

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 25-26, 2001
Piney Point, Maryland

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The Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 0900 hours by President Charles J. Mattingly, III, at the Paul Hall Center at Piney Point. Chaplain Dixon gave an opening prayer for the success of the weekend meetings. President Mattingly led the pledge to the flag and welcomed everyone to Piney Point. Rev. Dixon reported that PP Roy Wood is not doing very well and we ask for your prayers for him and for Mr. Bill Cowa of Wise Avenue VFD who had a knee replacement. President Mattingly introduced President Judy Bagwell, and Chief Mike Roberts of the 2nd District VFD/RS who welcomed us to Piney Point. President Mattingly announced that Donnie Hall had accepted a job in Florida and cannot hold the position of Executive Committee Chair. President Mattingly has appointed Mr. Doyle Cox of Prince Frederick VFD as the Chair of the Executive Committee. PP Roger Steger installed D. Cox in his new position. President Mattingly welcomed the Past Presidents in attendance as: E. Dunn (76-77), O. Baker (78-79), C. Riley (83-84), L. King (85-86), C. Carpenter (86-87), R. Cumberland (87-88), R. Shimer (88-89), J. Robison (89-90), T. Mattingly (90-91), B. Smith (91-92), R. Yinger (94-95), F. Cross (95-96), D. Davis (97-98), R. Knippenburg (98-99), and R. Steger (00-01). The President introduced those guests that were in attendance.

President Mattingly presented his report discussing his activities these past two months and the many functions throughout the state that he has attended representing the MSFA. The President reported that he had met with the Committee Chairpersons on 1 July to review the duties and responsibilities of each committee. He discussed his, and the two Vice Presidents, meeting with Senator Barbara Mikulski regarding the Federal Fire Grant Act, and that so far, only three Departments in Maryland have received one of the Grants. He discussed the Five States Presidents Meeting, and the introduction of a new program called Emergency Responder Safety Institute. This was created by the Cumberland Valley Vol. Firemen's Association as an informal advisory panel of public leaders committed to reducing deaths and injuries to America's Emergency Responders. They also attended the Virginia State Convention in Hampton Va. and their President James Stokely, briefed them on the Firefighter Advantage Program, which is an incentive program for their membership. He said this program should work with our Individual membership program. He said they plan to meet with our Membership Committee regarding the Virginia program. President Mattingly said they also attended the West Virginia Convention in Weston WV. He attended the swearing in of State Fire Marshal William Barnard. He said the Presidents continue to meet with the representatives of Mercantile Bank regarding the Loan Programs for the Departments. He said the MSFA representatives continue to meet with Dr. Bass and his staff regarding the helicopter issue and other EMS issues pertaining to the MSFA.

First Vice President Gene Worthington presented his written report. He discussed the many county association meetings he has attended in the state, and the meeting with Lt. Governor Townsend at her birthday party at the Zoo. He said the officers have been in contact with Delegate Rudolph regarding the Fuel Tax Refund Program and also talked about some of the scholarships. He congratulated the NVFC on their efforts in securing funding for the FIREACT.

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Their support was a key factor in the funding of this program. He said communications between the MSP and MSFA has been outstanding. We have a great partnership and need to demonstrate that during the present helicopter issue. The officers have spoken with Monte Mitchell regarding the dry hydrant program and getting some of their vacancies filled. They have not yet had a formal meeting with Director Edwards (MFRI). Steve Edwards is trying to get a meeting scheduled with Dr. Mote. On 28 July he visited the Upper Eastern Shore Training Center. He discussed the table-top training he received at Abbottsville which ranged from HazMat to police incidents. He also discussed his visit with the Executive Director Bill Webb of the Congressional Fire Services Institute. One issue of interest is that of DOD surplus property and they are divided on the method of screening of materials and equipment of GSA or State Forestry. The MSFA officers are encouraging each and every fire, rescue, EMS company to have two members attend the Life Safety Symposium at APL. He discussed meeting with Mercantile to discuss the MILGIP and the Low Interest Loan Program. He said they are ready to provide funding through their local bank. He said we need to make a decision on the partnership with Mercantile to provide low interest funding for apparatus and facilities. We also need to make a decision on the Scotties Fire Safety School Program. The Scotties Program provides a funding back to the local company and the MSFA. He requested the use of the MSFA Sound System to support the Ladies Fall Conference and the Baltimore Region Traffic Incident Management Conference, both to be hosted at the Level VFC. No objections noted. He asked that we discuss the Health and Wellness Program draft now being reviewed. He said we need to be in favor of the Diesel Fuel Tax Refund program, to be presented here this weekend. He said the Officers are trying to establish a listing of all Companies in Maryland that do not belong to the MSFA, so then can make personal contact with them to join. He said we need to inventory the Marketing Tri-fold brochures and inserts for the individual committees. He said we need guidance on the DOD surplus equipment, either by GSA or State Forestry. He said we need to draft a position paper on the private helicopter emergency response.

Second Vice President Terry Thompson presented his report and he thanked President Mattingly and 1st V.P. Worthington for welcoming him to the team, along with all of the support and guidance they have given him. He discussed his duties since Ocean City in representing the MSFA. He attended the swearing in of our new State Fire Marshal, Bill Barnard in Annapolis. He discussed his meeting with Dr. Bass and his attendance at the Five State Presidents' meeting, and the West Virginia State Firemen's Convention in Weston WV. He urged everyone to continue their participation and strive to get more individuals to join in the efforts of the committees.

SECRETARY L. King presented his report. He reported the Minutes of the two Executive Committee meetings held in Ocean City, have been transcribed, copied, and distributed. The mailing lists have been revised to reflect the new Officers, committee chairpersons, and others. He has applications for Associate Membership for the St. Mary's County Dept. of Emergency Communications, and the Blackwater NWR Fire Program of Dorchester County. They are requesting the Standards Committee to make an inspection of the Tylerton VFD, to see if they meet the requirements for Active Membership. They have requested that their membership be

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changed from to Associate to Active. He said the Secretary's office has been asked if one of our member organizations is actually an organization? The question suggests that one of our member organizations has changed its name, has not changed its name with State Offices that monitor corporations and charters, does not have any volunteer membership, however, volunteer individuals still represent them with our Association. This has been brought to the attention of the Presidents and is being work out. One problem has been taken care of as an individual represented more than one organization at the recent Convention and Conference. They have researched this and found several individuals listed on more than one Credentials Form. He said they are assured that no individual registered or voted for more than one organization during the Convention. The updated 2001-2002 Directory has been printed and will be distributed this weekend. He thanked R. Snader for his assistance during the preparation of the document. He said the work on the 2001 Convention and Conference Proceedings Book has begun and is moving along smoothly. He reminded each officer, committee chairperson, and organization representative, that they need to give thirty copies of their report to the Secretary's Office prior to the scheduled reporting times. He said the Secretary's Office has developed several reports that may be of assistance as: mailing addresses, phone numbers, website addresses, e-mail addresses, and current apparatus within the state. They are working on a listing showing dates member departments joined the MSFA, current Chiefs and Presidents of the departments, with month of election for each. He is being assisted by Michael Clark in this endeavor, if you should be contacted by him. He discussed e-mail problems encountered after the convention, and has learned the problem was our server, and this is being worked on now.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY R. Jacobs presented his report for the period ending 30 June 2001 (FY2001). He discussed Direct, Indirect, and Totals and Direct Deposit Schedule for Funds received this year, along with changes from the prior period. He said he is sending out notices of non-payment of Dues, to 15 Departments.

TREASURER J. Shuhart presented his report and discussed the Cash Assets with the General Fund and the Convention Accounts. He discussed the Income and Expenses with the Budget for 2001-2002 and the State Appropriation Funds. He said the audit has been conducted and the books are all balanced. They have met with the Budget Committee and come up with a new Budget for next year. B. Olsen said the figure on the Memorial Fund is \$1300, not \$13,000.

CHAPLAIN Rev. H. Dixon presented his report. He discussed his activities since Ocean City, which included a multi-fatality Table Top Drill with County Emergency Services, Police and Board of Education, and met with local ministerial associations outlining ideas for clergy to assist the Chaplains in major emergencies.

Chair Doyle Cox thanked President Mattingly for the appointment and asked the Executive Committee for guidance and support this coming year. He asked the audience for help in keeping the noise down, and that any side meeting will be taken outside. He asked the committee chairs not to read their report, but highlight them.

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ATTORNEY R. Powell (had no written report) discussed the Low Interest Loan Program which is off and running, and they have had their first loan settlement which went off without any problems at all. They are still preparing procedures and forms for the future loan agreements. He said they have received about \$1125 for the quarter for the MBNA Credit Card program. They still owe him some applications for the card, therefore, he has none here today to give out. He discussed the Service Mark for MSFA, the application has been submitted, and are awaiting its approval from the Patent Office. He discussed presentation scheduled for tomorrow from Pat O' Haver of Nextel, regarding their contract. He said he has met with O' Haver on the agreement, and was assured that all changes he had proposed, would not be a problem. It is a one year contract with an option for three more one year renewals. He explained some of the perks of the contract being offered tomorrow. He said the only problem with the contract was the unit commitment clause, which he rewrote so there would not be a commitment by the MSFA for a given number of units.

FIRE MARSHAL William Barnard presented his written report and thanked the MSFA and its officers for their support and best wishes in his appointment. He said a new State Fire Prevention Code became effective on 6 August. The Code was revised and includes the Life Safety Code. He said that Maryland is the first state to formally adopt the new Code. He urged all departments to send a member to the 2001 Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference on 25 September at Johns Hopkins Lab. He discussed their new personnel assignments which includes filling 6 Deputy Fire Marshal positions. Three were assigned to the Eastern Region, one to the Western Region, and two to the Metro Region. He discussed the Maryland Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) and they are moving from the current 4.1 to the 5.0 version and will address many of the questions and issues that users have had in the past. He discussed changes to the Maryland Fireworks Laws as SB779 was enacted in 2001 and becomes effective October 1, 2001. This Bill modified the statutes to allow "ground based sparklers". He said there is a change in terminology with the term "smoke detector" has been replaced with the term "smoke alarm". Everyone is asked to begin using this new terminology. He said the Central recall is a voluntary recall of fire sprinklers with potentially defective O-ring seals. Central will provide free of charge, replacement sprinkler heads and the labor needed to replace them. The contact person on this issue is Chief Fire Protection Engineer John F. Bender. He recommended the Juvenile Fire-Setters Workshop in Westminster on 20-21 September 2001. He said that Steve Edwards has agreed to work with the Fire Marshal office to develop various training opportunities to further the professional development of their staff. He discussed the fire deaths in Maryland which represents a 30 percent increase over the same period in CY2000. The theme this year for the National Fire Prevention Week Campaign, is "Cover the bases and strike out fire". He reminded everyone of the tribute to Rocco Gabriele at Level VFC on 28 September. He assured the MSFA that he will do all he can to work collaboratively to address fire and life safety issues of mutual concern. C. Jewell asked about NFPA 1 and a local Fire Prevention Code, does this change the local Codes or do they have to go through legislation to get it changed? He answered that the local code remains in effect.

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MSP Major D. Lewis discussed the insurgence of the private helicopters. He said the MSP is committed to the MSFA regarding helo transports in Maryland. He said in the three months since the Pa. helo arrived, they have seen a decrease in the number of inter-facility transports undertaken, while they have seen an increase in number of calls they have responded to on emergency basis in the field. He said the law enforcement requests have more than doubled. He thanked the leadership of the MSFA and the entire membership for the support and assistance they give to the MSP. S. Hales asked if they have access to our communications? The answer is yes. The two services they know of now, have bases in Maryland and are able to communicate with the 911 dispatch system. They will only communicate when they are contacted. President Mattingly and Major Lewis discussed the procedures now set in place for who gets the call from SYSCOM.

SPRINKLER TECHNOLOGY Chair J. Bender presented his written report, and discussed the voluntary Central Sprinkler Company recall for O-ring seals. The recall is limited to models sold by Gem Sprinkler Company and Star Sprinkler Inc. He said MSFA members should check to determine if any of these sprinklers are installed in their personal residence, fire or EMS stations. He said this is not a panic recall, as to date, Central has received only 13 reports of sprinklers failing to activate during a fire. No injuries or deaths have occurred because of the failures reported, nor have any been reported in Maryland. S. Hales discussed failed sprinklers and the possibility of damaged documents in public buildings, that cannot be replaced. We may not need to panic, but we do need to be concerned, and corrections should be done as soon as possible. J. Bender said for more information on the sprinklers, one can call 1-800-871-3492 (24 /7). He discussed the Omega sprinkler recall as an update, saying that Maryland ranks 2nd to California for the total number of claims in the program, the total number of heads shipped, and the total number of heads replaced. For information on this recall, call 1-800-866-7807. He said that at the request of President Mattingly, the Sprinkler committee was asked to survey the Fire, Rescue and EMS Departments in Maryland that are, or are not, equipped with sprinklers, and he said they are working with the Statistical Committee to accomplish this mission. R. Steger asked if we can find out where the heads have been installed? The answer is no for the manufacturer. The contractor is the only one who knows where they were installed.

DNR Supervisor M. Mitchell presented his report, and discussed personnel changes made recently in DNR, saying that Sarah Taylor-Rogers resigned as Secretary of the DNR, and J. Charles Fox has been named the new Secretary. Currently Forestry has twelve position vacancies, and they expect to be able to fill some of these after the workforce planning process is complete. He discussed the Fire Report saying DNR Forest Service responded to 410 wildfires so far this year, which have burned 4,343 acres of forest, marsh, and fields. He discussed the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) funding for 2001 as being allocated \$45,000. Of this amount, \$35,000 will be provided to VFD's for the installation and purchase of dry hydrant materials. The grants will be 50/50 matching grants. The remaining funds will be utilized for program administration and the wildland fire training camp in May. He said an additional \$18,000 has been provided by the Rural Maryland Development Council through DNR to the Resource Conservation District Councils. This funding will provide 50/50 matching funds to install 36 dry

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hydrants that have been prioritized for installation across the state, and to provide money to fund the dry hydrants assessment project in Carroll County. He discussed the heavy equipment replacement program, which is on schedule. Two new John Deere 450H tractor plows were delivered in August and they expect two heavy transport trucks in September. He said the Forest Service has dispatched four 20 person fire crews and 22 single resource personnel, to fill overhead fire positions in the western U.S. They currently have 50 firefighters on assignment. He thanked all of our volunteers across the state that have taken the Wildfire training, and participated in the wildland fire crews. G. Worthington asked of the surplus property issue. M. Mitchell said he has heard no new updates, but he hopes the USDA Forest Service will be the lead agency for that program. R. Steger asked about the position that he (M. Mitchell) just vacated on the Eastern Shore. He was told it will be filled sometime in the next two months. R. Steger asked that we should send a letter in support of the filling of the positions now vacant in the state.

SHOCK TRAUMA J. Spearman and B. Fosler presented and discussed their written report. He said that Brenda is now the Director of EMS Relations. She discussed the statistics so far this year in patient admissions, OR cases, beds occupied, patient diversions, and the Income statement for the twelve months ending 6-30-01. She discussed their goals and objectives and their partnership with the MSFA, and their support to the MSFA convention and the scholarship committee. She discussed the STC Prevention and the Stop Red Light Running campaign statewide. She also discussed the educational programs of the Shock Trauma Center as: the tours, ALS skills lab, observation, on-site clinical programs, BOV/MSFA Scholarship Fund, and the eight presentations at the MSFA Annual Convention. L. Sachs asked if the number of patients discharged in a very short time, and maybe really did not need the service of the Shock Trauma Center? J. Spearman said the range is 35-40 percent for a 24 hour period, they not track for those leaving in less than 24 hours. He said he will bring back to our next meeting the stats for those leaving in less than 6 hours.

SCHOLARSHIP Chair B. Olsen presented his written report in which he discussed the five requests received since the convention. All of these have been sent an application with the guidelines and needed information. He said all recipients have been notified of their awards, and they now await the respective Fall invoices. He discussed his proposal to increase the amount appropriated for the scholarship account from \$10 to \$20 for both the Regular (Article I, Section 2) and the Associate Memberships (Article I, Section 5), per account. He said this is not a request for a Dues increase, but an increase in the appropriated funds. J. Crisman said the increase is to increase the money given to the students, not to increase the number of students. President Mattingly discussed two applicants that were turned down this year due to lack of sufficient funds, and it is up to the MSFA to come up with the money to support the Scholarship program. L. King discussed the setup of the program and asked of the need to pursue more money for the fund. B. Olsen noted that donations made to the fund are not tax deductible. He asked that this be approved and be put on the ballot next June at Ocean City. He thanked those persons that gave him the funding information on the different colleges. L. King suggested that they also increase the Sustaining Memberships input to the fund. R. Powell said this change

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would require a By-Laws change, and the name would have to be changed to the Educational Foundation of the MSFA. S. Hales said this is two fold as a short and long range issue. L. Sachs said this should be acted on by the Executive Committee before it is sent to the By-Laws Committee.

President Mattingly welcomed the LA-MSFA President Nora Ryan and other officers to the meetings.

BESSIE MARSHALL President Ryan presented their report. She listed the donations received as of the end of the year. She said they provided for two cases since the Convention in June, for Pikesville VFC and New Windsor VFC. She thanked everyone for their support of the Bessie Marshall Fund and all the little extras that the Fire Companies include in their envelopes to them. President Mattingly thanked Nora and the Ladies for the help and cooperation given by them throughout the year.

MIEMSS Dr. R. Bass presented his report stating that recently he had met with the MSFA Presidents, the EMS Committee and our Attorney regarding several issues. He discussed the continuing Cardiac Arrest Study with the Public Defibrillation (M-CAPD). As of 30 June they had information on over 2,000 cardiac arrests. They plan a summary report by mid-September on all of the arrests for the first six months. He said they will be making a few changes in the Trauma regulations, mainly terminology issues. He said the current round of Protocol changes have been finalized for EMS providers, and most notably are the additional meds and skills for the updated CRT, which define the scope of practice for this level of provider. The EMT-P will be allowed to administer several medications without medical consultation so to minimize pain or delay. The Combi-Tube has been added to the CRT and the EMT-P. Additionally, providers will be allowed to accept a copy of a DNR form. Changes will put reporting and management for commercial ambulance services in line with existing regulations. On 12 September, MIEMSS will conduct an Educator Rollout of the protocols, and implementation will be on 1 January 2002. He said that as of 1 July, MIEMSS is authorized to license commercial air ambulance services. They are presently drafting regulations to implement the new law. He further discussed the helicopter issue, and said that SYSCOM is doing a fine job of finding and directing the closest helo for the call. He discussed the delay of the MSP helo which would then warrant the re-evaluation of the patient and the need for a helo or transport by ground transportation. He said if the commercial helo does respond and transports the patient, the patient will be Billed. The commercial provider has said they have no intention to Bill the State, the Jurisdiction, or the hospital, only the patient. They were asked that under certain circumstances, would they not Bill the patient. They said no. He said they are continuing to have dialog about this issue. R. Powell asked if we will have a voice in the regulations before they are approved? He said yes we will. He discussed the EMRC Plan saying that MIEMSS will submit a plan for improving EMS Communication systems in those regions of the state which currently are not served by an enhanced, dedicated EMS communication system. He said the Neurotrauma Task Force has completed the Neurotrauma Center Standards, recommendations, and a draft document has been circulated to SEMSAC and the Trauma Net.

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This will then go to the EMS Board for approval. He said the Budgets of the agencies will be reviewed by SEMSAC and the EMS Board at their September meetings. MIEMSS is seeking additional support for CRT training grants to local jurisdictions, and the continuation of funding for the EMAIS project. They also seek to expand the centralized EMS communications for Western Maryland as part of its upgrade of statewide EMS communications. The Shock Trauma Center is asking for a 3 percent inflationary increase along with a third year support of the renovation grant. The MSP Aviation Division will have an overall decrease in its FY2003 request because of a down cycle in heavy maintenance activities. MFRI is asking for funds to continue its upgrade of Regional Training Centers, as well as increases for field instructor salaries, and for its ALS program. MFRI is asking for a one-time expenditure to replace its flammable liquid prop pit to meet current EPA standards, and to improve personnel safety and training effectiveness. MIEMSS has developed a contract for purchase of AED's. A 50/50 matching program went into effect on 1 July with a waiver for hardship cases. September 1, is the deadline for jurisdictions to apply to the program for the 2002 year. They also have developed service contracts for the AED's, Life3pak 500's, and Lifepak 12's which are available to jurisdictions on a direct contact basis. A guide to the available AED service contracts is being developed and will be available in September. He discussed their official inventory turnover to 12 jurisdictions so far. He discussed issues with the need for geriatric emergency care education. MIEMSS is working on completion of draft regulations to formalize the makeup and function of the regional councils. The draft regulations will be forwarded to the EMS Board for approval for promulgation. The ALS Committee is working to identify core content to include continuing education courses for paramedics. They have looked at a new DOT EMT-Paramedic curriculum, and the task force will take the core content and develop an instructor resource kit for educational programs and jurisdictions to utilize within existing ALS refresher and other continuing courses. The Yellow Alert continues to be a significant issue. The Task Force approved an amended version of the Yellow Alert Plan that will be distributed to hospitals, EMS, and other interested persons. He said the Plan is voluntary and addresses short-term mitigating issues only. Long-term issues are being considered by state health agencies. Spin-off's to the Yellow Alert relate to Nursing Homes as well. They are looking at the Flu season and the shortage of the vaccine again this year. Health care providers have identified this as a priority for immunizations as the vaccine becomes available. He said there are now 89 approved AED facilities in Maryland, and there have been no recent incidents reported by the AED facilities. He said the EMAIS is continuing in its development of a custom web-based system. He said the MIEMSS Infection Control Committee continues to investigate Exposure Control Plans from the local jurisdictions. A statewide survey of hospitals will be conducted to find how they handle pre-hospital exposure. The committee has produced an article on the new MOSH Bloodborne pathogen standard. B. Kurtz asked about Glucometer use restriction by EMS, and yet the public can use them freely? They can use Glucose Paste but not the Glucometer, why? Dr. Bass suggested he write this up and submit it to the Protocol Committee. T. Mattingly asked about a 508 funding increase? He said that funding is not under this purview, but out of the Fire Marshal Office. It does come out of the Tag fee money. T. Mattingly said with the effort of the MSFA fire and EMS, someone should look at increasing the 508 funding. Dr. Bass discussed why the MSP helicopter maintenance funding went down, was because they recently had in their Budget

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funding for the upgrades. They were done, and that is why the funding has come down. R. Yinger said they do look out for it but there is not a lot they can do with it. C. Wills discussed the glucometer and he said that Dr. Alcorta is tight on that subject.

COMPROLLER'S OFFICE Richard Carey and Linda Hood discussed the claim forms for the Maryland Motor Fuel Tax Refund. They discussed the availability of the Motor Fuel Tax Refund and they distributed a sample packet for the Department, and discussed the Instructions for completing the forms contained in the packet. R. Carey discussed the recent article in the Sun about gasoline prices going up in October. This is not true. He said the law (Motor Fuel Low Cost Fuel Law) is that a retailer cannot sell fuel below his cost. It is designed to protect the consumer and the retailer. Prices are determined by OPIS (Oil Price Information Service). He said a new Bill goes into effect on 1 October, n regarding advertising of prices. He said that Regular gasoline is 87 or 88 Octane only. Mid grade or plus, is 88 or 89 Octane only. Premium gasoline is 91 Octane or above. He discussed the Fuel tax Refund that is available to Volunteer (or non profit) Fire and EMS (Rescue) Departments only, incorporated in the state of Maryland. This tax refund is for diesel fuel only, not for gasoline. If you have bulk storage, you can obtain diesel fuel tax free up front. The Refund Questionnaire is filled out initially (one time only). The Record of Used Motor Fuel form must be fill out, then the Refund Claim form must be filled out. The invoices can be a clear copy of the original, but you must have and keep the original in case it is asked for later. The time for filing the claim is not to exceed one year from the date of purchase, and they must be made in the state of Maryland. He said if anyone has any problems or questions, call their office. L. Hood read a poem to the MSFA, written by her son who has MS, in thanks for the funds we raise for MDA. President Mattingly asked about the state credit card that the MSFA officers uses with the state gas facilities, as they pay more there than at the regular gas stations, why? He could not explain this, apparently the state pays more than the fuel stations. R. Cumberland asked about the carriers on the roads that have fuel tax stickers, and is it required for emergency vehicles. They said no, they are not required on emergency vehicles. He said if you should be stopped in another state for not having the sticker, let them know and they will take care of the situation. They have an agreement with the adjoining states regarding this matter. J. Lau thanked him for explaining House Bill 736. G. Worthington thanked them for their presentation to the MSFA Executive Committee today.

EMS Chair C. Wills presented his report and the position paper prepared by the Officers of the MSFA concerning the commercial helicopter services. He read the Position Paper as presented, and R. Powell discussed the paper. The following motion was made by: L. Sachs, and seconded by B. Kurtz:

MOTION: That the Executive Committee endorse the Position Paper as presented by the EMS Committee, and that it be sent to the Director of MIEMSS, MSP Aviation Division, Governor Glendening, and whoever else the Officers deem it should be sent to.

Discussion: S. Hales asked about the standards for the commercial air services and are they being adhered to, as Dr Bass said the rules are being drafted? C. Wills said the rules are being made that meet or exceed the equipment of the MSP, as a standard. Dr. Bass said the

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commercial carriers are CAINS (National service that accredits air transport services) accredited and have to meet all of the Maryland standards. They are staffed with a nurse, and a paramedic at a minimum. They have to have all of the equipment the ambulances have, and actually exceed that. R. Powell said he understood we will be able to discuss what control we have over the commercial services? He discussed the Position Paper that covers four distinct areas. He said we can control their landing site and we can license them and their paramedics and anyone else on board the aircraft. He said when last at MIEMSS, this was not yet in agreement, which is why this Position Paper is here today. He discussed the four areas of the Paper as: Billing, Control, Standards, and Agreements. S. Hales asked if the landing zones are different for the commercial and the state? He discussed the control that Maryland can actually have over the commercial service. He said it is now up to the Executive Committee to decide this issue with the Position Paper. C. Jewell asked about the effect of this on the U.S. Park Police, etc. and what effect on military and governmental helicopters when used in emergency evacuations, etc? Dr. Bass discussed the procedure of the helicopter dispatch through SYSCOM. L. Sachs discussed the timing, patient cost, and the actual need for the commercial helicopter, etc. He said the EMS does not know the patients ability to pay the Bill, when they call for the helo. They do not want to put themselves in a position where they may get sued or have to defend themselves against the choice they have to make, which is being forced upon them. The decision should be patient dependent, not rule dependent. C. Jewell said the two important words are evaluation and education, as the need to be done by the provider as to when do you really need the helicopter. C. Wills said this is included in the Paper. Dr. Bass said we need to take this to those fire and MSP units, that should happen to be the incident command standpoint, to make these kind of decisions. B. Kurtz addressed Major Lewis asking if the Aviation Division can go to the different jurisdictions of the state and discuss their situation and stand on this issue? He said yes as they cannot say what the commercial helo's can or cannot do. S. Hales discussed the helo requirements in another state that may fly when MSP cannot fly, etc., and are there other standards that may allow them to waiver some of these standards different to the MSP? It was reiterated that all helo dispatches will go through SYSCOM. Dr. Bass said this is the policy for MSP and all commercial helicopters, and they have agreed to do this. C. Jewell asked about a change to the Paper regarding "field personnel" by clarifying who can make the call for the helicopter. Dr. Bass said the EMT's can operate only under limited protocols and the ultimate decision for the helicopter needs to be made in the field by someone with proper training and qualifications to do so. S. Hales asked of the need for this Paper? L. Sachs said this has been worked on for some time about the issue and it is needed as a recommended policy for the problem. R. Powell said this also had to do with the Billing issue, and we need to be proactive instead of reactive on this issue. R. Steger asked about the helo flying in bad weather, will the commercial helo be dispatched if the MSP helo is down for the bad weather? We need a standard and we need to support the MSP Aviation on the issue. Major Lewis discussed the limits of the MSP to fly based on weather. They cannot fly in bad weather for safety reasons. He said the commercial service has agreed to the same specification of 600 feet/2miles visibility for daytime, as the MSP. R. Cumberland said that in Washington County their dispatchers are dispatching the helo the same time the fire and EMS units are being dispatched. L. Downes asked about when they say they cannot fly, is that where the helo is, or where it has to go to?

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Major Lewis explained that both areas have to be looked at. C. Jewell asked for a two word change to the Position Paper as: **“When transportation by air is requested by field personnel”**. The following motion to amend, the original motion with this change was made by C. Jewell and seconded by L. Sachs. Major Lewis said there is a protocol for helicopter dispatch priority. **Motion Passed amended (hand vote called for by President Mattingly) 7 yes, 2 no, Motion Passed.**

C. Wills discussed his EMS Committee report and their meeting of 5 August with the ALS and BLS subcommittees, at Potomac Heights VFS/RS. He discussed the committee goals regarding ambulance state vehicle inspections as a safety issue, with plans to put it in their standards. He discussed protecting our own with the Infectious Disease Bill that was asked to be put off for another year by Dr. Bass and his staff. They agreed to do so. He said the goals of the ALS subcommittee are the training of ALS providers throughout the state for consistency of education, skills and recognition. They will look at the outcome of the new CRT to CRT-I bridge program, and monitor the MFRI ALS program for consistency. He said EMAIS is alive and well and the change to the web base is looking a lot better, but it is maybe a year or so away. He discussed meetings with Dr. Bass regarding the helicopter issue. S. Hales asked if the commercial carriers fill out the same paper work as you do for a call? C. Wills said he does not know what paper work they are required to do. C. Wills discussed SB 292 Task Force and that MSFA will probably not be represented, as there have been no announced appointments as of today. He feels we should be involved in that Bill. G. Worthington said they did try to obtain a position on that Task Force, but was not able to do so. C. Wills said the EMSOF fund needs to be watched by the MSFA, as apparently other groups are looking to get in on it. He reported he will be in Las Vegas in late September, to attend the meeting of the NFPA Technical Committee on Emergency Medical Services.

TRAINING Chair D. Stevens presented his written report and discussed their meeting of 17 August at Mt. Airy VFD. The meeting identified their goals for the coming year, and to acclimate their 6 new committee members. He said their top priority will be the continuation of the development of a statewide high school Cadet Program “template”. They plan to meet on 21 September with other departments that have a cadet program, to discuss the various programs currently running in the state. They will also try to come up with a drill schedule that will address the recurring certification and training that are needed, and also satisfy ISO concerns. He discussed MFRI new Company Drill Program that will compliment this idea. These ideas are part of the goals of the Ten Year Plan. They would like to get the committee proactive in the Ten-Year Plan to get the goals accomplished. He said that hybrid vehicles are considered a safety concern to the fire service and they are working with MFRI to get some training developed on hybrid vehicles.

MFRI Asst. Director R. Strickland presented and discussed S. Edwards’ written report. He said that MFRI has a new logo, adopted to replace the old one with the star burst. He said that on 13 October they will have the Grand opening of the Upper Eastern Shore Regional Training Center in Centerville. His report also discussed the renovation of the Southern Maryland Regional

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Training Center. A number of environmental and operational issues will be resolved by this renovation. His report also discussed the MFRI Headquarters project and is now under construction. Effective with this fall semester, MFRI will initiate a pilot program called the “MFRI Company Drill program”. Each region will be funded an amount to supply MFRI instructors for company drills at the training center, or the fire station.

EMS BOARD R. Yinger (no written report) said they plan to put their report on the MSFA web page after each meeting.

FIRST RUNNER UP MISS FIRE PREVENTION Katie Vann discussed her activities since the convention and the many places she has visited. President Mattingly asked if any department has an upcoming event, don’t hesitate to ask the Queens to attend.

OUT OF STATE COORDINATOR R. Cumberland discussed his written report and the plans that have been made to the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association Convention and Five State Presidents meeting in Chambersburg, Pa., the West Virginia State Firemen’s Association Convention in Weston West Virginia, and the Virginia Firefighters Association Convention in Hampton Virginia. He said arrangements have been made for the Presidents to attend the Firemen’s Association of the State of Pennsylvania conference, and the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association conference in September.

NVFC R. Cumberland discussed the Scottie Firefighter fund raiser for fire prevention. This fundraiser has been developed by AOE Technologies to help teach fire safety to kids, and raise money for the organization. The NVFC will promote the program and in return, AOE will pay the NVFC \$0.75 per title sold . He said they have also been involved with the Federal Grant Program Act in trying to increase the funding for the program next year. He said they have applied for a \$389k grant from the Federal Grant Program Act and if it is approved, they will offer grants to each state association, in fire prevention, of an amount not to exceed \$5800 per state. He said they are writing letters to representatives asking for support of HR 1919 (the Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act). Their next meeting will be on 10-13 October in Albany New York that he and V.P. Worthington will attend. He said he has a recruitment poster from the South Carolina Firemen’s Association that is available for \$3.50 each. He presented and discussed a trifold on the VIP (Volunteer Incentive Program) he distributed about the Incentive Programs available at the Fire Academy.

AUDIT Chair E. Dunn presented his report and discussed the audit review of the records of the MSFA, which was conducted at Citizens Truck Company in Frederick. He said that everything is in order. He asked if we plan to have a review by an independent auditor again this year? He discussed the Insurance Bond saying we are now covered in the amount of \$500,000. He said serious consideration should be given to increasing this to cover state funds that are to be handled by this Association. He also discussed four recommendations for the Executive Committee to consider the following:

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1. The Convention Committee consider receiving a cashier or certified check from the exhibitors, as they are still trying to collect several outstanding checks.
2. The possibility of obtaining the use of credit card equipment and service to allow credit card sales at the convention.
3. Explore the use of the Internet to advertise and sell items that the Association has for sale.
4. Fallen Firefighter pin sales have not produced any income in the past year.

BOARD OF REVIEW V. Chair J. Baer presented the committee's report and discussed their meeting of 12 August at Maugansville. He said the meeting was requested by Chair Moltrup to review procedures and guidelines for the Board's operation and interaction with the Executive Committee, MSFA Presidents, and the Low Interest Revolving Loan Committee. After this meeting, the Board held a working session with Chair J. McCrea (LIRLA). He discussed the highlights of this session as:

- * Notice of scheduled Board meetings should be provided well in advance. The location of the meeting cannot always insure minimal travel distance to the applicant departments. When possible, meetings will be held at the applicants department.
- * They are considering including in the Marketing Committee brochure, a general statement of the purpose of the Board, along with a list of the county representatives.
- * They plan to put together a 3 ring binder to contain a recap of the Board's activities.
- * Discussed departments that are in arrears of loan payments. He said they are not charged with the responsibility of monitoring loan payments. If so desired, they could informally check with such departments (if they are advised of the situation).
- * Discussed interaction between the Board and the Low Interest Loan Committee. He discussed several reasons why the applicant cannot go to the LILC for a loan before coming to the Board.
- * The Board's chair should attend the meeting of the Low Interest Loan Committee and likewise their chairman is invited to attend the Board's meetings.
- * The Board will continue to require the applicant to show evidence of being unsuccessful in attempts to secure financing elsewhere.
- * Have the Board's Secretary send a copy of the basic application package to each member of the Executive Committee.
- * Try to insure that a representative of the applicants department being recommended, be present at the Executive Committee meeting to answer questions or concerns.

R. Powell asked about those departments not making their loan payments? J. Baer said the loan are made by the state, and they are not made aware of any non-payments on the loans. R. Powell said we should not be concerned. R. Steger said we do not have to be concerned in this matter, but the MSFA is involved with the transactions, as the loan is made in the name of the MSFA, and we feel any department we recommend, should at least be checked on as to why payments are not being made. C. Jewell asked about a matrix that would show different situations and answers of questions that could serve as a guide? J. Baer said they have considered this, and will look further into it. J. McCrea discussed the differences in the funding and criteria of the two committees. He said they do now share knowledge of the cases between the two committees and will direct the departments in the proper direction for their loan. President Mattingly said the burden of this is to be placed on the members of the committees who know the areas and the departments. J. Baer agreed saying they will not allow one department to divide the Association

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by playing one committee against another. R. Steger discussed the Board of Review and his concern with e-mail he received from the Board Chair asking Secretary King for a list of the members of the Board's committee so he can notify them. M. Harris discussed the election of the delegates of the committee and the election of its officers. L. King explained the election of the delegates from the different counties, and the problems were resolved at Ocean City before the opening session of the convention. The problem is with the committee, as they have known from Ocean City, who is on the committee.

FIRE PREVENTION Chair R. Collins presented his written report and their meeting of 5 August at Potomac Heights VFD. He said that 911 simulators are available and can be obtained upon request. He said they have a computer safety program and two display signs that can be programmed for fire safety messages. He said placemats were distributed at this meeting and they were asked to use them at public affairs, not at the firehouse meetings. He said they presently share a Billboard at Ocean City on Rt 50, and also have a display near Westminster on Rt.97. He discussed the Miss Fire Prevention contest and their plan to post information on the MSFA Web Site and in the Trumpet. The applications must be received by Lori Packard by 1 May 2002. He thanked Lori and R. Brooks for the outstanding job they did with the Pageant at Ocean City. He discussed the monies the committee allocated to the project this year. He gave the schedule of the upcoming Fire Prevention meetings. He said attendance at the meeting has been low, so please have your reps try to attend the meetings. He presented a donation to FABSCOM (R. Yinger) for the hearing impaired smoke alarms.

LOW INTEREST LOAN Chair J. McCrea presented his report and discussed the loan applications from Water Witch VFC (approved by BPW on 11 July), and Neck District VFC (settled on 2 August 2001). He said they have sent letters to each department advising them they will accept applications, to be returned no later than 30 September 2001. Applications are also available on the MSFA web site. He said the annual report has been submitted to DBM and BPW. A meeting has been scheduled with BPW counsel to review RFP for an outside vendor to administer the backroom activities of the fund. On the request of the MSFA Presidents, they requested approval to fund up to \$150 of the administrative overhead costs incurred by counsel representing MSFA, for each loan closed under this program. He said this does not come out of MSFA budget, but will come out of the state money. He gave a summary of the Low Interest Revolving Loan Account which showed they have \$50,800 now available. S. Hales asked about the application from Fairmount? Joel said it was put on hold because they did not have sufficient funds to cover the application. He said they are supposed to reapply when sufficient funds become available. He said they offered the funds they did have, and that was declined. S. Hales asked about other loan requests and Joel said they have not accepted any other applications. Joel said they only accept applications at certain times and when the money is on hand. S. Hales said a request from Snow Hill was thought to be acted on at this meeting today. Joel said he has not seen the application. R. Steger asked when do we get our funds for this committee? Joel said he will discuss that when he meets with the BPW next week. The committees next meeting is 25 October 2001. R. Steger discussed the long time between July and December and maybe we should tell the departments when the money is scheduled to be available, so the departments can

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then make their applications. Joel said they have tried to get the monies sooner, but so far that has not speeded up the funding. The procedures that are followed by the committee was discussed as to when they accept applications and when they act on them. R. Steger discussed a sample note and deed of trust, and that the fees were not mentioned. President Mattingly said there is no charge for R. Powell, the \$150 is for the overhead cost for his secretary. R. Powell discussed the work involved by him and his office, and said the \$150 is for his secretary for two hours of office overhead expense.

HAZMAT Chair C. Ray presented his report and discussed the Tunnel incident and subsequent sewer explosions in Baltimore City. He said their goals are to make sure that every responder, whether fire, rescue, or EMS trained, has the opportunity to return home safely. He discussed his plan of attack as:

- * Renew and reinforce a working relationship with the surrounding hazmat teams and committees.
- * Updating and upgrading of responder training.
- * Share our resources and training with companies/jurisdictions who may not have access.
- * Assist companies/jurisdictions with the grant process for acquiring resources.

He said a second goal deals with training issues, which is probably their greatest challenge. This has been hotly contested because of the liability issues it raises from non-compliance and inadequate training of the firefighters. He said they need to expand outside the Baltimore/Washington metro areas so they can address the needs in the rural areas of the state.

The meeting was adjourned at 1610 hours. Meeting called to order by President Matting on 26 August 2001 at 0900 hours. The invocation was given by Chaplain H. Hetz who also led the Pledge to the flag. The welcome to Piney Point given by Chief M. Roberts of 2nd District VFD/RS. He thanked MSFA for their attendance this weekend and hoped everyone has enjoyed their stay.

President Mattingly welcomed the Past President in attendance as: O. Baker (78-79), C. Riley (83-84), L. King (85-86), C. Carpenter (86-87), R. Cumberland (87-88), R. Shimer (88-89), J. Robison (89-90), B. Smith (91-92), R. Yinger (94-95), F. Cross (95-96), R. Knippenburg (98-99), R. Steger (00-01). The President also introduced those guests in attendance including LA President Nora Ryan and Heidi Johnson (Miss Fire Prevention) who discussed her travels since Ocean City, and the many functions attended throughout the state. She said if she can be of service, please call her.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS Chair P. Gordi stated that any committee or department with a change proposal, should submit them to the committee no later than the February Executive Committee meeting.

CONVENTION Chair L. King presented his report and discussed the critique of the convention, which will be taken into consideration. Preliminary plans for the 2002 Convention and Conference are already underway. The most positive events of the convention were the

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Memorial Service, the corporate partnership program, the main floor programs being over earlier in the day, the Honor Guard Contest, the utilization of the Control Center, the large projection screens, the joint session covering awards, the educational and training sessions, the golf tournament, the picnic, and the Combat Challenge. The one item the committee is totally pleased with, was the quality, quantity, pricing, and service received from the food and catering vendor at the Convention Center. The areas of concern are the breaks in the main floor programs, the lower number of exhibitors, the length of the Joint Installation and Officers banquet, and the numbers of individuals and the confusion behind the stage during the nominations process. Their biggest concern for the Convention is the Security issue. The serious incident occurred during the Beach Party. Thanks to our own people, the incident was handled before it got out of hand. P. Sterling and his Security Group have come up with an alternative program to handle security for the 2002 Convention. He said we are also in discussions with the security company from last year to adjust the bill. He does not yet have a final financial picture of the 2001 Convention, but do not feel they will have to go into the reserves. A proposed budget for the 2002 Convention with the financial picture of the 2001 Convention, will be available by the next meeting. They are also, as in the past, requesting constructive comments for the improvement of the Convention. He thanked the Mayor, the City Council, Public Works department, Transportation Department, Police Department, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, and the entire staff at the Convention Center, and every one involved, for their assistance and cooperation during the Convention. He said they are getting better cooperation from the various portions of the business community each year. One example is the new ocean front hotel for the 2002 Convention. They have a commitment of 200 rooms for \$100 per night. Anyone interested, contact L. King as soon as possible. He said the cooperation and assistance received from the Prince George's' County Fire and EMS Department, the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services, the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, MFRI, MIEMSS, State Fire Marshal's Office, and the Governor's Office is greatly appreciated. He commended the members of the Steering Committee, the support groups, and the many other individuals for the total team effort, and the tremendous amount of time they put into the Convention. The Committee feels the Basic Format of dates and times as was done this year, went very well. He gave the dates of the Convention and Conference for the next five years as: 15-21 June 2002, 14-20 June 2003, 12-18 June 2004, 18-24 June 2005, and 17-23 June 2006. L. Downes said that when the trophy announcements are given out, they are hard to hear. They will look into this for next year. L. King reminded everyone they are not to blow sirens and air horns in Ocean City after you leave the Convention Center. He discussed getting tickets in Ocean City during the Convention. They will not fix tickets for dumbness. President Mattingly asked about the naming of the Memorial Service, and did we do that or not? He asked that the Secretary's Office research this as an action item. He said the Ladies feel the Memorial Service should not be named after any individual, it should be named the "MSFA and LA-MSFA Joint Memorial Service". He discussed the length of the Joint Installation, saying it should not be cut short as it is the two President's night, regardless of how long it takes. He discussed the presentation that night and that some were cut short. L. King discussed the program that was agreed upon by both incoming Presidents, presentations, and its length and does not know of anyone being told they could not make a presentation that night.

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FIRE LAWS BOOK Chair M. Bilger presented his written report and discussed their committee meeting of 19 August 2001 at R. Powell's office. They reviewed a list of legislation passed in the 2000-2001 session in Annapolis. He listed the Bills involved and said they will be included in the 2002 edition of the book.

NEXTEL presentation made by Mr. Pat O' Haver of Nextel. He discussed what the MSFA would receive in exchange for the use of the MSFA logo, etc. The greatest concern was the Nextel requirement of a unit commitment. L. Sachs asked about the commitment part of the agreement still being listed, and R. Powell said he had talked with Mr. O' Haver and thought the commitment part of the agreement would be deleted. O' Haver said the copy of the agreement he discussed, was only one of several drafts and it did still include the commitment of 4000 units. O' Haver said all of their agreements have the commitment clause in them. He discussed the different ways to terminate the agreement. L. Sachs asked what changes when the program comes to an end? He said any new members would not get the 10 percent (but the members with phones, will continue to get the 10 percent discount), and the MSFA name and logo would no longer be used by Nextel. L. Sachs asked what is the progress of Nextel in Maryland? O' Haver said new towers are being proposed as coverage is only low in Western Maryland at this time and it should be covered by the end of this year. C. Jewell asked if members already having Nextel phones, count as part of the 4000 commitment? He answered they would benefit with the 10 percent discount, but would not count as part of the 4000. R. Powell discussed his recommendation of changes to the agreement. He recommended a change, not a deletion on the commitment part of the agreement regarding an aid to reach the goal of 4000 units. He also discussed other benefits in the agreement regarding ads in the Trumpet, and donations for the scholarship. O' Haver said he is doing everything possible to make this program with MSFA work. E. Woods discussed the Nextel service (he is a Nextel subscriber) and he asked about the direct connect system for all of Maryland? The answer was yes, all of Maryland and then some. L. King asked about the Association and Firehouse meetings part of the agreement? O' Haver said they would go to the firehouses only by invitation. R. Powell reminded everyone that all marketing has to be pre-approved by us.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR Chair M. Harris discussed his frustration with only 4 applicants this past year for the award. He said people need to be motivated, somehow, to get more applicants this year. He is open to any suggestions. President Mattingly asked everyone to promote this award and that every area should have at least one person deserving of the nomination for the award.

RURAL WATER Chair H. Rhue stated they have not met, but are looking at a drill with Cambridge.

INCENTIVES PROGRAMS Chair Joan Robison presented her report and discussed the stats for the past several years on the Income Tax Subtractions as: 8613 for 2000; 8448 for 1999; 8249 for 1998; 8043 for 1997; and 7850 for 1996. She said she has had no request for the LOSAP Information Manual since our last meeting. She handed out a listing of the number of qualifying

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members each year, by County. She also included a LOSAP summary of the programs in the different counties in Maryland. She said she will do a summary by age group at a later date.

LEGISLATIVE Chair B. Smith presented his report and discussed the Abandoned Children Act (Maryland Safe Haven Act) saying during the 2001 session it was unsuccessful. He said last year there were mixed messages from the County Governments on this Act. He discussed stats on this legislation in the country and the attempts their committee made last year on behalf of this Act. He is asking for comments from this Board on the Act. S. Hales discussed the need to find an answer to this problem. J. Lau asked if the Fire Caucus will be meeting with our legislators on this matter? B. Smith said yes they will, as they need to realize the Fire Houses are not occupied 24-7. The following motion was made by R. Steger and seconded by L. Sachs:

MOTION: To support the Legislative Committee regarding the fire stations not being used as a drop off point for abandoned children. Motion Passed.

President Mattingly discussed a social to get your local delegates together to discuss the need for certain legislation, such as this Safe Haven Act. This is being planned this year by several Associations. J. Lau said there can be financial limitations for some of the associations to do this, but we do need to somehow make sure the delegates do recognize our problems. D. Mooney said that Baltimore County did this type of get together, and it does pay off. C. Jewell said we also need to get our people registered to vote, and we should be diligent enough to do so. President Mattingly said they are planning a Family Picnic Day at one of the State Parks where all of the Legislators will be invited and expected to attend. Details are still to be worked out.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT Chair Joe Robison presented his written report and said that only one fire department in Maryland has been awarded funds from the Assistance To Firefighter Grant Program (Flintstone VFD for \$59,850 for vehicles). He discussed the Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill which included \$150 MILLION for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program next year. He said that Senator Joe Biden has introduced legislation to increase the Public Service Officers Benefits from \$150k to \$250k and adjusted each year by the CPI. He said that V.P. Chaney is to head a task force to streamline the Counter Terrorism effort, and a training site is being established at the old Navy Training Center in Cheltenham. Representative Mike Castle of Delaware introduced legislation for the Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighters Assistance Act. He said the Fallen Hero Survivor Benefit Fairness Act of 2001 (HB-1727) passed both the House and Senate, and signed by President Bush, to allow tax free benefits to families of officers killed in the line of duty. The NVFC is supporting the Fire Safe Cigarettes legislation now in Congress as HB-1130 and SB-730.

WAYS & MEANS Chair J. Means reported the raffle tickets have been ordered for next year and he stressed that everyone needs to push the ticket sales this coming year as we were \$1700 less than the previous year.

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GRANTS Chair B. Stone presented her report and gave a summary of the committee's progress to date since their first meeting on 21 July 2001. She said that President Mattingly asked them to expand their duties to include all grants that would benefit the member companies. She said they have been asked to look into grant possibilities for the following: Fallen Firefighter Memorial, Museum, Administrative Aide for Anne Arundel County, and Housing for EMS Program participants at the University of Maryland. She said that she and V.P. Worthington have discussed their experiences at being peer evaluators for the Fire Act grants, and gave a number of suggestions for future grant applicants, which was shared with the member companies. She gave an update on the Fire Act Grant, saying the fifth round of grants was awarded on 23 August 2001, and two Volunteer Companies were awarded the grant. The two Companies were Flintstone VFD (\$59,850), and Braddock Heights VFD (\$13,073). C. Jewell asked about the VSIF Grant Administer who teaches the fundamentals of how to write grants? She agreed to get in touch with him about the grants.

MEMORIAL Chair D. Mooney presented his written report and discussed fundraising and the need for additional funds for the Memorial. He said that President Mattingly advised them that MSP Col. D. Mitchell expressed the desire to help with our fundraising for this Memorial. They are in process of sending out a second mailing to all Departments who did not respond to the first mailing request for donations. He thanked the Ladies for their help in this. They are also in process of soliciting public and private corporations and foundations, for donations. They also plan to send letters to Departments asking them to verify the Line Of Duty Deaths, and the correct spelling of the names. Their next meeting will be on September 5 at 1900 hours at Anne Arundel Fire Department Headquarters in Millersville. They have also talked to R. Gabriele about a motorcycle ride-along deal as a fundraiser, and they will pursue this. He discussed an article in the Baltimore Sun, regarding a Memorial to be built in Baltimore for the police line of duty deaths. It stated they will downsize the memorial because they have been unable to raise enough money. We don't want to see that happen to us. He asked everyone here today to talk this memorial up so we can obtain more donations and get it erected in the very near future.

STANDARDS Chair B. Huttenloch stated that the committee is now looking at the Standards with the Presidents to see what needs to be done to improve what we have.

DATA SYSTEMS Chair R. Snader discussed changes made in the committee this year, and the different teams, their leaders, and some of the changes they hope to accomplish this year, as a result of these changes. He said they are working on a way for all of the departments to submit their Incident Reports immediately after the incident to the Fire Marshal's Office directly. They also hope to form a training sub-committee that would train the members of the MSFA to use the computer system and the different software required. He discussed the Convention Registration and the plans to simplify the program for next year. The Directory to also be on a Data-Base so that each department can update and correct their department's information. The Statistical Report would also be put on the web site in the near future. He said the Governor's task Force on Technology has not done anything to date. They also plan to link to the web site to allow anyone to add their name and e-mail address to the Broadcast site. He said that every committee

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report can be put on the web site, and then everyone can see it before the Executive Committee meeting. He said to hit File, and Send it to the web master. He said the Minutes are already getting on the web site. He said the Data Systems Steering sub-committee is planning a Recruitment Document Program.

17 STATE CIRCLE Chair J. Ferguson reported that he could only report that he is still doing the general maintenance and upkeep of the building. There are no major problems to report.

TRANSPORTATION Chair T. Flint presented his report and discussed their work at Ocean City with the updates of 108 records, and past dues that were paid by 9 members. He has reaffirmed our relationship with MVA and a meeting is being set up with the Toll Facilities Administration in regard to the continuance of our special privileges for emergency vehicles. Information received, has been mailed to all county coordinators and committee members. The committee is currently researching MVA laws, regulations, and requirements related to emergency vehicles. Their next meeting will be on 22 September at Waldorf VFD. He said the state has plans to change their tags as they are now looking at the number of tags (one or two), and are now in a review committee for design of a new tag. He said with the individual membership and the FD tag is an issue to be worked out, as are associations that have non-fire department members in it, etc. He discussed and asked just who can get the FD tags? President Mattingly said the workers at the 911 centers are paid to do that job and that has nothing to do with being authorized to obtain FD tags. He said this also applies to members of the military fire department, who are not members of a volunteer fire department. R. Powell said the By-Laws say to be eligible to obtain FD tags, the person must be a member of a Volunteer Fire Company that is a regular member of the MSFA. H. Hetz said we have periodical certification periods as to who is authorized to have the FD tags. It was agreed the regulation stays as it is now, with no changes proposed.

A presentation by President Mattingly was made to LA President N. Ryan with a check of \$400 to the Bessie Marshall Fund.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION Chair M. Goodloe presented her report and discussed the projects suggested for the committee and they hope to be able to accomplish most of the suggestions. They have already been given permission to do a media blitz for the 1-800-FIRE-LINE and they should have a plan to present to the Executive Committee at the next meeting. B. Cooke discussed where they are with the 1-800 line saying it is now on voice mail, and it is checked every two weeks. He said they receive only 3 to 5 calls every two weeks. They have had three calls since June that are worthwhile. Two were given to J. Long for Anne Arundel County, and one for Caroline County. Most of the calls are useless or blank calls. They are not getting the exposure in the media that they hoped for, and the need for that line to be used. M. Goodloe said they will be using the MSFA web site for the committee this year. He thanked PP R. Steger for the certificates received by the committee members. D. Cox suggested that the Recruitment and Retention, Marketing, and the Individual Membership committees work together to build a coalition.

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AWARDS Chair R. Graf relayed that they will be soliciting changes from the other committees as the year goes on. They also plan to put the Awards Manual on the web site, which should give them more exposure than in the past.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP Chair J. Long presented his report and said now is the time to add the Silver Lifetime Membership and the Gold Lifetime Membership categories. He discussed two proposed By-Laws changes for the Silver and Gold Lifetime Memberships, and said he has given a copy of this to the By-Laws committee for their consideration, and no action is required by the Executive Committee at this time. B. Kurtz asked about a recommendation from the committee for dues and insurance? J. Long said he has talked to an insurance agent, and they do not know enough of the demographics of the people that will be joining under the Individual Membership. He said they have been looking at giving the Trumpet to the new members. They are looking at a program in Virginia and they are waiting for that information from them before they go any further. R. Cumberland discussed the insurance and the VFIS and maybe the committee can work with the VFIS on this? J. Long said they have already done so. R. Steger agreed with John to wait for that package from Virginia. He said he would still like to have the committee look into a \$5 or \$10 k life insurance policy (not an accidental death policy) for the Individual membership.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ON VOLUNTEERISM J. Long discussed this committee that he has been selected to serve on. He said he will try to get some of the \$80 million grant, that the state gets from the Federal Government to promote volunteerism in Maryland, for the MSFA. He said they already have approval for a link to our web site from the Governor's office on Volunteerism. After that is established, then every department that has a web site, would add those links as well. R. Steger said maybe the 1-800-FIRE LINE can be advertised on that web site too.

MARKETING Chair D. Alexander presented his report and discussed their meeting of 31 July. He said their primary focus will be to promote and assist the Individual Membership Committee with the new program for individuals in the Association. They also plan to work with the Fire Prevention and Public relations committees in marketing the MSFA both internally and externally. They have looked at the Nextel program and agreed with it in principle, however, with the program offered to the firefighters, there is little they can do to use it as a marketing tool. They are looking at the Scottie Program as a fundraiser as well as an educational tool. They have agreed to continue the information pamphlet previously developed. He asked committees that wish to insert an information sheet specific to that committee, may do so at that committee's creation and expense. He said their next committee meeting will be on 18 September at the Savage Fire Station.

5 YEAR PLAN Chair R. Steger presented and discussed his report, and their meeting of 12 July at Laurel VFD. He said that previously a contact had been made with the MSP and they were checking to determine if they could identify some office space, which may be available. There has been no follow up to their findings as yet. They were looking at 1,000 to 1,250 square feet

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space which would be sufficient for a desk and related office equipment. He said they are addressing a full or part time Executive Secretary to help with the paper work involved with the Association. He said they want to improve their distribution of information with a new call-down list, that has been compiled by President Mattingly and distributed throughout the membership. He said the committee is charged with reviewing computer needs for the various offices and committees of the Association. They feel the need to inventory the computers presently owned by the MSFA, and determine what may need to be added to the inventory. He read the list of those committees that have a need for a computer. He discussed the President's vehicle and the assignment of new vehicles. He said the transfer of various equipment (radio's, telephone, etc) is becoming an added expense to the Association and could be minimized. The committee is recommending that effective June 2004, the new vehicle be assigned to the incoming 2nd Vice President. This vehicle will then remain with the individual through the office of President. He said this will provide the following benefits: * Eliminate the cost of annually transferring of equipment between vehicles. * Ensure that regular maintenance is being provided since the individual will be responsible and accountable for the vehicle performance for three years. * Will provide the President's Vehicle Committee with maintenance data and mileage to determine replacement schedule changes, etc. The committee also suggested that the President have the first option to purchase the vehicle when leaving office at the end of his term. He discussed the Scotty Fire Safety program and they recommended the proposal be forwarded to the Marketing Committee for their review and comments. Their next meeting will be on 5 September at Laurel VFD.

CDL LICENSE Chair R. Steger presented his report and said the committee had their first meeting on 10 September at the Prince George's County Fire Service building. They are planning a meeting with MVA where the following items will be discussed as new requirements for the Class A or B driver's license for emergency vehicles as: A – Take a MFRI or equivalent emergency vehicle operators course. B – The fire chief or his designee, sign an approval form after completion of the course, authorizing you to drive emergency vehicles. C – You take the completed form to MVA and receive a non-commercial class A or B license with an endorsement for emergency vehicles. D – License would expire per MVA requirements now. E – Renewal of license would require completion of an EVOC refresher class and process same as original program.

GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL R. Steger presented his report and said the committee has not met since June 7, 2001. He said their next meeting is scheduled for 6 September at MDOT BWI Airport.

SWIFT WATER RESCUE STUDY GROUP Chair R. Steger presented his written report and said the committee will be study the swift water standards, and rescue standards for the state of Maryland. There are no standards at this time. They are mandated to have a report to the Governor's office by 1 December 2001. They are addressing levels of training, equipment, and the number of personnel for each level of teams, liability responsibilities, their equipment and workmen's comp. Their next meeting will be on 26 September at MEMA Headquarters.

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Lunch break at 1140 hours with prayer by Rev. Dixon. RECALL at 1300 by Chairman D. Cox. President Mattingly discussed the Call-down list that was distributed today to the Executive Committee. This list is to be used for notification in the case of death notices and also the distribution of other such information pertinent to the Association and its members

RESCUE Chair E. Woods said they will meet on 18 September in Glendale. He gave his e-mail address as pgchief18@firehousemail.com.

STATISTICAL Chair L. Gilroy presented his report and said they are still working on having 100 percent return of the statistical reports. He said that once they have received all of the reports, he will submit a final report that we can then decide how to distribute the information. He said there are still 42 Departments that have not submitted their Statistical forms. He said they are working with the web site committee to put their report on the web for all to see. He said this year they plan to modify the form and remove any duplications to other forms. He said they are considering a book with the data and reports from the MFRI, state Fire Marshal's Office and MIEMSS as well as any other pertinent information. E. Woods asked that the committee add the list of the number of calls made by the Departments for specific services. L. Gilroy said they will look at this for its value at the state level.

SURPLUS PROPERTY Chair S. Massey presented his report and discussed their meeting of 11 August at Cedar State Park. He discussed items made available (chain saws), and three companies on the Eastern Shore are looking for generators (60 kw units). PEPCO has about 20 sets of Scott breathing apparatus to donate to the Association (they are 5 years old). They need an agreement signed between the two organizations. He discussed HR-1919 and President Mattingly said the MSFA supported the Bill last year. He discussed the DOD Screening of the surplus property and said he has talked to M. Mitchell about this, and they feel that Forestry are better able to handle this screening. G. Worthington asked if we sent anything to West Virginia as to their flooding problems. Skip said he had not received any information on this matter, so nothing was sent.

PUBLIC RELATIONS Chair R. Watkins presented his report and said they plan to meet on 22 September at Damascus Fire Station. He said he is trying to get all new pictures taken of the officers, chairmen, Board of Trustees, etc., starting here today. Any not taken today, he will try to get at Hebron in December. He said the committee's laptop has been updated to send and receive e-mail, and he thanked R. Snader for taking care of this. If anyone has any upcoming events they feel are important, let him know so it can be considered. He is reviewing the mailing list, so let him know of any changes affecting your address, etc.

SAFETY Chair B. Balta presented his report and relayed that meetings have been held to set up the priorities and schedules for the coming year as:

- 1 – MOSH Safety and Health Program for the Fire Service.
- 2 – Educate our membership of the dangers at highway incidents.
- 3 – Initiate MSFA Safety Day Program.

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4 – Define dangers and alert members of hybrid automobile safety issues.

He discussed his upcoming meeting schedule for this year. He is planning a survey of the members of the MSFA on any use of the Pocket masks that the Safety Committee has distributed. He said they plan to have a Safety display at all of the Executive Committee meetings. R. Steger thanked the Safety Committee for the hard work they did with the Firefighter Safety Program now around the state. There has, however, been a poor response on the MOSH document so far. They need more comments on it.

TERRORISM Chair R. Shimer presented his report and said the Maryland Terrorism Forum met on 17 July at the state EOC to review a draft Strategic Plan and review reports from the various sub-committees on equipment and training. Their mission is to provide policy-level guidance and support to Weapons of Mass Destruction Domestic Preparedness initiatives within the state of Maryland, across political, jurisdictional, and service areas. He discussed the various training they have established, and a draft they presented of Core Competencies for Tiered Terrorism Response Levels. He discussed the Strategic Plan they have submitted which is a three year plan for improving the ability of the state of Maryland to manage an act of Weapons of Mass Destruction Terrorism. He said that General Fretterd expressed his displeasure that a Civil Support Team would not happen in Maryland, but he found that this actually will happen, however, they have not received confirmation yet on this.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Chair R. Shimer presented his written report and thanked C. Riley for his service as chairman to this committee for the past several years. He also commended former Secretary C. Carpenter for his faithful service these past years, and he thanked P. Hurlock for stepping in to pick up the position from Clarence. He discussed the claims that have been paid for July and August with benefits totaling \$12,735. He said they processed for payment, four claims for Line Of Duty injuries in June. The claims were short- term and were handled prior to the change of officers. There is only one Line of Duty death claim pending at this time. They are awaiting the appropriate forms before they can review them and take appropriate action on the claim. P. Hurlock is working with Treasurer J. Shuhart to ensure that all information is submitted in a timely manner to improve the efficiency of the benefit account. They are also working to compile the information on the distribution of funds that is required for the annual audit. He said they are considering having a poster (showing minimum requirements and procedures for the making and handling of claims) designed and printed for placement in the departments. He said they want to make sure all departments receive their Benefits Book put out by the Board of trustees. He said the Colburn Cup award for heroism had no applicants this past year and they hope to see better participation this coming year. He said the committee tries to meet within 10 days of receiving a claim.

MUSEUM Chair W. Donaldson discussed the Waterwitch building and its present status. He said it is in planning for conversion to condominiums. There is to be a public hearing for this, but with its cost, we will not pursue this matter anymore.

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BUDGET Chair P. Fabiszak presented his report and reported the committee met on 12 August at the Maugansville Goodwill VFC. He presented and reviewed the Budget Work Sheet showing a spread of what was taken in, the balance, last years balance, and the differences. He said the total income last year was \$194,689.71 with expenses of \$164,912.00 leaving a balance of \$29,777.71. The Appropriation Account expended \$137,182.30 leaving \$23,609.51 to be carried forward. The actual budget surplus was \$29,777.71 leaving the committee to make adjustments of \$29,082.29 as a revised balanced budget for 2001-2002. L. Sachs asked about the budget and the funds for the scholarship fund that show they spent less than they had requested last year and that they are now asking for more money for the scholarship funding. W. Olsen explained the funds requested and the small balance used to cover over runs, so not to have to come back to the Board. President Mattingly reminded everyone that the committee did reject two students for lack of sufficient funds last year. P. Fabiszak asked that they approve the Budget and they recommend to the Executive Committee, that a policy be adopted to require persons making purchases priced over \$1000 for one item, to obtain three bids. The three quotes should be considered on price, availability, and quality, and the three quotes are to be submitted with the bill. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To approve the budget as presented and amended. Motion Passed.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Associate Membership for St. Mary's County Emergency Communications Center. The following motion was made by C. Stack and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION: To accept St. Mary's County Emergency Communications as an Associate Member. Motion Passed.

2. Associate Membership for Blackwater NWR Fire Program of Dorchester County. The following motion was made by C. Stack and seconded by L. Downes:

MOTION: To accept the Blackwater NWR Fire Program of Dorchester County as an Associate Member. Motion Passed.

3. Scottie Fire Safety Program. Discussion: G. Worthington and R. Cumberland discussed the program and how it works. It is a safety, fund raising program and the CD is purchased, and we get back \$.75 for each CD sold within the state. L. Sachs asked if we have enough information on this to vote? G. Worthington said yes. The following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by B. Kurtz:

MOTION: To approve the recommendation and participate in the Scottie Fire Safety Program. Motion Passed.

This will be referred to the Fire Prevention Committee for their action.

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4. Health and Wellness Program. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by R. Steger:

MOTION: To support the Health and Wellness Program, except that the physicals requirements portion not be implemented until the funding mechanism is in place to pay for them. After discussion, motion approved by all.

5. MSFA Logo. Discussed the Logo for the MSFA as to the correct one to be accepted as the official MSFA. The logo that our attorney has filed for a patent for, is the logo that is to be the official logo of the MSFA. Confusion made as to the different designs now being used as the MSFA logo. The following motion was made by S. Hales and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION: That the official logo of the MSFA be the one that encompasses the oak leaf and fire department cluster with the spelled out wording Maryland State Firemen's Association around the outer edges within a red ban, as worn by the Presidents on their pocket badges. Motion Passed.

6. DOD/GSA Surplus Property Screening. The following motion was made by R. Steger and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: That we support the screening of the DOD/GSA surplus property by the Maryland DNR, Forestry Division, and a letter of support be sent to DNR. Motion Passed.

7. Unpaid Dues / MSFA Membership Status. Discussion regarding member departments that have not paid their dues to the MSFA. The following motion was made by R. Steger and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION: That the dues delinquent departments be dropped according to the By-Laws (Article III, Section 4) and a certified return receipt obtained for a letter to the department noting this decision, and a list of those dropped, given to each Executive Committee member.

L. King said they may reapply for membership with a penalty upon payment of their Dues. R. Jacobs said the delinquent departments have not yet been notified in writing. **Motion and 2nd withdrawn by R. Steger and C. Jewell.** L. Sachs said according to the By-Laws, the delinquent department must be notified in writing, on 1 April, that they have been suspended. R. Jacobs said they have not been notified in writing. L. Sachs said they have 60 days to pay the Dues or they will not be able to register at the Convention. If the Dues are not paid by the end of the Convention, their membership shall be terminated. They can then re-apply for membership. The following motion was made by R. Steger and seconded by B. Kurtz:

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MOTION: That the Financial Secretary notify the delinquent departments, in writing, of their suspension for non-payment of their dues, and they have 60 days from the date of the letter to pay their dues, or they will be dropped from the MSFA. Motion Passed.

8. Scholarship. Request for By-Laws change and increase the amount appropriated for the scholarship Account by \$10 for the Regular and Associate Membership. G. Blanco said we should leave the amount as, to be determined, and let the committee increase it as needed each year. F. Cross asked about this affecting our Budget? B. Olsen said it does not affect the Budget, it will decrease the General Fund. The following motion was made by P. Sterling and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To support the proposal by the Scholarship Committee to increase the appropriation amount (\$10) for the Regular and Associate memberships, to the Scholarship Committee. Motion amended by P. Sterling to include the Sustaining Membership in the amount of \$50. Hand vote tied on vote of 6 yes, and 6 no votes. Chair D. Cox broke the tie by voting yes for the motion. Motion Passed.

9. Auditing recommendation. Request by the Auditing Committee to have exhibitors payment be in a cashiers check, certified check, or credit card. L. King questioned this as if credit cards are used, we pay a percentage on each charge. He noted that we received only one large bad check this year. That money is being pursued now. This is a first for a large check. No motion made, no further action made.

10. Low Interest Loan Overhead. The following motion was made by R. Steger and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION: To approve the request of the Low Interest Loan Committee to authorize payment of \$150 per loan transaction to cover attorney and other overhead costs. Motion Passed.

11. Memorial Service Name. Discussion on whether a name has been given to the MSFA Memorial Service conducted at the Annual Convention meetings. Agreed that the Memorial Service has not been officially named. The following motion was made by J. Lau and seconded by L. Downes:

MOTION: To approve the name “MSFA and LA-MSFA Joint Memorial Service”. Motion Passed.

12. NEXTEL. R. Powell discussed the language of the proposed contract with Nextel and that there is a difference in the language and there is a difference in canceling and breach of contract. He recommends we do not sign the proposed contract as presented. The following motion was made by R. Steger and seconded by G. Blanco:

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MOTION: That we decline the present offer by Nextel. Motion Passed.

L. King discussed the need to go back to Nextel and discuss the contract and the committees that are affected by the commitments of a contract with Nextel. The committees should be contacted before any agreements of benefits to Nextel, that may affect the operation of any MSFA committee.

12. President's Vehicle. The following motion was made by S. Hales and seconded by W. Donaldson:

MOTION: To accept the recommendation by the 5 Year Plan Committee that effective June 2004, the new vehicle be assigned to the incoming 2nd Vice President, and will remain with him/her through the Office of President, and also shall have the first option to purchase the vehicle when leaving that office at the end of his/her term. Motion Passed.

13. Treasurer Shuhart has requested an additional Assistant (Steve Kesner of Cresaptown). The President has approved the position, and the Executive Committee must approve the appointment. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by J. Lau:

MOTION: To approve the appointment of Steve Kesner as Assistant Treasurer. Motion Passed.

990 FORMS – Vice President Thompson questioned the 990 Forms having to be done by November and the recommendations of the Auditing Committee are deferred until December? The Audit Committee said they can do the auditing, but it has to be approved by the Executive Committee now. P. Fabiszak said the independent auditor does this as part of the review, but at an additional cost to the MSFA. He said the Treasurer's office can handle this 990 Form, but needs approval to do so. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by B. Kurtz:

MOTION: To continue with the outside annual review and that the Treasurer's Office handle the 990 Form. Motion Passed.

SOUND SYSTEM – Approval asked for use of the MSFA sound system for two outside activities by V. P. Worthington. The following motion was made by L. Sachs and seconded by C. Jewell:

MOTION: To approve the use of the sound system. Motion Passed.

GOOD OF ASSOCIATION - J. Lau reminded everyone of the Kentland Anniversary party, the PG Annual Convention, and the R. Siarnicki Retirement party. President Mattingly reminded everyone of the Retirement party for R. Gabriele, the Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference, and the Firefighters Memorial at Emmitsburg on 7-8 October.

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The benediction was given by Chief Chaplain Dixon. There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned at 1520 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: That the Executive Committee endorse the Position Paper as presented by the EMS Committee, and that it be sent to the Director of MIEMSS, MSP Aviation Division, Governor Glendening, and whoever else the Officers deem it should be sent to.

Amendment: To change wording to “When transportation by air is requested by field personnel” Amended Motion Passed (hand vote called for) 7 yes, 2 no.

MOTION: To support the Legislative Committee regarding the fire stations not being used as a drop off point for abandoned children. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To approve the budget as presented and amended. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To accept St. Mary’s County Emergency Communications as an Associate Member. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To accept the Blackwater NWR Fire Program of Dorchester County as an Associate Member. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To approve the recommendation and participate in the Scottie Safety Program. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To support the Health and Wellness Program, except that the physicals requirements portion not be implemented until the funding mechanism is in place to pay for them. Motion Passed.

MOTION: That the official logo of the MSFA be the one that encompasses the oak leaf and fire department cluster with the spelled out wording Maryland State Firemen's Association around the outer edges within a red ban, as worn by the Presidents on their pocket badges. Motion Passed.

MOTION: That we support the screening of the DOD/GSA surplus property by the Maryland DNR, Forestry Division, and a letter of support be sent to DNR. Motion Passed.

MOTION: That the dues delinquent departments are dropped according to the By-Laws (Article III, Section 4) and a certified return receipt obtained for a letter to the department noting this decision, and a list of those dropped, given to each Executive Committee member. Motion withdrawn.

MOTION: That the Financial Secretary notify the delinquent departments, in writing, of their suspension for non-payment of their dues, and they have 60m days from the date of the letter to pay their dues, or they will be dropped from the MSFA. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To support the proposal by the Scholarship Committee to increase the appropriation amount (\$10) for the Regular and Associate membership, to the Scholarship Committee. Motion amended – to include the Sustaining membership in the amount of \$50. Hand vote tied of 6 yes and 6 no. Chair broke the tie by voting yes. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To approve the request of the Low Interest Loan Committee to authorize payment of \$150. per loan transaction to cover attorney and other overhead costs. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To approve the name “MSFA and LA-MSFA Joint Memorial Service”. Motion Passed.

MOTION: That we decline the present offer by Nextel. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To accept the recommendation by the 5 Year Planning Committee that effective June 2004, the new vehicle be assigned to the incoming 2nd Vice President, and will remain with him/her through the Office of President, and also shall have the first option to purchase the vehicle when leaving that office at the end of his/her term. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To approve the appointment of Steve Kesner as Assistant Treasurer. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To continue with the outside annual review and that the Treasurer’s Office handle the 990 Form. Motion Passed.

MOTION: To approve the use of the sound system. Motion Passed.