

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

### JUNE 19, 2003

### Ocean City Maryland

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by President Terry E. Thompson at 0830 hours. Chaplain Hetz gave the invocation and led the pledge to the flag. President Thompson welcomed everyone and thanked Past President Worthington who was given a standing ovation for the fine job he did last year as President of the MSFA. He thanked L. King and his staff for the outstanding convention this week. He welcomed Lee Sachs to the Team and looks forward to working with him and Bob Jacobs this year. He discussed the new list of committees and their Chairs and what is expected of them this year. He asked that the list be reviewed and any changes or corrections be made and returned within the next ten days, to Secretary King.

**V.P. Jacobs** thanked everyone for their support and he looks forward to the new year and to working with the new and old Officers, Committee Chairs and members.

**V.P. Sachs** thanked everyone for their support and he looks forward to the coming year and working with Terry and Bob. He also looks forward to working with the new Executive Committee, the Committee Chairs and members as well.

**Secretary King** congratulated President Thompson and the new officers, and Past President Worthington for the fine job he did this past year.

**Treasurer** Curfman said he has already had conversations with the Presidents regarding plans for this new year. The committee chairs will be notified at the point they have expended their budget and/or the level they are getting close to over spending their funds. When their funds are expended, the Chair will have to go back to the Executive Committee for additional funds. He said John Shuhart will be taking care of funds thru 30 June 2003, after which he will handle the funds. He introduced new Assistant Treasurer Glen Hay, and said the other Assistant is Bill Eyler.

**Financial Secretary** F. Cross congratulated President Worthington and President Thompson and the new officers. He gave the highlights of the monies collected to date. All monies have been deposited except for the Boot Drive funds (\$3804.44) collected yesterday. He said Dues from five (5) Companies (Oxen Hill, Hillside, Armiger, Harwood-Lothian, and Delmar Vol. Fire Departments) have not yet been paid, and they will be notified again. F. Cross introduced new Assistant Financial Secretary S. Schell.

**Attorney** Powell introduced the new Assistant Attorney, Kirk Downing.

**LA-MSFA President** Clair Mae Buckmaster was introduced by president Thompson. She said she is ready to serve the Association. She introduced her officers: R. Duff (Sr V.P.), B. McWilliams (Jr V.P.), R. Pandolfini (Treasurer), L. Hetz (Fin Secretary), and F. Collins.

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**Trustees** R. Shimer said the officers of the Trustees remain the same as last year. He said they are working on new funds to increase the needed money for this coming year. He thanked J. Shuhart for the services and cooperation he gave the Trustees this year.

**Governor's Liaison** Ken Ziegler, brings greetings from the Governor and looks forward to working with the MSFA this year.

**Fire Prevention Queen** Sarah Blackwitz and Jennifer Gardiner (1st Runner up) were introduced and welcomed by President Thompson.

The meeting was turned over the Executive Committee Chair Douglas Alexander, who discussed changes this year for the Executive Committee meetings. They will be conducted on Saturday from 0845 to 1600, and Sunday from 0845 to 1400 hours. On the Budget, any expenditure over the committee budget, must be brought to the Executive Committee for approval. There will be two (2) Sgt at Arms at each meeting to keep the excess noise down during the meetings. The Committee Chairs are asked to NOT read their written report, but give highlights ONLY.

**Attorney** Powell congratulated the new officers. He discussed the MSFA Foundation and asked the Executive Committee to approve the By-Laws of the MSFA so he can proceed with the working of the Foundation, by setting up it's governing body and opening their own bank account. The Foundation will have nine (9) Delegates (for different areas of the state) and three (3) Officers. They will have elections to elect three (3) every year, and the officers will also serve for three year terms. They will determine the disposition of MSFA monies in accordance with the Charter. Scholarship funds will also go through the Foundation. He discussed how the 9 Delegates will divide the state by counties as: Alleghany / Garrett – 1 delegate, Frederick / Washington – 1 delegate, Montgomery / Howard / Carroll – 1 delegate, Baltimore City / Baltimore County – 1 delegate, Harford / Cecil – 1 delegate, PG / Anne Arundel – 1 delegate, Charles / Calvert / St. Mary's – 1 delegate, Somerset / Worcester / Wicomico – 1 delegate, Caroline / Talbot / Queen Anne / Kent – 1 delegate. The Foundation will need a bank account to be able to apply for the 1023 Application. He said the three Officers and the nine Delegates would be appointed by the Executive Committee. He has a request from G. Blanco, for approval to use the MSFA logo for a throw blanket to be used as a fund raiser for his 2nd V.P. campaign next year.

President Thompson said that L. Woods is here today with several MSFA items for sale. Mickey Harris had a problem and is back in surgery. He said P. Sterling's father died and arrangements will be announced later.

**Ways & Means** Chair L. Jonske reported on the Raffle results which took in a total of \$53,821 with 64,585 ticket sales. 238 Companies sold tickets this year. The men sold \$25,748 worth of tickets and the Ladies sold \$4200 worth. Hereford County sold the most with \$11,400, and for the Ladies, Joppa Magnolia sold \$700 worth. He thanked his committee and everyone else that

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sold tickets this year. He read the list of the winners of the raffle with Mary T. Cox of Baltimore, winning the \$10,000.

**Legislative Oversight** Chair J. Robison said the Low Interest Loan Committee has not met with them yet. They are concerned with the falling interest rates and have given 3% on the loans, but feel this should be lowered to 1-1/2 to 2%. They are asking the Executive Committee guidance to do this by giving them the flexibility to lower the rate. R. Powell said those that have already borrowed money at the old rate, will now want to refinance to the lower rate. The following motion was made by C. Albrecht and seconded by B. Kurtz:

**MOTION: To authorize the Low Interest Loan Committee to lower the interest rate they now charge, to 2 percent. Motion approved by majority vote. W. Donaldson abstained.**

G. Curfman discussed what guidelines would be used to refinance the older loans. They say unless there is a foreclosure or repossession, the loan cannot be refinanced. D. Mooney recommended the Low Interest Loan Committee review this, and report back at the next meeting with their recommendations. It was noted that any loans now pending will be at the new 2 percent interest if approved.

R. Cumberland gave a copy of the video tape “Highway Safety for Fire and EMS” to each of the three Presidents and the members of the Executive Committee.

R. Powell asked for approval to let G. Blanco use the MSFA logo in his fund raising activities. The following motion was made by B. Kurtz and seconded by C. Albrecht:

**MOTION: To authorize G. Blanco the use of the MSFA logo in his fund raising activities on a one time, one use basis with the approval of the three Presidents, and for a fee of \$250.00. This applies from now for one year, through the 2004 MSFA Convention. Discussion: W. Donaldson said we already now grant the use of the logo by a vendor for a fee. R. Powell said he monitors this with the vendors at the convention each year for the use of the logo. Motion was approved by majority vote (2 no votes).**

**Convention** Chair L. King reported on the 2003 convention of this week. He said the length of some of the sessions will be reviewed. The parade was a little shorter than last year, probably due to the threatening weather and the school issue. There were several parade trophy’s not picked up and will be given to someone today to get it to its proper owner. He said a convention critique will be held in next few weeks. President Buckmaster said the LA-MSFA has agreed to donate \$5000 to the MSFA Convention Committee. He discussed the fire alarm at the Convention Center that required the evacuation of the Center during our Wednesday session. Everyone did evacuate the building, but R. Yinger said they did not seem to move until the President announced the situation and told everyone to get out of the building. He said our concerns have been relayed to the Fire Chief of Ocean City VFD on the fire system in the Convention Center. He said the Tag money collected now goes to the general fund (approved during the general session). He said the Convention Committee is challenging all other

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committees to look at their extra funds going back into the General Fund and to find ways to raise funds for the Association. The date for next year's convention will be June 12-18, 2004 at Ocean City. He thanked everyone for their help with this year's convention and hoped everyone had a good time.

**Basket Bingo** P. Gordi thanked everyone that donated a basket, as they made \$7,000.

V.P. Sachs introduced the Past Presidents in attendance today as: R. Adkins (65-66), E. Preston (74-75), R. Dempsey (80-81), C. Riley (83-84), L. King (85-86), C. Carpenter (86-87), R. Cumberland (87-88), R. Shimer (88-89), J. Robison (89-90), T. Mattingly (90-91), B. Smith (91-92), P. Hurlock (93-94), R. Yinger (94-95), F. Cross (95-96), S. Cox (96-97), D. Davis (97-98), R. Knippenburg (98-99), R. Steger (00-01), C. Mattingly (01-02), G. Worthington (02-03).

**Budget** S. Cox discussed the written Budget handed out to the Executive Committee, and said they will be looking at the Adjusted Budget figures. They are planning a meeting with the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Budget Committee to lay out the committees and the status of their funds. The money numbers shown aren't always what the Chairmen asked for in their Budgets. He asked that the Executive Committee approve the proposed conceptual Adjusted Budget presented of \$139,000.00. The following motion was made by D. Cox and seconded by B. Kurtz:

**MOTION: To accept the proposed Adjusted Budget of \$139,000.00 as presented by Budget Committee Chair S. Cox. Discussion: by D. Cox regarding the layout of the committees, and B. Kurtz asked about any additional funding now covered. S. Cox explained what they will do and that they do know they have more money than they are now stating (with the Basket Bingo, LA donation, etc). Motion was approved by all.**

President Thompson discussed the proposed By-Laws Changes and asked the Executive Committee to look them over and get your comments back to R. Powell within the next 10 days. R. Powell asked that on any comments made to him, you are asked to refer to Section, Article, etc. Terry discussed the committee appointments and asked the Chairs to review the list and report any corrections or changes (use the Committee Information Form) to L. King in the next 10 days so the book can get to the printers as soon as possible. He read the list of Committees, their Chairs and Vice Chairs, and mentioned that some committees have been combined with other similar committees.

**NVFC** – President Thompson said the President will be the Delegate and the Vice Presidents will be the Alternates.

PP G. Worthington turned in his phones and credit card at this time.

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**Volunteer Trumpet** F. Cross said Bills have been sent to Provident, Selective, AFIS, and one other. Payment has been received from AFIS (for this year, not last year as required). He has not heard from any of the others mentioned.

PP C. Mattingly said he has sent in his cell phone and has disconnected the second phone line at his home.

The following motion was made by B. Kurtz and seconded by C. Albrecht:

**MOTION: To maintain the same mileage rate as last year, for travel expenses. No discussion, motion was approved by all.**

**MIEMSS** P. Hurlock said on behalf of Dr. Bass, congratulations to the new officers of the MSFA and especially the outstanding job done by President Worthington. They look forward to working with the new officers in the coming year.

**Website** R. Snader said review of the website has been brief, as they have been very productive with the website as to reports, pictures, notices, etc.

President Thompson discussed the upcoming Executive Committee meetings which will start with a Retreat on July 18-19 at St. Mary's College. The Executive Committee meetings will be: 25-26 October (Cambridge), 6-7 December (Snow Hill), 21-22 February (Mt. Airy), 17-18 April (Cresaptown).

PP Worthington Reminded everyone of the MSP Aviation presentation scheduled for next Saturday. Apparatus is welcome and all Companies are urged to attend the event.

President Thompson said the Presidents will make their requests to the Governor on 8 July in Annapolis.

**Around the table** Everyone congratulated the new officers and thanked President Thompson for their appointment to the Executive Committee. **C. Wills** thanked President Thompson for his comments from the stage yesterday thanking the Union President in Washington, and it was appreciated by the Company's affected.

Closing Prayer given by Chaplain Dixon. There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned at 1010 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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

