 20 to 26 May, and the theme is “EMS Answering the call”. MIEMSS and the SEMSAC Regional Affairs Committee developed a matching grant program where a 50-50 match would be instituted for future purchase of monitor defibrillators, with the possibility of a waiver for hardship cases. 1 September 2001 is the deadline to apply to the program. He said the EMS Board has approved the use of the National Intermediate Standard curriculum for training Maryland CRT’s. He discussed the E-MAIS problems and that MIEMSS is considering developing their own Web package for the collection of EMS data. He said that currently 61 businesses, organizations, and facilities have been approved to participate in the Facility AED Program. He provided a list of the approved facilities. He discussed the inter-facility transport issues regarding hospital and nursing home concerns about difficulties in securing commercial ambulance services to transport non-emergency patients to and from their facilities. MIEMSS is currently working with the Medicare carrier to try to address these issues. The EMS Care 2001 Conference will be held 27-29 April at the Greenbelt Marriott. He discussed the Health Information Privacy Act regarding privacy for individually identifiable health information in any form. These regulations limit the disclosure of “protected health information”. Dr. Bass reported that C. Wills received the Annual EMS Award. S. Hales asked about commercial service requirements? Dr Bass said that MIEMSS is licensing the commercial services. R. Powell discussed who pays for the AED programs. There is a \$25 application fee to register. L. Sachs discussed the testing for the CRTI Bridge Program and that this is apparently not being considered, but should be. He said the 80 hours does not include a review process. Dr. Bass said it will be in one lump sum or modular and he thought there would be a review. V.P. Worthington asked about the personal ID numbers? Dr Bass said a provider number will be assigned by MIEMSS. Everyone needs to use the same numbers. Dr Bass will check on this as they will recognize only their number.

**EMS** Chair Wills presented his written report which included the minutes of their last meeting. He reported the NFPA Technical Committee on EMS met on 23-24 March. He said the committee liaison is Frank Florence of NFPA. Wills gave his comments on the meeting and discussed two documents discussed at the meeting as: NFPA 1710 (Organization and Deployment for Career Departments). NFPA 1720 does not include EMS staffing or deployment-time requirements, but does spell out the components of an EMS system and says “The specific patient treatment capabilities associated with each Provider level shall be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction for the approval and licensing certifying) of EMS Providers with each state and province.” On the CRT to EMT-Intermediate Update, he reported they have accepted the new CRT to CRT-I (EMT-I) transition curricula. The course will be modularized following the ALS Committee of SEMSAC’s recommendation. He discussed a document on the Draft Program guidelines which was re-issued and reworded to say “Successfully complete an 80 hour update course or an 80 hour update modular course over 2 licensure cycles.” He said this wording still does not meet the requirements of our position as adopted by the EMS Board. He discussed the modular issue, and said if there are no modular programs requested, then the issue is dead. He discussed the issue of testing, and said that he



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voted in favor of the following guideline – “A person takes a program either 80 hours or a module, if the program is used, and is tested. If they pass the second test, all is well. If they fail they can be retested. If they pass the second test, all is well. If they fail the second test, they will receive remedial instruction and be tested a third time. If they pass all is well. If they fail a third time after remediation, they will lose their licensure and must repeat the program”. He thanked the MSFA Officers (especially Jenks), the Legislative Committee, B. Smith, C. Riley, and B. Shimer for their work on the \$3 Tag Fee Bill. B. Kurtz asked about the program and that most people seem to want to get it done in a one time shot. He said he agreed with C. Wills on the three time and you’re out. L. Sachs asked about the modular program and we should be ready for this to happen now, as many areas are not ready for this because they thought they had four years to do it. C. Wills reiterated his recommendation and L. Sachs said we now must leave it up to the committee. Dr. Bass discussed the review module at the end is only a case base Scenario, and not a written exam. C. Wills discussed the C. Simpson report at the EMS meeting, brought up the issue of the problems with the ALS classes as: no show instructors, program coordinator no show, improper Scan Tron cards, and certificates not properly completed. B. Wagner said the no shows, etc, was not limited to the EMS, but other areas as well.

**MFRI** Director Edwards presented and discussed his written report. He thanked the Officers of MSFA and the many others for their efforts in getting the \$3 Bill approved. He said their Budget has been approved for FY2002. He discussed the Upper Eastern Shore Regional Training Center construction progress saying it is estimated to be done by July 2001. The Southern Maryland Regional Training Center renovation project is still in the works and the needed additional \$800k has been approved thanks to Senator Middleton and the many who helped from Southern Maryland, to make sure those funds were approved. The bid is expected to be in late May with construction to begin this summer. The Berwyn Heights facility is now under construction at the College Park Fire Training Academy, and the project is on schedule. They plan to move out of Berwyn Heights by 1 June and relocate on campus until December of 2001. He gave the new MFRI telephone numbers which will not go into effect until they move. He said the Fire Act Program seminars have been conducted in the state. They were well attended and the applications handed out. Applications have however, been very minimal so far, with only about 300 received to date. The Grants must be awarded by September 30, 2001 and the recipient will have 16 months to fulfill the Grant requirements. He discussed the MFRI ALS program and some problems encountered. He said the instructors have been the problem and they are being worked out. He gave the stats on the classes conducted. He discussed the Advanced Life Support Refresher Course, the Acute Coronary Syndrome Course, the EMS Operations for Weapons of Mass Destruction Course, and Miscellaneous Continuing Education programs across the state. He discussed the Carroll County incidents and they are working on these to get them resolved. He discussed the Instructor Certification Review Board (MICRB), which continues to function. The MICRB is in the process of revising the standard to ensure that it is up to date and includes the appropriate requirements. L. Sachs said the problems were not limited to just Carroll County. He asked of MFRI’s involvement in the 80 hour upgrade for CRT to I program? S. Edwards said they do plan to look at this but have made no decisions yet, but they do plan to be involved with it. He discussed the need for the Modular program, or not. He

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agreed they do need to work with the EMS Committee and decide what the student does need, and they will develop a program to work with that. He said with the instructors, cuts are being made and reports are being submitted late. It is the instructor's responsibility to get the paper work in as soon as possible. President Steger thanked S. Edwards and his staff for their help with the recent legislative actions.

Father Newman gave the lunch prayer at 1200 hrs. MEETING recalled at 1300 hrs.

**INTERSTATE MUTUAL AID** Chair R. Muth presented his written report and discussed the emergency management interstate legislation. The purpose of this legislation is to enable local jurisdictions to acquire additional assistance/emergency services via Interstate Mutual Aid. He said this mutual aid is separate from any local mutual aid agreements. It is a pro-active tool in addition to existing mutual aid agreements and will function as an additional risk management tool for local jurisdictions. It should lead to improving and enhancing Maryland and its subdivisions chance to fight major disasters. All areas of emergency services will be incorporated into the Interstate Mutual Aid (Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, Public Works, Anti-Terrorism, Hazmat, National Guard, Animal Rescue, etc) as a comprehensive approach essential to total quality emergency preparedness. He discussed the key issues of the agreement. L. Sachs and C. Jewell discussed the Bill and its relationship to Workmens Comp. B. Smith said it does not relate to Workmens Comp as they do individual cases and will not pay for any members in another jurisdiction.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** M. Mitchell and R. Lillard presented their written report and discussed DNR's response to 210 wildfires so far this year, which burned 3,923 acres of forest, marsh, and fields. They discussed the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) funding for 2001 which is an increase over last year. The Grant levels will be increased to \$1000 per Company in match money. Applications will be sent out by 1 June 2001. The Basic wildland classes are scheduled for 27-29 April (Eastern Region), and 5-6 May in the Western Region. The interagency wildland firefighter camp is scheduled for 18-20 may. The S212 Wildfire Chainsaw course will be part of the fire camp this year. The DNR Forest Service Wildland Fire Crew will be listed for national availability on 1 June 2001. Maryland's Fire Crew was recognized by the Maryland General Assembly on 9 March for their efforts last year. Over 100 firefighters were mobilized for the national effort last year. Their heavy duty replacement program is on schedule and bids have been received for two John Deere 450H tractor plows, which will be placed in the Central and Western regions. Two FEPP Chevy diesel pickups have been received so far this year and have been placed at the 10<sup>th</sup> District and Forestville VFD's for rehab into brush trucks. He said the new Federal Excess Property Program adopted last fall under HR5408, is still being examined by the Department of Defense. The new program will make the FEPP available for Fire, Rescue and Medical Services. Mitchell introduced Ric Lillard as the new Western Regional Fire Manager. He gave the names and telephone numbers of the other Regional Offices.

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**EMS BOARD** R. Yinger had no written report, but discussed the \$3 Bill that has now passed, and now, other Trauma Centers want more funds too, as they were not included in the 292 Bill. Now a task force has been formed to look into this, and the Fire Association was not included in that committee. He said he has requested that the MSFA be included in that committee.

**TRAINING** Chair D. Stevens presented his written report and said the committee has completed their circuit of meetings to all of the regions and have begun the process of writing the update of the Ten Year Training Plan. He said the High School Cadet program is still a priority with the committee. He thanked B. Kurtz for his attendance at several of the meetings and he thanked the three Presidents for their support and attendance at the meetings too. Their next meeting will be on 6 May at Berwyn Heights.

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS** Chair P. Gordy presented her written report and discussed the proposed Constitution & By-Laws amendments for the Hall of Fame, (includes the Marbury Gates Service Cup Award and Roll of Honor), the Membership committee (Individual Membership in MSFA), the Low Interest Revolving Loan Account Board (Section 2 and Section K). These proposed amendments will appear on the ballot at the Convention this year.

**FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR** Chair M. Harris had no written report. He said he is disappointed in the lack of applications for this award, so far this year.

**FIRE PREVENTION** Chair R. Collins presented his written report and discussed their meeting of 25 March in Millersville. He discussed a lady wanting to run for Miss Fire Prevention, but she did not live in Maryland, therefore she did not qualify. He said that as of yesterday, they only had one application for Miss Fire Prevention, but there are possibly five more forthcoming. He said that Miss Fire Prevention and the Runner-Up will help give out the awards at the Convention and in the judging of the awards. They also plan a large display at the Convention this year.

**HALL OF FAME** Chair D. Mooney presented his written report and said the letters of nominations are due by 1 May 2001 for the Hall of Fame and the Marbury Gates Award. He said he has received several nominations to date. He listed the number of past recipients of the award by county.

**MEMORIAL** Chair D. Mooney presented his written report and discussed the progress of the memorial. They have met with the State treasurer and the Comptroller to brief them on the project. The land survey of the property has been completed. He thanked Director Edwards and the MFRI staff for providing a meeting location for the past four years. Now with their move, the committee will meet at the Anne Arundel Fire Headquarters in Millersville. Their next meeting is scheduled for 2 may, 2001.

**LEGISLATIVE** Chair B. Smith presented his written report and discussed the Bills they have reviewed (904 Senate, 16 Senate Joint Resolutions, 1464 House, 87 House Joint Resolutions).

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He said the Legislation Session for 2001 ended on 9 April at midnight. He said the most monitored Bills were SB292 and the companion HB1148 (MVA Surcharge of \$3.00). The next most important Bill (HB828) was the Amnesty Program for the Low Interest Loan Fund Program. He discussed several other Bills and their status. He discussed the Safe Haven Act and this Bill will be back next year. He mentioned that someone needs to be educated on the difference between a hospital and a Fire house. They don't understand that there is not always someone in the Firehouse 24 hours of the day. He discussed the Legislative Committee mailings that have been sent out. He thanked P. Webb for her help in Annapolis this year. B. Kurtz thanked the committee on behalf of the Executive Committee for the hard work they have put in this year. President Steger agreed.

**HISTORICAL & ARCHIVES** written report was received from C. Black. He said the file cabinets have been opened and they found over 100 photos, Procedures Books, copies of tag licenses and a register. They plan to organize the photos and inventory the rest. He asks that the officers of MSFA meet with him to help identify some of the materials found. He asks guidance about the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Books to put them on sale at the convention, or not. He said that all of the materials in the committee's care were transferred to the Hebron site. The only MSFA materials not transferred, are the models of the memorial, and the copies of the Fire Academy. The furniture will be stored by MFRI until the new facilities can be obtained. The old license plate applications were taken care of by the Transportation committee at the discretion of the MSFA officers.

**LOW INTEREST LOAN ACCOUNT BOARD** Chair J. McCrea presented and discussed his written report. He said now that the program guidelines are in place, the funding for FY2002 is anticipated to be \$11 million. He said the Maryland Board of Public Works approved the program guidelines, procedures, application, etc. They require a Memorandum of Understanding be executed by the Association prior to the transfer of funds for the Low Interest Revolving Loan Account. The BPW advised a check for \$500k would be mailed to the MSFA Treasurer in a couple of weeks. These funds are to be maintained in a separate account specifically for this purpose. They have had 6 applications for loans with the following actions taken: Rock Hall VFC / \$1million for new fire station / denied due to lack of funds. Fairmount VFC / \$150k to build a firehouse / deferred for lack of funds. District 16 VFD / \$87k for new Rescue truck / deferred for incomplete application. Potomac FC #2 / \$225k for new engine/tanker / deferred for irregularities in application and demonstrated the apparent lack of ability to repay the loan. Neck District VFC / \$135k for Brush/Mini Pumper / Approved. Eldorado-Brookview VFC / \$108,750 for Rescue Mini-Pumper / Approved. They ask that MSFA allow the Bank to take the 1<sup>st</sup> lien against the pumper instead of using a mortgage, due to the cost of obtaining a mortgage? J. McCrea asked the Board to act on the two applications (Neck District VFC and Eldorado-Brookview VFC). B. Shimer asked why some of the paper work was incomplete and not properly submitted. It was done in a hurried manner due to the rushed time frame involved. L. Downes asked about when an amount is asked for but the fund does not have that much money, why can't the committee say so and tell them how much they are able to lend? Then it would be up to the Department if they will take that amount or not. J. McCrea said the Department can

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always come back with an application for a lesser amount. S. Hales asked about a deadline to use the money after the loan is approved and received. J. McCrea said they have to have a signed contract before the money is transferred, and the contract has a start date of the work to be done. S. Hales asked about the three bids process and is it being done? J. McCrea said they do not now require they get three bids. C. Jewell asked if we hold any equity? We will hold a security interest title with MSFA's name on it. W. Donaldson asked if they had any money of their own? They do have enough to buy the truck. All of the other items they plan to buy will come out of that other money. L. Sachs pointed out this is not a need base program, but a need for what they are borrowing the money for, type program. The following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by W. Donaldson:

**MOTION: To approve the loan to Neck District VFC for \$135,000. Motion approved.**

J. McCrea discussed the loan application for Eldorado-Brookview VFC for \$108,750 to purchase a Rescue Mini-Pumper. He discussed their ability to repay the loan as they have just paid off one of their pumpers, and their building is also paid for now. There was no one present from the Eldorado-Brookview VFC, and the Board of Review was asked to join the Low Interest Loan Committee at the table. J. McCrea discussed the request to have MSFA take a 2<sup>nd</sup> on the loan, and the bank will have the 1<sup>st</sup> on the loan. L. Sachs asked if the guidelines require us to hold the first lien? J. McCrea said no it does not make that requirement. He explained how the banks work regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> lien and them probably would not give a loan behind us. We should consider letting the bank take the lien ahead of us, and we take the 2<sup>nd</sup> lien. V.P. Mattingly asked about the paper trail on bank loans and asked if the Eldorado-Brookview VFC loan was approved, or not? They said it was approved, but have not seen the paper work. It was agreed we should see a (or obtain) copy of this action. It is not done now but should be given to the MSFA via the Board of Review. The following motion was made by C. Stack and seconded by W. Donaldson:

**MOTION: To accept and approve the loan to Eldorado-Brookview VFC for \$108,750. Motion approved.**

Motion made by L. Sachs and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Stack:

**MOTION: To have the MSFA loan be 2<sup>nd</sup> to a lien from the bank and the loan is not to exceed \$35,000.**

Discussion by L. Sachs of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> lien on the note as one cannot be obtained without the other. They discussed the 75 percent of what amount. C. Jewell discussed the depreciation values of a vehicle as to whether we take the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> lien against the equipment. This was further discussed by President Steger regarding the 75 percent and the 1<sup>st</sup> lien on the note and we need to be sure we can cover our loan. J. McCrea said to pass the motion would be granting 100 percent of the loan. **Vote on the motion – Motion defeated by majority vote.**

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C. Jewell asked that the committee check on these decisions made today and get an opinion from the Attorney General's Office. Motion made by C. Stack and seconded by W. Donaldson:

**MOTION: When the Board of Review and the Low Interest Loan Committee, meet with this MSFA Executive Committee to discuss a loan application, a person from the company making the application, also be present.**

L. Sachs discussed the motion saying that if that person is not present, then we cannot vote on that application. He feels we should strongly recommend that a member of the Company be present, but not requires it. The committee said that they did recommend the Reps be here for today's applications. V.P. Worthington said the Presidents are in disagreement of this motion. C. Stack withdrew the motion. 2<sup>nd</sup> also withdrawn by W. Donaldson. **Motion Withdrawn.** J. Lau asked if we will expend the funds in this period or will it expire if not used. R. Steger said it will not expire, it will rollover into the next year.

**INCENTIVES PROGRAMS** Chair Joan Robison presented her written report and discussed the LOSAP Manual which will incorporate the updates of the different county LOSAP changes made. There have been no requests for the manual since our last meeting. The LOSAP Summary Sheet and Point System Summary Sheets have been requested and sent out. She discussed the legislation for the Ladies Auxiliary for their success with their inclusion in the Tax Incentive Program. She said the revised P.2.2 reflecting the 60 months for year 2001 and the latest legislation will be sent to each of the County Coordinators for distribution to their companies.

**WAYS & MEANS** Chair J. Means discussed the raffle ticket sales as being slow so far, and he asked everyone to please get them sold.

Benediction given by Chaplain Rev. Dixon. Adjournment at 1457 hours. Meeting recalled to order by President R. Steger on 22 April 2001 at 0900 hours at Rocky Ridge VFC. The opening prayer was given by Chaplain H. Hetz. PAST PRESIDENTS introduced by President Steger as: D. Kirk (63-64), O. Baker (78-79), R. Dempsey (80-81), C. Riley (83-84), L. King (85-86), C. Carpenter (86-87), R. Shimer (88-89), B. Smith (91-92), D. Davis (97-98), C. Edelin (99-00). The President introduced other guests in attendance which included LA President P. Webb. President Steger said that B. Cumberland has been elected 2<sup>nd</sup> V. Chair of NVFC.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE** Chair Joe Robison presented his written report and said the Congressional Fire Services Institute 13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Fire and EMS Dinner will be held on 25 April at the Hilton Towers. They and the three Presidents will meet Wednesday morning to go down to Capital Hill. He discussed the Fire Grant Program saying the deadline for submitting applications is 2 may 2001. All Companies are encouraged to apply for at least one of the six Grant categories (you may only apply for two). He discussed House Bill 93 (Federal Firefighters

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Retirement Age Fairness Act) which was approved on 31 January and sent to the Senate where it was referred to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs, and its affect on employees.

**CONVENTION** Chair L. King presented his written report and discussed the Convention and Conference which starts on 15 June at Ocean City. This year's theme will be "An Ocean of Opportunity for the New Millennium". He discussed the update of Convention preparations as: The deadline for all ads for the Program Book is 1 May. The final date for all officers and committee chairpersons reports is this weekend. He said everything is to be copy ready or on a computer disk. Vice Chair M. Gibbons is receiving applications from the vendors saying they are slow in arriving this year. They are expecting about 150 vendors this year. The apparatus and Fire Safety Trailers will be on display Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday at North Division Street and the Board Walk. Registration will start at 0800 on Sunday with the stuffing of the registration packets. All items must be in by that time. The bags are again donated by the VFIS. Registration will begin again on Monday at 0700 hours. He said this year, all members of committees must register for their committee, not just the chairperson. The Officers Banquet will be held on Saturday at the Clarion Resort Fountainebleau Inn (The old Sheraton) which starts at 1800 hours. All Past Presidents of the MSFA and LA are requested to attend. The memorial Service will be held on Sunday at 1900 hours and attendees are asked to be in their department uniforms. The Joint Officers Installation will be held at 1830 on Tuesday in the Main Ball Room of the Convention Center. The Golf Tournament will be held on Friday with a shot gun start of 0730 hours. He discussed the Corporate Partnership Program saying these partners will be sponsoring some of the sessions, programs, seminars, training programs, social events, and other activities of the Convention and Conference. He listed those partners and asked everyone to take time to thank them for their support and cooperation. The Convention packets for the departments, will be in the mail next week. He discussed the total cooperation that is received from Mayor J. Mathias, the City Council, Public Works, Transportation Department, Police Department, entire staff at the Convention Center, and the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company. He thanked each and every one of the individuals involved for their total cooperation and assistance. He said the operation and assistance they received from the Prince George's County Fire and EMS Department, the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services, the Howard County Fire and Rescue Services, the Baltimore County Fire Department, MFRI, MIEMSS, State Fire Marshal's Office, and the Governor's Office is greatly appreciated. He commended the individuals on the Steering Committee, the sub-committees, and the other individuals for their team effort with the Convention and Conference. He said this is your convention and if you have any suggestions, please let him know.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** Chair R. Watkins presented his written report and said they have just mailed the latest issue of the Trumpet. They are now working on the issue for the Convention, and plan to have it in our hands the first week in June. He asked that Committee Chairpersons and Officers remember to position those getting awards, etc. on the stage, so good pictures can be taken. The committee again plans to present a seminar on the Non-Emergency Job of a department PIO. The Media Guide will be available at Ocean City. Their committee members will man the Information Booth and a table in the hall, for copies of reports, award winner

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names, etc, may be left for the Trumpet. He said he also needs date cards for the Associations and the State. He thanked his committee members and the officers of the MSFA for their help and cooperation during the year.

**SAFETY** Chair R. Balta presented his written report and discussed the two meetings they have held, which were the focal areas to distribute the Maryland Health and Safety Standards for Emergency Service Providers. They plan to sponsor several information meetings around the state to inform our membership about the proposed Health and Safety regulation. The committee will provide again this year, pocket masks to members attending the convention. He asked everyone to remind the associated membership about the Smith Stathem Safety Award. Their next meeting will be on 29 April at Solomons VRS/FD at 1000 hours.

**WATERCRAFT** Chair Schlotterbeck was not present, but his report was received and distributed. The report said that most of the members are attending the MFRI Port and Marina Seminar. Chairman JD Schlotterbeck thanked all of the committee members for their support throughout the year. He discussed the Annual Marine Rendezvous hosted by the Bowley's Quarters VFD on 21 March. He said they have been notified by the USCG that the Whitbread/Volvo Race fleet is expected in Baltimore on 19 April 2002.

**HAZMAT** C. Ray presented his written report and discussed the short and long term Goals of the committee. Highlights of the Goals was the researching of the availability of Federal Grants for HazMat/Terrorism, and Updating their data base of responder training and certification levels so that future training can be geared to our needs.

**SCHOLARSHIP** Chair B. Olsen presented his written report and he said they have received 25 queries of which 5 are continuing and 6 are new applications. Mrs. Heimer is still supporting students under the Floyd B. Heimer Memorial Scholarship Award and her currently supported student, April Musser will graduate in 2002. Matt Stevens is scheduled to graduate from UMUC on 19 May 2001 and is seeking employment in Maryland. Philip Stevens and Gary Williams are scheduled to graduate from the College of Southern Maryland in May 2001. Philips plans to continue his studies at UMUC, and Gary at UMBC. He said that invoices are still due for two supported students at the College of Southern Maryland, and one at UMUC. He included with his report, a copy of a Scholarship Fund Projection through 2005. C. Edelin asked if new funds are needed for charges past 2005. B. Olsen was asked to bring back some suggestions to increase this fund. He suggested increasing his appropriations from the Dues. President Steger said they are working with NEXTEL, etc. and the Scholarship Fund could be part of that funding.

**DATA SYSTEMS** Vice Chair L. Harvey had no written report. He reported on the Comcast Cable service to the Fire and Rescue Services and they are expanding this to Harford County and he asked for the ok for the committee to pursue this. The following motion was made by C. Edelin and seconded by T. Thompson:



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**MOTION: To allow the committee to pursue the expansion of Comcast Service to Harford County.**

Discussion: Harvey explained just what service would be expanded and that he would coordinate this with Comcast and the county. L. Gilroy discussed this same action in Charles County as did. Harvey said they would be providing a high-speed cable modem access to the stations per a single PC. This is a lot better than a dial up. V. P. Worthington discussed this for Harford County. B. Balta asked about a study to see who in the state is actually covered by Comcast. They are wide spread but not in all of the state. Motion was approved by all. Harvey discussed the Website and the changes being made. B. Balta said the Web service has been working good and is greatly appreciated. Harvey said if needed, the e-mail to contact is: [Webmaster@MSFA.org](mailto:Webmaster@MSFA.org) .

**RECRUITMENT & RETENTION** B. Wagner and J. Denver discussed the posters previously approved, and they have 75 for each County today. They plan to have other items (magnets, etc for the Departments) for handout later in the year. They also have a Banner which is here today for all to see.

**TRANSPORTATION** Chair T. Flint presented his written report and said the committee did meet on 31 March in Caroline County for the purpose of meeting the coordinators for the Easter Shore area, and distribute the revised Procedure Manuals. They plan to obtain a space for a Booth at the Convention this year. He said that several unpaid tag fees have been remitted due to the collection efforts of committee members. They are planning a survey on the Website to cover the most frequently asked questions and MVA procedures. The ADC Map Company of Alexandria Va. has donated the map books this year (we paid for them last year). He was asked about the black and white tags and their recovery. The Secretary is asked to put this on the Convention Agenda this year. T. Flint said that MVA had no intentions of pulling the B&W tags, which they no longer do. J. Mattingly said they are trying to get those tags flagged because MVA will not pull them. Tom said that flagging does work, but it takes about two months to put this into effect. The flag shows up when the tag owner tries to renew the tag. There is presently 800 B&W tags still out there, and most no longer are associated with a Fire Department. They are still working on this and will talk to MVA and try to have something in writing from them for the Convention. L. Downes suggested we pull the tags that are numbered after 30,000.

**SURPLUS PROPERTY** Chair S. Massey presented his written report and their meeting at Glenn Dale on 14 April. He discussed the surplus property gear for North East FC which has been on hold until he can find someone who needs it or a place to store it. He said the Union Bridge FD no longer wants the generator (now located at the Indian Head VFD). He is now trying to find someone who can use the generator. He has been told that BG&E is getting rid of 30 sets of breathing apparatus. He discussed the FEPP program with DNR, and he asked the Executive Committee to endorse DNR to continue the FEPP and screening program. The following motion was made by C. Edelin and seconded by L. Sachs:

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**MOTION: To support and endorse the FEPP Program with DNR. Motion approved.**

S. Massey discussed the problem of storage space for the surplus property that does become available to us. He said that Ft. Meade is a possible free storage location. V.P. Mattingly said we do need to locate a storage location for the property. S. Hales suggested trailers and the need to locate the trailers somewhere. L. Sachs asked about the area at Cedarville (DNR)? S. Massey said if he can get a Conex, then DNR said he can store that at Cedarville. Jenks said that Paul Fabiszak has a lot we can park trailers on in the mean time, if we can get the trailers. .

**FIVE YEAR PLANNING** Vice Chair D. Mooney presented a written report and discussed their meetings of 8 March and 5 April at the Laurel Fire Station. He said they discussed office space for MSFA and made the following recommendations to pursue the office space: 1. 17 State Circle has limited space and would not house the operational needs for the MSFA. 2. Office space could be rented at first, until a suitable location could be found to purchase. 3. Paid personnel should be discussed in establishing office operations. 4. Office may begin with a small space outside of town with a part or full time office manager to handle clerical duties and telephone messages. 5. The office personnel would most likely work directly for the President and answer to the Executive Committee. Further investigation by the committee has been done and they would like to set forth the following findings: Office space in Annapolis ranges from \$15 to \$50 per square foot per month plus utilities and insurance. MSFA should broker a deal similar to that which enables the utilization of 17 State Circle. The Lt. Governor has already been contacted in this regard. The 1-800-FIRE LINE phone number is currently being paid for by the MSFA and it rings into the MFRI office. MFRI has an allowance made for MSFA in the newly constructed headquarters. The issue of Individual Memberships is a proposal for consideration at the upcoming convention. The committee recommends that we utilize the MFRI office space and occupy such with a part or full time office manager immediately upon completion of the headquarters building. S. Hales asked about Waterwitch? W. Donaldson said the property has not been sold. President Steger said the state is still looking into the use of the building (mainly the firehouse building). V.P. Mattingly said we have had an office at MFRI for years but have not utilized it, except for storage. Director Edwards has promised us a room in the new building if we will use the room for something besides storage. The 1-800-FIRE LINE would also be moved to the new office space. C. Jewell asked what the bottom line dollar is for the office space occupancy? V.P. Mattingly said this would not be in this years Budget. B. Wagner said the position description for such a job, needs to be written before filling the space with an employee.

**STANDARDS** Chair B. Huttenloch said the committee inspected the Lloyds Volunteer Fire Department on 7 April at the request of President Steger, and found their Class A pumpers within standards, and the house inspection was in order. There will be no more MOSH meetings now, and the Safety Committee is handling the distribution and information training of the new Regulation. There will be a presentation of the MOSH Regulation at the Convention. He requested that any member attending the NFPA Conference in California in May, please sit in on the Standards

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Committee meeting and send him a review of the events. He said the NFPA has accepted the standard (NFPA 1720) as it now is. We want to keep our MOSH as we now have it (because we have control of it) and we do not want the NFPA1720. He said they have two applications as: 1. Calvert County ALS / Associate to Active membership. The following motion was made by T. Thompson and seconded by C. Jewell:

**MOTION: To accept this application based on the passage of their inspection. Motion approved.**

2. Tylerton (Smith Island) applying but has not filled out the application form yet. They need to fill out the application form before Board can take any action.

**STATISTICAL** Chair L. Gilroy said they have received 175 to 200 of the forms back from the Fire and EMS Companies. They are in process of contacting those Companies that have not returned the form. He said only three Counties have 100 percent participation (Howard, Somerset, and St. Mary's). He discussed the problem of getting all Departments to cooperate and fill out the forms, and they just do not know how to get it done. P. Fabiszak discussed the stats and some of the problems involved, and the need to get a reply when the reports have been submitted. He said we need to put restraints on the demanding Agencies, as they do on us. B. Smith discussed this situation and how some agencies do it. W. Donaldson discussed his county and how they keep track of their statistics. V.P. Worthington said the statewide contractor problems by Dr. Bass with the e-mails. This was a statewide communication program and it had problems. B. Huttenloch discussed the call reports and how they do this in his Department and how simple it actually can be. It is a standard in our By-Laws that each station keep their call reports. L. Downes said the committee is doing a good job, but we are not made aware of the problem until it is past due. L. King said we can't agree around the state as we can't even agree on what to call a fire truck. We are not standardized as we should be. The Police Departments are standardized and can talk to each other in the same language.

**MEMBERSHIP** Chair J. Long presented his written report and said the committee has not met since the February Executive Committee meeting. He said they are working on the artwork for the membership card, and are getting prices for putting together a display for the convention. He asked for up to \$500 for the committee. L. King asked about memberships and why should a person pay a membership dues? Just to vote, as their Department does already vote. President Steger discussed the Department member and that he must be a member of the Association. All benefits should be that the person is a member of the Association to receive them. L. Sachs said in order to sell this By-Laws change, we need to have better answers to the many questions being asked. D. Cox said all of us, not just the Officers of the Association, need to sell the membership. B. Balta said we need to be ready at Ocean City to answer all of the questions that are forthcoming at the Convention. B. Kurtz told J. Long that he should have a list of the benefits and answers to the questions to put into the packets given out at the convention. President Steger asked everyone to support this issue as the Executive Committee did already pass this By-Laws Change proposal for action at the convention. C. Jewell said we must be

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consistent in our efforts or it will die. J. Baer discussed the lack of knowledge of what the value of this issue really is. He said he has learned a few things here today of this membership and he can now go out and promote it. V.P. Mattingly said they keep hearing of what is the Association doing for the members and they need to be told just what are the benefits to becoming an Individual Member? D. Cox says we have to have the membership first, then we can get the benefits. B. Balta discussed the benefits needed to promote this membership. The younger people do not see what it is we do for them. It is the younger people that need the health benefits, etc. C. Riley said maybe we are pushing this issue too fast. Maybe this should be on the ballot as a question of intent, not a By-Laws change right now. President Steger said we have been working on this for the past three year and now it is ready to be promoted by us. T. Thompson discussed the issue and the questions being asked. We have to be the ones to sell this. C. Edelin said maybe the problem is a possible fee involved and maybe we should say no fee will be imposed for first two year. W. Donaldson said no one has to join this membership. Your Company is a member and you can get the benefits through your Company. B. Kurtz said he agreed that we have to promote the issue if we want it passed. He pointed out we have the Tax Incentive and the LOSAP as well. We need to go back to our County Associations and promote this issue. L. Downes said this is new and a lot of questions should be asked, and we need to answer the questions and sell it. C. Stack said we just need to sell this issue. J. Baer discussed the need for the Company to belong to the MSFA or a member cannot be a member. There are Company's that do not qualify for membership in the MSFA. He said we should allow a person to become a member even if his Company is not a member. Joe Robison discussed the benefits and those of other Associations elsewhere in the country. This issue will make us a stronger Association. S. Hales said this is a benefit package, not a revenue package.

**INSURANCE ADVISORY** Chair D. Cox presented his written report and discussed the bids received for the sale of the V.P.'s car (1998 Ford Crown Victoria). He opened the bids at this time and report the car goes to Jim Mc Cafferty with a bid of \$6003.37. The following motion was made by T. Thompson and seconded by B. Kurtz:

**MOTION: To approve this bid and sale of the car. Motion approved.**

**MFRETC** Chair R. Shimer said that he has been re-appointed to the commission by Governor Glendening. S. Cox and G. DeHaven have also been re-appointed. D. Stevens has been appointed to replace K. Fairfax, effective 1 July. He expressed the Commissions appreciation to Keith for the valuable services he rendered to the commission, and he welcomed D. Stevens to the commission. Vice Chair R. Armstrong will not be re-appointed because he no longer qualifies. He said the MFRETC is on record in support of SB292 and HB1148. He said that R. Cumberland was re-appointed as the Commission representative to the MFRI President's Board of Advisors. The MICRB is presently reviewing the Certification Standards and Procedures for Emergency Services Instructors in the State of Maryland. Following the review, they will make recommendations for changes to MFRETC for final approval. He said the commission recently met with the Maryland Department of Budget and Fiscal Management regarding future plans for providing for the emergency services to become connected to the Network Maryland Program

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and to enhance the opportunities through the system. They expect to have Annapolis, Baltimore and College Park on line by October 2001. It will be mandatory for state agencies to become part of the system while counties will be placed on the system voluntarily. The commission is planning to review Training Standards for Fire Department personnel. Apparently the Maryland Minimum Pre-Basic training Program for Firefighter Trainees, may be the only training some departments are giving their personnel. The commission continues to work toward the implementation of the Training Center Enhancement Program, and their goal is to work with MFRI and the Council of Academies to develop specialty training centers throughout the state. Their next meeting will be on 24 April.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Chair C. Riley presented his written report and discussed the funds (\$43,509.09) the committee has paid out in benefits. The monthly benefits list consists of 34 widows, 6 children and one disabled fireman. Line of Duty benefits have been paid to the spouse of Gilmore Stitley of Citizens Truck Company in Frederick. His widow has been added to the monthly benefits list. He discussed Mrs. Staley's housing situation that this benefit has had a big impact on.

**BUDGET & REVIEW** Chair P. Fabiszak presented and discussed his written report and the proposed budget for FY2001-2002. He asked that the Board approve the movement of \$500 from item Line 16 (\$2,400) for the Membership Committee for printing of material for the By-Laws change proposal to be presented at the convention. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by B. Kurtz:

**MOTION: To move the \$500 from line 16 for the Membership Committee. Motion approved.**

He presented and discussed the proposed 2001-2002 Budget, which included a total Income of \$176,010.00 and Expenses total of \$176,610.35. The additional \$600.35 is from the Retreat item number 88, listed under Expenses. He discussed the State Appropriation Funds Budget (\$150,000.00), Accrued (\$14,060.00), and the Balance of \$164,060.00. He discussed several items he feels should be looked at as well as what we use the appropriation money for (postage, etc). These will be checked on by the committee. C. Jewell asked about the copier expenses. L. Fabiszak said they are the copier maintenance contracts, services, copier paper, cartridges, etc). Letter Head paper asked about as there are several different types showing up. He said the Office of the Secretary will furnish letter head paper with MSFA and you can then add to it your committee title, etc. This will better uniform the MSFA letter head paper.

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS BOARD** Chair P. Hurlock presented his written report and discussed action within the committee. He said that Marilyn Farndon is resigning due to other commitments. Chairman of the ENSB Timothy Longo resigned to assume the position of Police Chief in Charlottesville Virginia. ENSB Coordinator Vince Price resigned to assume a position with a company in Rockville. They now have six vacancies on the Board. They have been told that the Bill (HB 1381 Increase 911 Fee) received unfavorable report by the Commerce and

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Government Matters, and HB1078 (Wireless Service) will create a Task Force to look at the issues and report to the General Assembly by 1 December. Their next meeting will be on 29 May in the County Government Complex in Carroll County.

**17 STATE CIRCLE** Chair J. Ferguson presented his written report and said the steps and railings have been painted. The door will be painted when the weather is consistently warm enough to allow it to remain open to dry. They anticipate that the interior will be painted this year. The building was recently inspected and everything appears to be in order. The masonry will be pointed in the spring.

Prayer given by LA Chaplain L. Hetz. RECALL at 1300 hours.

**MISS FIRE PREVENTION** Rachael Lyons thanked everyone for this past very nice year. She has been busy and has enjoyed it very much. She said it has been an honor to represent the MSFA.

**ROCKY RIDGE VFC** President R. Mumma and his wife Betty Ann, were presented with the money collected for the lunches the two days and on behalf of everyone, President Steger thanked them for the delicious food. Betty Ann was congratulated for being selected as the Departmental Service Award for Frederick County. President Steger thanked C. Abrecht and Junior Fire Company for their hospitality yesterday. He mentioned the FF Memorial at Emmitsburg this year and asked the Departments for their logo T-shirts, hats, etc to be given away as door prizes at the event. President Steger said that Chief R. Siarnicki is retiring and his new job will be at the FF Memorial at Emmitsburg.

J. Long gave an update on the Howard County issue. He discussed a letter received denying what the other letter had said regarding the volunteers.

J. Lau discussed solicitation issue in her area and advised everyone to be careful with such sales people. She said they are still trying to get their stats in.

S. Hales said that E-704 (engine stolen during convention last year) is back in service at Ocean City. He thanked the Executive Committee for their help and cooperation this past year.

V.P. Mattingly said that the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association will hold their annual convention and parade on 5 & 6 May in Lexington Park. It is being hosted by the Bay District VFD and Joe Cooper is the incoming President and Doyle Cox the incoming 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. He discussed the damage sustained with the fire at Ridge VRS station. He said they have full replacement insurance. The fire started with a plugged in battery trickle charger (loose connection).

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President Steger thanked everyone for the nice meeting this weekend, and he thanked those who attended. Closing prayer was given by Rev. Dixon. There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned at 1335.

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 approve these reports as presented. Motion Passed**

**MOTION: To approve a \$25. fee on checks returned for insufficient funds. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: To approve the loan to Neck District VFC for \$135,000. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: To accept and approve the loan to Eldorado-Brookview VFC for \$108,750. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: To allow the committee to pursue the expansion of Comcast Service to Harford County. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: To support and endorse the FEPP Program with DNR. Motion Passed.**

**MOTION: To accept this application based on the passage of their inspection. Motion approved.**

**MOTION: To approve this bid and sale of the car. Motion approved.**

**MOTION: To move the \$500. from line 16 for the Membership Committee. Motion approved.**