

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
December 1 & 2, 2007
Ocean City, Maryland

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The Executive Committee Meeting in Ocean City, Maryland, held December 1-2, 2007, was called to order by Executive Committee Chairman James P. Seavey, Sr. Chief Chaplain Emeritus Reverend J. Harvey Dixon led those in attendance with the opening prayer and pledge to the flag. Welcome – Ocean City Fire Chief Larimore welcomed us to Ocean City today. VP Powell recognized the following Past Presidents in attendance; C. Carpenter (86-87), J. Robison (89-90), T. Mattingly (90-91), P. Hurlock (93-94), R. Yinger (94-95), F. Cross (95-96), S. Cox (96-97), D. Davis (97-98), C. Edelin (99-00), G. Worthington (02-03), T. Thompson (03-04), R. Jacobs (04-05), L. Sachs (05-06), B. Balta (06-07). Other guests introduced, included; LA-MSFA President R. Pandolfini, who thanked everyone for allowing them to be here today, L. Hetz (Sr V.P.), K. Knipple (Jr V.P.), S. Soper (Fin. Sec), B. Alt (Chaplain), A. Davis (V. Chap-lain), B. Barnard (MSFM), Shock Trauma B. Johnson, and J. Spearman, DNR M. Mitchell, MSP-AV Maj McAndrew and Capt Cornwall, B. Myers (**Miss FP**) thanked everyone for having her here today. She reported on her activities since our last meeting in September.

Trustees, S. Hales, T. Thompson, D. Carpenter, J. Means, G. Worthington.

Sgt At Arms – This weekend is L. Woods.

PRESIDENT P. STERLING – Presented and discussed his written report. He thanked O.C. President Jay Jester and O.C. Chief Chris Larimore and his officers, members and Auxiliary for hosting the MSFA this weekend. He gave an update on the health of L. King (who recently suffered a stroke). He thanked those people that have tried to fill in for Leonard during his illness. He thanked L. Sachs and R. Siarnicki for serving as MSFA liaisons to L. King and his family during Leonard's recent health issues. He thanked J. Guntow for coordinating this weekend meeting and to Ocean City for hosting the event. He recognized those that have passed away since our last meeting: George Willie (Hillandale VFD), William Stone (Laurel VFD), Arthur TC Davis (Ocean City), Robert Wright (Bowie VFD), Betty Reamy (Brentwood), Alice McWilliams (7th District VFD), Marie Trice (Denton VFC), Whitey Campbell (Pocomoke City), George Freeman (Mardella Springs) and Marion Heitzel (Silver Spring VFD). He asked everyone to keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers: PP R. Adkins, PP E. Preston, PP L. King, PP F. Cross, D. Mooney, S. Calloway (Ocean Pines VFC), W. Thompson (Good-Will VFC), B. Shelton (Sudlersville VFC), and R. Graf (Earleigh Heights VFD). On 23 October 2007 Governor and Mrs. O'Malley hosted a reception for the MSFA leadership at the Governor's Mansion in Annapolis. Our officers spoke about the MSFA and our legislative and budget needs in the coming year. The Governor announced his appointment of Deputy Secretary of State Brian Moe as his liaison to the Fire and Rescue Service. Since the September 2007 Executive Committee meeting, the MSFA has continued working to advance the Legislative and Budgetary agenda of the organization. He thanked those County Associations and member companies that took the time to contact your elected officials in support of an amendment to include the MSFA in HB3 and SB3. Also the support in opposition to HB14 (State Lottery – Tip Jar Games – Exclusive Authority). He listed and discussed his activities since the September meeting. He has conducted meetings with State Comptroller Franchot, Speaker of the House Busch and President of the Senate Miller. He hosted a briefing of the Executive Director Work Group with our EMSOF partners at MIEMSS. He has received support of all EMSOF partners and letters of support to the Governor from MFRI, Shock Trauma, and MIEMSS. Worked with R. Siarnicki to develop a handout card promoting the increase in the MSFA Dues. He thanked NFFF Jenni McClelland for her efforts in the design of the handout card. He has re-activated the

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Finance / Funding Resource Group to provide an update of the recommendations from the July 2006 MSFA Retreat. He has extended invitations to the leadership of each County Association thru the Executive Committee representatives to meet and discuss MSFA activities and future plans. He has appointed C. Jewell as the MSFA representative to the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC). The SIEC was established by Governor O'Malley. MSFA has applied for the Fire Act Grant for \$1.2 for three projects (Smoke Alarms for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Talking Smoke Alarms for Children, and Public Awareness Communications). He congratulated Dr. Bass on his being presented the Outstanding Contribution to EMS Award. He congratulated R. Watkins for receiving the Damascus VFD Chief Larry Johnson Award, and to Keith Fairfax for his 50 years with the fire service and his 25 years as President of the Bay District VFD. He and LA-MSFA President R. Pandolfini will host the Annual MSFA Holiday Party at Good-Will VFC on 16 December.

SWEAR IN – PP R. Balta swore in G. Curfman to the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Committee. Gene fills the vacancy of Richard Baker. Gene was appointed by President Sterling as the representative for Carroll and Howard Counties.

VP UNDERWOOD – Presented and discussed his written report. He discussed the officers meetings with our partners in the state and said they definitely made known in Annapolis what we need and expect. The Slots Day in Annapolis was an event everyone should have experienced. A lot of people were waving pro and con signs, and MSFA gave a briefing in front of the Slots Committee, but MSFA did not get their 5%. He discussed their visit to the Governor's Mansion and the three day weekend at the NFFF in Emmitsburg. He said the experience of meeting the families of the fallen firefighters was very heart wrenching. He was impressed that President Bush attended the event and gave each family member a hug. He expressed his sorrow with the loss of many of our people and asked we remember those that are ill at this time. He was happy to see so many people visiting and calling L. King. He said this is a big part of the healing process.

VP POWELL – Presented and discussed his written report. He continues to fulfill his roll as VP to learn the duties and responsibilities of the office, and to support the President's agenda. The officers are scheduling briefings with the County Associations to present current updates that have served to enhance communication of the President's agenda on behalf of the MSFA. He said the meetings with our Government partners are necessary to present the agenda of the MSFA, both for information and to secure support of them for our agenda items. He said the special Legislative sessions are needed to express and discuss the interests of the Maryland Emergency Services

SECRETARY – President Sterling said L. King could not be here today because of his recent illness, but the Office of the Secretary is continuing to function thru J. Olsen and L. King. He wanted to be here today, but the Doctor said not yet.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY – F. Cross (and his wife) thanked everyone for their support during his illness. He has now received a good report from the Doctor on his illness. He presented and discussed his written report of the MSFA Profit and Loss to date since 24 September 2007. He has been working on an invoice under Quik-Books for the Dues, which will be sent out this week. He asked they be signed for (or name noted) so they will get to the right people. He said that all Dues have been received for this past year.

TREASURER – R. Siarnicki presented and discussed his written report. He said finally the General Fund is in the Black. There is now only \$1,068.28 in the General Fund. The Cash Funds have a low reserve in order to move as much as possible into the MLG accounts. He said Account 1051 (Relief) is zero balance as it is a CD that came up for renewal and the Trustees chose to move everything out of CD's because of the low interest rates. He noted a total Bank Assets of \$1,009,296.80. They now have an Accounts Receivable Category, and the -\$800 is for Ads for the Trumpet. They have contacted the firm of Fike, Conner & Associates to do the Financial Review for Fiscal year ending 30 June 2007. He has the contract now to be

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signed and the price of the Review is \$6,500. They are working with the Budget Office to be sure they can put as many costs against Appropriations vs General Fund. He discussed the Special Account for M. Gouty on the credit card system, and they have found a company that will provide the machine and the needed paper work for us that goes with it. They have received another donation from Mrs. Himer for the Scholarship Fund, and it has been transferred to the Maryland Scholarship Foundation. He discussed checks and balances and said Bobby Aaron is still doing the review of all credit card expenditures as a third party review. Ron is doing the Financial Secretary's deposits, and R. Jacobs is doing the end of the month reconciliation of all of the accounts.

CHAPLAIN J. Long presented and discussed his written report. He discussed his activities since the Executive Committee's last meeting. In October he attended a Fire Chaplain's Conference in Oklahoma City. He has attended the memorial service for Betty Reamy, visited L. King and Ron Graf. He asked everyone to remind their Companies to get the Memorial forms and pictures turned in for the 2008 Memorial Service in Ocean City. All forms must be in by 1 February 2008 for the deaths that occurred during 2007. The forms can be turned in electronically or hard copy.

ATTORNEY – M. Farlow had no written report. He said the previously reported bad check from the Convention has now been paid. He said most of the previous car issues have been settled, with a few still outstanding. He discussed the pending lease on 17 State Circle. The State is working on the language of the lease. With the situation with L. King, he asks the Executive Committee to authorize the Assistant Secretary's to be able to sign the required Resolution in the absence of the Secretary. Another issue is that R. Powell thought he was the Registered Agent for the MSFA, but apparently he was not. This should be changed so that R. Powell or M. Farlow is the Registered Agent for the MSFA. There is a \$25 cost for that action to change it. Roger said it is the name and address for the Registered Agent (not just name only). Mike said the address will be that of Roger's office.

MIEMSS – Dr. Bass presented and discussed his written report. Dr. Bass was congratulated on receiving the National Outstanding Contribution to EMS Award. He thanked the MSFA for their support to him and the EMS. MIEMSS is doing a statewide Impaired Driver Awareness Campaign in conjunction with the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration. The campaign is entitled "Drunk Driving – It's Been Done To Death". It is targeted at males between 31 and 40 years old. He reminded everyone to get their Flu Shots. They did a study on all-terrain crashes in Maryland, that resulted in ED, hospital, and trauma center visits. This month, MIEMSS will report to the legislature on whether AED's should be made available at swimming pools, and whether AED's should be made available at locations other than swimming pools. They are also reporting with DHMH on collecting data on occupational exposures to HIV in both the hospital and pre-hospital environments. The Trauma Decision Tree has been updated because the Triage Guidelines have been revised nationally. He discussed the different stages of the Trauma Triage. He said the BLS Committee is working on the next EMT-B instructor skills update. The CRT Program is scheduled to meet on 30 June 2008, however, the EMS Board is considering extending the CRT Program until the newly proposed Advanced EMT educational standards can be implemented. As of 21 November 2007, the total number of Maryland EMS Providers is 29,783. The number of CRT's is down to 216, with most of them in Baltimore. He discussed the proposed levels of EMS Provider Scope of Practice. The First Responder is changed to Emergency Medical Responder. The EMT is just EMT. The proposed new provider is the Advanced EMT that is a link from the scene to the emergency health care system. Existing CRTs not wishing to upgrade to paramedic could possibly become AEMTs, upon completion of some continuing education courses. They have qualified the Quality Assurance Officer Regulation and the Freestanding Emergency Medical Facilities Regulation (FEMF). He said the Active Centralized Routing Project (ACRP) is designed to over crowding and a supervisor is assigned to work more actively with who is on Yellow, where, etc and to route patients to an ER that is more likely to be able

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to accept them, and not tie up ambulances. The focus is to optimize EMS unit availability for 9-1-1 responses by reducing turn around times. He said MIEMSS continues to monitor Yellow Alert utilization by all hospitals. There may be an upturn soon with the possible increase in Flu cases. Currently there are 870 approved layperson AED facilities in Maryland with a total of 2098 sites. They have proposed an amendment to the existing AED statute that would strengthen the current provisions of the protection of facilities, users, and physicians who provide oversight for AED programs. The Bill did pass the House, but did not receive a hearing in the Senate, and died. MIEMSS will submit a similar legislation in the 2008 legislative session. He discussed the existing EMTB Program that needs to be re-looked at regarding the hours required. He said EMAIS continues to grow. It has a lot of additional information being asked for now, that is maybe not really necessary? MIEMSS has been developing draft regulations for the designation of Acute Cardiac Interventional Center. Once designated, they will be required to provide the needed cardiac intervention within defined time limits after patient arrival. MIEMSS has designated 27 Primary Stroke Centers statewide and directed jurisdictions to implement the neurological emergencies protocol. Patients must arrive within two hours of symptom onset and the Primary Stroke Center must be within 30 minutes travel to bypass. C. Moe asked about a protocol for the Tazers. Dr. Bass said they do have some issues regarding the assessment, but basically, patients that have been shot by a Tazar, it should not be removed by EMS, but should be evaluated in the ER.

EMS – C. Wills presented and discussed his written report. The committee last met on 4 November 2007 in Randallstown. At a recent meeting, Mr. Roger Simonds proposed making the Volunteer Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP) mandatory. He discussed the Committee's move to the Executive Committee to have the Ambulance Inspections be voluntary and not mandatory. The ALS Sub-Committee is pursuing credentialing of ALS Instructors. All BLS Instructors in the State are credentialed through the MIC Board, but there is no such certification required for ALS Instructors. He discussed the Highway Safety Program that is not only for Fire and EMS personnel, but for tow truck operators, police, etc. too. He attended a meeting at SHA and learned about and discussed the National Traffic Incident Management Traffic Incident Management Coalition. He suggested that MFRI and MIEMSS get together on this issue and pool their resources, and come up with one unified program instead of several similar programs. He discussed the EMTB Program and has told Dr. Bass that we need to sit down and review the existing EMTB Program. Often students are being let go early when the classes should be a full three hours. This would make up several more hours of training that is possibly being missed. He discussed the new CRT (Intermediate) and said they need to utilize those people, we are going to have to go from EMTB to P. He said Baltimore has a lot of CRT's because they use them. Other places these people are being put down because they don't have the "Paramedic Education". Discussed EMAIS, and said it is growing, maybe too big with some of the new items being asked for? S. Kesner said the CRT's are being looked upon equally, and he feels they are not really being pushed out (at least in his area).

EMS BOARD – G. Worthington had no written report. He discussed the routing of information that finally gets to the EMS Board. He said the Cumberland Valley Association does have a seat on the National Traffic Incident Management Coalition, and one can go to ResponderSafety.com to get all of the desired information on it.

SHOCK TRAUMA- J. Spearman and B. Fosler presented and discussed their written report. They discussed the status and update of the Center as the Patient Admission is only slightly behind last year at this time, as is the Actual vs Budget. The Beds Occupied Chart shows that 90-99 percent is occupied at any time. They are now expanding their Ambulatory Clinic that will allow them to release the patient a little early as their doctor goes along with them. The OR Cases have dropped to date from 1944 to 1878. They continue to fulfill their Educational Mission with the Pre-Hospital Educational Activity First Quarter FY08 with 7 Tour Groups. The Evening Program had 322 contact hours, ALS Skills Lab had one session with 10

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EMS Providers and 80 contact hours. The Observation Program had 22 EMS Providers, with a total contact of 176 hours. They had one on-site Clinical Program. She advised everyone that their people do not have to travel to Shock Trauma to get in their Educational Programs, as there are several remote locations throughout the State, and they are equipped to handle more sites if needed. MFRI is also available to open additional locations to also do so. She included a list of Evening Educational Programs coming up in the near future.

DNR – M. Mitchell presented and discussed his written report. The Forest Service has responded to 602 wildfires burning 5,077 acres across the state. Because of the drought this year, their above normal responses were in July thru October. He handed out their new brochure on Open Air Burning, and the new calendar for 2008. In August the 2007 VFA Grant was awarded to 35 Volunteer Fire Departments across the state, and 30 have had their reimbursement processed. The Fall Basic Fire Courses were held in October at Green Brier State Park. The class was completed by 39 students from DNR and the fire service. A Tractor Plow (Fire Dozer) operations course was also held in October at Elk Neck State Forest and completed by 17 students. Again this year they assisted partner agencies out of state with critical fire needs from Georgia to Montana and across the western U.S. The deadline for the receipts was yesterday. They have received documentation from 17 fire departments and one extension due to a back order, and one department cancelled their grant. As requested at the last meeting, he discussed the number of positions lost or not filled in the past few years. Over the period FY02 to FY08 the Forest Service has lost a total of 53 positions (PINS). They have been told more cuts are to come, but how many, they don't know. He said they have a total of 97 positions remaining at the start of FY09.

NFFF – R. Siarnicki had no written report. He gave an update of the NFFF since the Memorial weekend which had over 7,000 people attending (including President Bush who spent time with each and every family). He thanked the MSFA and their officers and members who helped with the weekend and have helped move the NFFF forward. Next years event (4-5 October weekend) will again include the long weekend of events. The 911 Statue in Emmitsburg is really something that all Fire and EMS personnel should see. The NFFF are still going with the "Everyone Goes Home" program. We are presently 20 above last year's National number of LODD's (now at 107). The Baskin Robbins 31 cent program (that will benefit the local Fire Departments) will be conducted again this coming year in April 2008.

CONVENTION – R. Siarnicki, T. Mattingly, W. Donaldson, L. Sachs (and L. King by telephone) discussed the actions of the committee. They contacted Leonard with a conference call. Leonard said he wanted to be here today, but the doctor said not yet. The membership present today gave Leonard their best wishes and look forward to his return. W. Donaldson said they are discussing a possible increase in the rates for the Exhibitors.

Ron said they have been meeting with Leonard regarding other actions that need to get accomplished very soon. He said all of the convention people are working to make sure that everything gets done that should be done. Lee said the Exhibits Package will be sent out on 15 January 2008, so he needs all inputs by 5 January 2008.

PRESIDENT'S VEHICLE – R. Leftwich presented and discussed his written report. He said the problems with the vehicle sold in June have been worked out and the registration will be finalized next week. He has the specs for the new vehicle and it should be ordered in January 2008. He discussed comments made at the last meeting with the things they would like to do with the Presidents car in the coming year if possible. D. Cox asked to make this an Action Item for February 2008. This was agreed to by all.

WAYS & MEANS – R. Jonske discussed the activities of the committee since our last meeting. He has tickets available here today for all departments. He asked for ok to do Spring Fest this coming year. Chair Seavey said this has been budgeted and approval of this is not required.

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AWARDS – R. Graf presented and discussed his written report. The committee met on 30 September 2007. They tabled the idea of an award for the person that wins more than one of the same type of award. The Award Ribbons will be going up from \$5.00 to \$6.00. He wants everyone in the Association to start thinking about awards for 2008. **To all Award Committees, the update of Rules and Regulations, and a sample of the nomination letter are due by 15 January 2007.** Any changes are due by 15 January to Doyle Cox. If there is no change in your award rules, please call Ron and tell him so they can be sure all information on hand is correct.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS – B. Press presented and discussed his written report. He said D. Skinner's wife underwent surgery this past week, as did B. Wagner's wife. Dennis's wife will have to have more surgery next week. He asked that we keep those people in our thoughts and prayers. The committee was asked to review several areas of the Constitution & By-Laws. The committee and President Sterling and V.P. Underwood, met on 8 September for guidance and direction. The committee recommendations will be discussed later under Action Items. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for 5 January 2008 in Cambridge. Anyone wishing to submit an amendment, must do so in writing to the MSFA Secretary prior to the Committee meeting on 5 January 2008.

DATA SYSTEMS – R. Snader had no written report. Barry Johnson is the new person on this committee. He discussed a new Mail Server to be in place this week. He discussed members being able to go straight to the Members area and put in their report. VP Underwood discussed the Directory and recommends we put it on our website as read only, or not. Richard said they wish to not put the Directory as a long listing out there, but to give you the ability to give you a look up on a name and get the phone number or address, but, it would be one at a time. He said this does not replace the paper copies, they are still needed (for at least the next 5 years). H. Hetz said we should not rush into this as there is legislation that will contain what will be available and how that information will be maintained.

FIRE PREVENTION – R. Collins presented and discussed his written report. The committee last met on 11 November 2007 at Perryville. He said Brittany and Ashton are doing outstanding work for the committee and Association. They continue to distribute deaf and hard of hearing smoke alarms, when they are available. He said Placemats have been ordered, and everyone is reminded they are to be used only at fund raisers for the public or local restaurants. They are not to be used at Company banquets, picnics, or parties, etc. The Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference was held on 25 September and had a very good attendance. T. Collins reported they have twelve (12) vinyl signs for billboards that need to be stored. The Fire Marshall has offered to store them for us. Bobby sent a letter to Kurt Rutherford (Eastern Outdoor Advertising), thanking him for leaving our Fire-Safety message "Your Fire Exit Plan" up during the months of August, September and October at no extra charge. Their next committee meeting is scheduled for 13 January 2008 at Chesapeake City.

MISS FIRE PREVENTION – Written report was presented and discussed. She discussed a Junior Miss Fire Prevention Program and has had a very positive response on the program. They are looking for any suggestions or comments from the Executive Committee. If they had a Junior Miss Fire Prevention judged in Ocean City, they would have to get another set of judges (from out of state, not associated with the fire service). She also discussed suggestion of Junior Fire Chief Program. They are not, however, looking at this project at this time.

MSP-AV – Maj. McAndrew and Capt. Cornwell presented and discussed their written report. He discussed the status of Helicopter replacement. He said that HB-5 (Funding for helicopters) has been approved and signed by the Governor. It approved \$110,000,000 to the State Police Helicopter Replacement Fund. It approved the Annual Budget for fiscal year 2009 thru 2012, an amount sufficient from the fund to purchase three (3) helicopters each fiscal year. It is further intended that the State Police purchase a Flight Simulator to use for helicopter pilot training. He discussed the concerns still existing with the private

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helicopters. He discussed several helicopter calls and their circumstances, and the sometimes bad newspaper and TV publicity concerning the helicopter service. He discussed safety and the strict weather minimums they abide by. They will not take unnecessary risks to transport a patient. He thanked the MSFA for their continued support and assistance to the MSP Helicopter Service.

TRUSTEES – S. Hales presented and discussed his written report. He said a claim was approved today for a member that died while performing a fund raiser for his department. The claim was received on 21 July 2007 for a Line of Duty Death that occurred on 21 February 2007, and just received today. The original application was mailed to P. Hurlock at a Missouri address. They will deliver the first check to the benefactor.

MEMORIAL – D. Mooney and G. Worthington presented and discussed their written report. They reported on the status of the Memorial. He said they recently spotted our sculptor (Rodney Carroll) taking pictures of the Memorial. He said the waterline on site, has been extended and we are awaiting the proposal from the landscape designer on the enhancements for the site itself. Gene is on top of this and hopes this will happen in the next few weeks. He discussed the use of the site by other organizations or people. We want to keep the site for what it is meant for. It was agreed they will correspond with the State Agencies and other organizations regarding the use of the site, and Don will be the point of contact. We do not want it to be political, but should be patriotic or something to do with the fire service. He said (for those that don't know) the NVFC gave us the first \$15,000 to get the Memorial started. They hope to make some sort of recognition to them for that donation. They still have the DVD's available for sale for \$10 each. The next Fund Raiser is the sale of the framed picture of the Memorial (\$75) taken the day after the Dedication, and taken from atop the extended ladder truck above the Memorial. He said their October 3rd meeting was hosted by the Baltimore City Fire Department at the Fire Boat quarters. Don Mooney was made Honorary Fire Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department. Gene said the last order is for at least 50 bricks, with delivery in January 2008. Don said they still have lighting problems but Gene is taking care of each of them. The next committee meeting is scheduled for 5 December 2007 in Anne Arundel County. VP Underwood said that D. Mooney has also been awarded the Administrator Person of the Year for the Baltimore County Association.

MSFM – B. Barnard presented and discussed his written report. He discussed the Budget issues and said one of the Bills that passed requires the Governor to eliminate 500 State Government positions. He does not know at this time how this will impact the MSFM Office. For the first nine months of 2007, arson arrests are up 39%, while other arrests are up 42%. Inspections are down 1.4% from the same time span in 2006 and the number of fire investigations is down 5.2%. He discussed the success to date of the Residential Sprinkler systems in Maryland with educational programs and hearings on the fire sprinkler legislation. On 29 October 2007 the Cambridge City Commissioners voted to repeal their fire sprinkler ordinance. He believes it was too complex with both residential and commercial properties. The OSFM Eastern Shore Regional Office has moved to its new office on Bay Street in Easton. Delmarva Power is again donating 500 smoke alarms and 70 smoke alarms for the deaf and hard of hearing for distribution in the Delmarva Power service area. The Fire Deaths in Maryland are up to 81 as of today. He discussed Fire Safety and the media releases being done around the state at this time. They have been investigating a series of 15 fires at the Springhill Lake Apartment Complex in Greenbelt. On 3 October Jeremiah C. Jones was arrested on federal arson charges in the case(s). Currently the OSFM has 12 vacant positions (8 Deputy Fire Marshals, one Fire Protection Engineer, two Fire Safety Inspectors, one Administrative Aide and one Office Secretary). They are working to fill the positions as soon as possible.

They again this year, assisted with security screening and pre-event explosive sweeps for the NFFF Annual Memorial Service in Emmitsburg. Several fire departments and/or counties are not submitting MFIRS reports to the OSFM in a timely manner. MFIRS reports for each month should be forwarded to the OSFM

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by the tenth day of the following month. He reminded MSFA of the importance of submitting accurate and timely MFIRS reports to the OSFM. OSFM continues to work with local partners to promote Fire Prevention Week and the theme “Practice Your Fire Escape Plan”.

He discussed the sale of Fire Safe Cigarettes in Baltimore City only, prior to the state law taking effect in July 2008. .

STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION – R. Brooks discussed actions of the Commission and said the Mid-Atlantic Conference next year will be hosted in Annapolis in September 2008. He complimented the MSFA Fire Prevention Queens on their work with Fire Prevention.

HAZMAT – R. Brooks reported the group is being re-stimulated. They will be getting an explanation of recent changes (NFPA-472). Chemical Plant Security Initiatives was discussed and they are building their manpower now for the cause. Rail Road placards were discussed and they are not being removed as was previously discussed. He discussed Global Harmonization and the changing of package labels to be user friendly. He complimented the Fire Prevention Queens for the work they are doing in Fire Prevention in Maryland. He thanked President Sterling and others that have supported him these past weeks in his work.

MFRI – P. Marlett presented and discussed his written report. MFRI awarded an OSHA Training Grant of \$169,147 that provides for 30 one-day classes in Excavation and Trench Hazard Awareness at construction sites. They will provide each student with a DVD of the program to share with co-workers. Discussed new changes to current MICRB Regulations. Change from “Level II Emergency Services Instructor” to “State Emergency Services Instructor”. Change from “Instructor 1” to “Local Emergency Services Instructor”. Changes to PDI, the instructor shall complete 12 hours of training safety. Instructor Training Certification will run concurrently with the State Emergency Services Instructor certification. MFRI now conducts a program for instructors on presenting Live Fire Training Evolutions. As of 1 March 2008, in order to teach or work in a structural fire fighting or live fire training evolution for MFRI, you will have to have attended that program. He discussed the deficiencies and renovation of the North East Regional Training Center (NERTC) at Aberdeen Proving Grounds. They have requested funding for the renovation of the facility (construction of a new administration/classroom building, and the upgrading of the existing practical training area). The training and education in this area is critical to protecting the public. Until emergency services personnel are properly trained, they cannot participate in emergency response. His report also listed upcoming MFRI Seminars.

BRAC – K. Fairfax could not be here today, but his written report was received. J. Dulina said K. Fairfax will be giving a presentation to elected federal officials in December on the BRAC. He will also address the encroachment of the area, and the MFRI recommendation to renovate the North East Regional Training Center (NERTC) at Aberdeen. He made several recommendations and expressed the need to contact the Lt. Governor’s Office on the most important issues for the fire and EMS organization in the impacted areas, and also interface with members of congress, and the County Executives in the impacted areas. He said MSFA needs to coordinate with MFRI S. Edwards to put pressure on the University of Maryland to fund this upgrade.

TRAINING – S. Mahan presented and discussed his written report. He discussed the report he received from the Safety Committee dated 20 October 2007. The report stated the leading causes of death that our membership face is Heart Attacks and motor vehicle collisions. He said President Sterling has directed the Safety Committee to begin development of wellness and injury prevention initiatives for our membership. He said the Priority Points of President Sterling was NFPA 1403, NIMS compliance and training, and the needs of the fire service in the different counties. They broke the state down into MFRI Regions, and members of the Training Committee volunteered for those regions. He discussed the NIMS requirements and who is to take what, etc.

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The federal level has now decided that all of the people required to have the 400 level, are no longer required to unless they will actually be an Incident Commander at a level 4 or 5 incident. There are still some changes coming from NIMS, and they will stay on top of it as it occurs. He discussed the needs of the members, and the reason MFRI classes were being cancelled, and what can they do to make sure the people do take the classes when presented.

CAREER TECH (CADET) PROGRAM – D. Stevens presented and discussed his written report. He thanked everyone for their concern with his recent illness. They continue to monitor the High School Cadet Programs around the state. He said they are always ready to communicate the issues of the program, as they may have been seen by one or more of the other Cadet Programs and can help with suggestions. They do see a problem in certain areas of the State with the EMT Program and the High School cadet program. It seems the failure rate is a little higher in these areas than the night programs. One opinion is the program may be too compressed for high school students. Another is the students that primarily have a fire orientation are not applying themselves in this area. He said the key to a successful high school cadet program is recruitment by the volunteer fire and EMS service in the county. They will continue to monitor this EMT situation and if anyone has any suggestions, please let him know. Now is the time to plan for the school year that starts in the Fall of 2008. The departments with members in the Cadet Program, need to insure the success of the members in the program. He said these kids are different from when he entered the fire service. It is a different generation and we need to adapt, because these young people are the future of the fire service. He and Bobbie have been invited, and will go to Hampton Virginia this month to discuss the Maryland programs with them.

HISTORICAL & ARCHIVES – H. Owens Presented and discussed his written report and their meeting of 4 November at Orchard Beach. At the request of President Sterling, Chair Owens will be coordinating the task of interviewing several personnel from around the state to hopefully achieve a documentary on the Maryland Fire Service. They will be distributing a letter to all attending the Executive Committee, requesting a list of information questions of local departments, such as names of older members, oldest fire station, oldest piece of apparatus, etc. He asks this information be returned to Chair Owens on or before the February Executive Committee meeting. Between now and the February Executive Committee meeting, they plan at least two video interviews, that will be played at the February meeting. The committee is examining the inventory to find potential photographs that could be copied for sale at the 2008 Convention. He said there will be no more “100 Year History” books given out. The committee will have a booth at the convention displaying copies of photographs for sale, as well as the sale of the “100 Year History” books. The committee will next meet on 6 January 2008 at Orchard Beach.

C. Jewell discussed the status (no change) of the new museum. He said it is a county museum and the MSFA will have a display in the museum. The state Association will have no legal part of the museum, as the County Commissioners are allowing the MSFA to use a portion of it for their display. Hopefully by February 2008 they will have more concrete information to report. F. Underwood discussed the website for the FF Room. It is complete now with very little room for any more items. Anyone having items to be put on display in the Room, please let him know.

HONOR GUARD – F. Hawley presented and discussed his written report. He said the committee met on 17 November at the Montgomery County public Safety Training Academy, and discussed several suggestions for the Convention in 2008. They would like to move the day of the demonstration to make it a Tuesday Seminar challenge/workshop. He contacted P. Browning about a room and was told he would have to take this change to the Convention Committee, and was told the room(s) was not available until the afternoon. He said no activity such as the Honor Guard, could be held during the business meetings. It was also suggested to do a Flag Fold at the Joint Memorial service on Sunday evening. As Amazing Grace is being played, the team would fold the flag and then exit. This will be discussed with the Chief Chaplain.

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They are also considering a Fund Raiser of some type, to help support the Honor Guard. They are preparing a Form to be available at the workshop to allow those interested to sign up as being available as part of a mixed Color Guard, if needed. They have been asked by President Sterling to design a flag for the MSFA, which could be carried by the Color Guard.

NVFC – L. Sachs presented and discussed his written report. He and J. Seavey attended the Annual Fall Meeting of the NVFC Board in Rhode Island on 24-27 October 2007. At the meeting they discussed a Bill to grant bargaining rights, and protection of the right to volunteer. He discussed their urging of the Department of Justice to revise the approach to and procedures for evaluating claims filed under the “Hometown Heroes Law” that allows LODD claims based on stroke and heart attack. As of 15 November 2007 283 claims were filed, 39 have been approved, 66 were denied, and the rest are pending. This is an improvement, as less than six months earlier, 258 were filed, four (4) approved, and 46 rejected. The new interpretations have been in effect for about a month. L. Sachs, on behalf of the NVFC, and representatives from other national fire service organizations, has been working under the umbrella of the NFFF to assist families with pending claims to complete the process. J. Seavey and L. Sachs plan to attend the Annual Spring NVFC Board meeting on 3 April 2008. A total of \$470,000 was raised for the Katrina/Rita Relief Fund, and \$440,000 of that has been distributed to members of the fire service. The balance was placed in a new Disaster Relief Fund to be available to any active volunteer firefighter who is a NVFC State member who sustains an uninsurable loss in excess of \$5,000 to his/her house as a result of a Presidential declared catastrophic event. The maximum is \$250.00. A motion that NVFC oppose requiring an NVFC 1582 Physical Exam in order to be credentialed, failed. A motion was made opposing the recommendation National Association of Public Administrators (NAPA) recommending the Fire Act monies be used for terrorism preparedness and not for the common equipping of fire/rescue departments. A motion was passed combining the Fire Act and SAFER items as the #1 legislative priority of the NVFC. A motion was passed that the NVFC not sign on to the Consensus Report until issues of EMS (“priority in grant guidance”, and tasks being assigned to groups or organizations not a part of the report) are resolved. A motion was made (and passed) by L. Sachs that the NVFC endorse the “Move-Over Policy” adopted by the NTIMC, and encourages all states to adopt legislation that implements it. They discussed the FTC lawsuit filed against a telemarketing firm (Civic Development). The offices of the NVFC are about to relocate to the Greenbelt area. J. Seavey said they tried to attempt the NVFC as a counter to the IAFF’s Presidential Candidate Forum, but the candidates sent a representative or did not attend. The attendees were interesting speakers to listen to.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WORK GROUP – L. Sachs presented and discussed his written report. They met the other evening, which was the only meeting since the September Executive Committee Meeting. He said they are moving ahead with the implementation of the hiring of an Executive Director Plan that was approved back in September by the Executive Committee. They talked about such issues as: Seeking Alternate Funding Sources, Determining Qualifications for both positions, Hiring Sequence. Their recommendation will be to not limit the hiring to someone from the fire service or someone not from the fire service, but to pick the most qualified person for the position. They are recommending that applications be reviewed by the committee and on the requisite number of votes, the committee will interview, and the bottom line will be that the committee will recommend three (3) candidates to the President, and the President will make the selection. They have asked our Attorney to start a Draft of an Employment Contract that will be added to and get to the point where they have a contract to propose. He said the funding should come from the Governor from the EMSOF Fund and the EMS Board will issue a portion of the EMSOF Fund. They are asking that the funding for this position be issued like the AMOSS 508 funding.

PUBLIC ADDRESS – B. Huttenloch said he has two recorders and four microphones in need of cleaning and repair, and said this will be done.

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STANDARDS – B. Huttenloch discussed meeting today with Department of Lloyds that is coming back into the Association and they will be setting up inspections that have to be done to be able to come back into the Association, as they dropped out several years ago and now want to come back in.

SWEAR IN – New Chaplain (Fred Bahr) was sworn in at this time by PP Balta to the MSFA Chaplain's Office.

OUT OF STATE – G. Worthington reported the President's Council asked the Cumberland Valley Group to put together fire department problems (Money Embezzlement, and other activities) that should not be done, and they are hosting that meeting today in Philadelphia. The next meeting is scheduled in New York in April.

RURAL WATER SUPPLY – D. Alexander presented and discussed his written report. Since the September meeting, they have not met, but have communicated with each other on items as needed. They are preparing for the Spring Rural Water Supply Drill, hosted by Clinton. Any company interested in participating in the drill, please contact any member of the committee. He reminded all companies and associations they are ready to assist them with any rural water delivery problems.

RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER INITIATIVE – D. Alexander presented and discussed his written report. A committee meeting is planned for mid January with day time and place to be announced. They have completed all of the programs they had scheduled for 2007. The ordinance presentation for Salisbury has been postponed until January 7, 2007. The latest program took place in Howard County on November 13, 2007. They have received positive feedback and a follow up will be done in January 2007. They did a program on 30 October for the Dorchester County Commissioners, fire service personnel, and town governments from several nearby communities. The program was well received and he thanked Hurlock VFC for the use of their facility. Black Monday (29 October) was less than a great day when the City of Cambridge Council chose to repeal their residential sprinkler ordinance. A committee of fire service and other personnel has been appointed to revisit and bring back another set of requirements for consideration. In St. Mary's County, a requirement for sprinklers in all new homes was defeated. However, an amended requirement was passed to require in all new homes in developments of over 6 homes in the areas of the county served by public water. On 23 October they went to Cecil County to do a program for the County Commissioners, and the communities of Rising Sun, Port Deposit, and Elkton. Unfortunately, only two county commissioners showed up, and no city officials from the municipalities attended. They did the program and what they could to get the information out. They have learned that things will hopefully be back underway in Anne Arundel County very soon. A proposal is tentatively planned to be introduced in December. The Baltimore County VFA has gotten their residential sprinkler committee up and running. They are working to get things underway with their county officials. He praised the efforts of the Talbot County Association in getting an ordinance in place for all new homes built in Talbot County. The City of Easton also adopted an ordinance at about this same time. He read a position paper on residential sprinklers presented by the North Carolina Association of Fire Chief's and noted how familiar this is to our own local areas. He said there are presently seven (7) counties that have adopted a residential sprinklers policy. However, of the 156 municipalities in Maryland, approximately 83 are now covered by ordinances. Municipalities that have adopted their own policy He thanked everyone who has assisted and supported the committee's efforts, and he hopes more will join them in making residential sprinklers an amenity in every new home in Maryland.

PRESIDENT STERLING – recognized and introduced **Donner Fredder** who has been ill and is here today.

SCHOLARSHIP – D. Fishack presented and discussed his written report. Committee has not met since the last Executive Committee meeting. They plan to meet later this month (or early January). He will

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be calling each of our supported students over the holidays to get a mid year progress report. To date they have had two inquiries about the scholarship program for the '08-'09 school year. The deadline for the '08-'09 is 15 April 2007, and information can be obtained on line on the MSFA website (scholarship), or they can contact him. He learned today the funding is now at the Foundation.

ADJOURNMENT – 1545 hours.

CHAIR SEAVEY called the 2nd day of the meeting to order at 0900 hours on 2 December 2007.

Chaplain Hetz gave the opening prayer, and led the pledge to the Flag.

GUESTS (additional) – J. Droneberg (MEMA) , Dwayne Stein (Grantsville Chief), Tony Bittenger (Grantsville), Samuel Horsman (President of Madison), Matt Vernon (Madison Chief), David Hoirsman (Madison), John Tredor (Taylors Island), Deborah Horseman Vienna).

SGT AT ARMS – L. Woods (both days).

PRESIDENT STERLING – Thanked J. Olsen and E. Huttonloch for their help setting up the Friday night get together. He thanked J. Gunto for the arrangements made at O.C. this weekend.

TRUMPET – A. Reamey presented and discussed her written report. They met on 18 November 2007 in Prince George's County and reviewed the progress of the current edition. The proof received was a mess and a kit of changes had to be made. She is still waiting for the 2nd proof from the printer. Hopefully it will be on the street by next week. They currently have VFIS, Maryland Fire Equipment, and Singer Associates for Ads for next year. In this edition they have a Form for the Individual Membership as discussed at the last Executive meeting. They are to be mailed directly to Amber. She said if we stay on this present trend, they will be increasing the number of pages of the Trumpet, from 20 to 24 pages. The current edition will be 20 pages. After 18 months of hard work, they have the Trumpet back on track. She asked the Executive Committee to Continue to send your updates for your area, as of this time she only received about half of those expected. The said the deadline for the next edition is 1 February 2008. She discussed the status of the Ads and said they are growing.

PUBLIC RELATIONS – R. Watkins presented and discussed his written report. He has the availability of a Professional Studio set up at the Laurel PD and the ability to make public service announcements. The Trumpet gives you something to read, and the public service announcements are being worked on, that can be made and distributed throughout the state. They plan to have interviews with our presidents, committee chairs and members, and any other hot areas of contention that the MSFA may be dealing or associated with. Any information you may have to share is very much appreciated. If you need help in obtaining the correct information, etc. let him know. If your department has a Public Information Officer (PIO), please give him their name and phone number.

PRESIDENT STERLING – Introduced Delegate Jim Mathias, who welcomed us to Ocean City this weekend.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION – M. Goodloe presented and discussed her written report. The committee last met on 29 November 2007 in Kensington. The committee decided to concentrate on one special project for the year. They need to insure a specific and special MSFA website link. The 1-800-FIRE-LINE has not been very successful.

They believe there is a critical need for follow through, direct contact, ability to track the caller, and to provide more information to them. The MSFA website will tie into each county's local fire/rescue department's recruitment contact. If a single county has its own source, or if each department handles that task, they will try to secure the contact information of that recruiter. Last year the committee developed a document that provided oversight of each county's volunteer benefits and requirements. They will work with the Executive Committee members to complete the needed county information, as well as to confirm the information they already have. Once set up, they will work with the Marketing Committee and others to promote the MSFA Recruitment website. They are looking to provide a Spot Tape for television and radio

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airing. For the 2008 MSFA Convention, they are looking into obtaining a guest speaker from Delaware. The next meeting of the committee will be on 29 December 2007 at MIEMSS in Baltimore.

LEGISLATIVE – D. Davis presented and discussed his written report. There were 60 House Bills and 34 Senate Bills, introduced during the Special Session of the Maryland Congress. Of these, MSFA was watching seven (7). He discussed MSFA's position on each of these Bills (Supported HB3/SB3, HB19, HB21, HB45, and Opposed HB14, and HB23. He said they worked hard on the Slots Bills and were in contact with Senate President Miller, House Speaker Busch, and the Governor's Chief of Staff Enright concerning the amendment. Their efforts, however, were unsuccessful. He thanked those who called, faxed, or e-mailed their Senators and Delegates in support of the Bills. He also thanked those that went to Annapolis on 3 November 2007 to testify against HB14 (State Lottery Agency – Tip Jars Games – Exclusive Authority). He said this Bill died in committee. He said this Bill, or one like it, may reappear in the 2008 General Assembly. He thanked the Ladies Auxiliary for manning the Office during this Special Session. He said they did pass several Bills (HB1 Budget Reconciliation Act, HB4 Video Lottery Terminals Authorization and Limitations, SB2 Tax Reform Act of 2007, SB3 Video Lottery Terminals, SB6 Working Families and Small Business Health Coverage Act). He said HB5 will provide \$110Million to fund the new helicopters. He included with his report a list of all of the Bills that were introduced and their titles. The 2008 General Assembly will commence on 9 January 2008. The Annual MSFA Legislative reception will be held on 21 January 2008 in the Miller Senate Office Building.

PLANNING – C. Moe reported they have not had a meeting, but will have one after the first of 2008. They will come back to the February 2008 Executive Committee with a full report at that time.

BESSIE MARSHALL – S. Worthington presented and discussed her written report. Since the last Executive Committee meeting thru 7 November 2007, they have paid an additional Ten (10) Cases amounting to \$7,350.00 for a total to date of twenty three (23)

Cases paid amounting to \$16,500.00. The 10 Cases were paid for seven (7) counties. Since that time, they have processed another three (3) Cases. The committee thanks everyone for their continued support. She said she is surprised to find there are still members who do not know what the Bessie Marshall Fund is all about. She asked the members of the Executive Committee as they go back to their communities and around the State, please let them know what the Fund is and what the Fund pays for. She discussed the Bessie Marshall Fund and gave a little history of the Fund.

MEMA – J. Droneberg presented and discussed his written report. He discussed Staff changes and currently they have 11 new positions to use to establish additional officer and supervisor positions within the MJOC. An MJOC Operations Manual has been compiled and expands as necessary. He said NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private sector, and non-government organizations, to work together during domestic incidents. The Grant Programs total funds for FY07 were \$32, 669,855.00 in the state. MEMA has been designated as the SAA for the FY07 Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) with \$22,934,593.00. They are the Fiduciary Agent with attendant responsibility for grants management and development for FY07. MEMA is in collaboration with MFRI for training opportunities of Emergency Management Institute (EMI) courses. Training on WebEOC has been completed in each region for the local jurisdictions. A network stress test was conducted on 13 June 2007 in which 206 users participated. It was discovered that none of the WebEOC or EMMA servers were overloaded; however, the bandwidth was maxed out with outbound traffic (bandwidth for incoming traffic was sufficient). The problem was resolved by increasing the bandwidth for WebEOC at MEMA, and moving EMMA to a data center. He discussed Public Assistance and Individual Assistance that continues to close out Hurricane Isabel's large projects, and hopefully finish by May 2008. They continue to close out the Travel Trailer Program. The Public Assistance and Individual Assistance staff has provided Damage Assessment training throughout Maryland. To date, a total of 489 individuals have been trained. On 16

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November 2007 Maryland was granted full accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) Commission. Maryland is one of only 15 States to have the Management Accreditation and the first State to receive full accreditation without a period of conditional accreditation. MEMA is involved with the National Response Framework to provide feedback to Dept. of Homeland Security and the National Preparedness System as a pilot field test State. MEMA has requested from FEMA to pre-position six (6) 20 ft. supply trailers throughout the State. The US Military is replacing 10k, 30k, and 60k three phase diesel, manual start generators. There is a good opportunity for MEMA to obtain the used (as is) generators. He thanked those fire service personnel that participated in the recent Activation Level III of the EOC for the Annapolis Peace Talk, and things went well. They are presently in their Budget Mode (negotiations) and trying to get additional State Funding. He discussed the 508 Funding and said some of the areas need cleaning up at the County level. The Association needs to look at some of the wording of the Legislative Mandate, along with the 508. At the local level, they can be interpreted in a couple different ways. The next Quarterly Local Emergency Managers meeting will be on 30-31 January 2008 at the Rocky Gap Resort.

INTEROPERABILITY - Chip Jewell presented and discussed his written report. The State is finally moving forward on the Interoperability Plan, with a statewide communications network (capability of Trunk system of 800 and 700 as it becomes available. The system is designed as a statewide system, not a State Government system.

The system will be designed to allow both In-Street and In-Building with portable radio coverage. He recommended the MSFA continue to participate and support the concept plan with the following provisions:

- 1- The system be built as a statewide system allowing all jurisdictions and disciplines an opportunity to participate.
- 2- Funding for the system cannot eliminate or override present funding received by local jurisdictions.
- 3- The system cannot place an unfounded burden on local volunteer fire companies.
- 4- The system must be designed to allow interoperability with all jurisdictions operating an 800 MHz or 700 MHz system at the time of implementation.
- 5- The system must be designed to provide in street and in building coverage for portable radios utilized by emergency services, in particular interior operations in a fire/rescue incident.
- 6- Once implemented, all users of the system continue to be involved and informed of potential changes or system needs.
- 7- As much as possible, present infrastructure is utilized to minimize effect on local systems and promote cost effectiveness.

He asked the MSFA go on record supporting the concept of a statewide radio system and continue to participate with the SIEC to assure the needs of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Service, and in particular the volunteer fire and rescue service, are taken into consideration during the planning and implementation of such system. If at any time the MSFA determines this concept will not benefit or be a detractor to the volunteer fire and rescue service, this support will be immediately withdrawn. He also recommended the MSFA Executive Committee receive reports on the progress of this concept at the regular Executive Committee until such time the system is operable.

VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND BOARD– Joe Robison (L. Sachs, D. Stevens, and new member G. Curfman) presented and discussed his written report. The committee met on 17 November 2007 at the Church Creek VFC. L. Sachs discussed the funding and MEMA reports there is \$2.6M of cash available, and of that about \$1.5M available in the fund. He said there are a lot of questions, but the answers are hard to obtain. This amount enables the committee to keep moving. The loans presented and recommended today total \$1,370,313.00, leaving a balance after approvals of \$146,669.95. The Funds

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available for Grants are \$41,946.00. Joe discussed the establishment of the \$250k grant, as well as updating the Guidelines and Regulations. He said the next committee meeting will be in Odenton on February 6, 2007. Today they have 6 applications (one Grant the rest loans) (Vienna VFC loan for \$146,889.9559,360 for an Engine for 10 years), (Madison VFC loan for \$115,500 for a Quint for 10 years), (Hughesville VFD/RS loan for \$223,000 for an Engine for 5 years), (Water Witch FC loan for \$164,399 for an Engine for 30 years), (Grantsville VFD loan for \$500,000 for a building for 30 years)) and one Grant for Taylor's Island VFC for \$208,054 for a Tanker. The following motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by S. Kesner;

MOTION – To approve the requests for the grant and the five loans as requested by the Committee and listed above for a total of \$146,669.95. Motion was approved by majority (one no vote).

Members from Grantsville VFD, Taylor Island VFC, Vienna VFC and Madison VFC were present today and thanked the Board and Executive Committee for their approval of the grant and loans here today.

PP Balta asked about the money we actually receive and MEMA's appropriation and our ability to give the monies out? Has that been resolved? Lee said both of those issues have been resolved. We got our money and the appropriations (permission to spend) are above the cash limit. They also have the ability to go back for additional appropriations.

GRANTS – B. Stone and D. Lewis presented and discussed their written report. Team Maryland will again be presenting Grant Workshops across the State during February and March 2008. Dave reported in the latest Grant period, they had 189 Departments in Maryland that made application for a Grant. So far their success rate is over 39 percent. This year they are up to 202 Departments that have applied so far. Beth said so far Maryland has received 20 awards for 2007, not bad for the beginning. She said through collaborative efforts of the Team and President Sterling, Chris St. John will submit a grant request on behalf of MSFA in the amount of \$1,292,470. This is a non-matching grant for which we requested 2,600 smoke detectors for the hard of hearing, 49,000 Children's Vocal (mother's voice) Alarms, an allowance for PSA's and Billboard allowance, and print costs for bi-lingual flyers.

INCENTIVES – Joan Robison presented and discussed her written report. There have been no changes in any of the LOSAP Programs since the last meeting. Harford County has lowered their age to 55 from 60, and increased their Burial Benefit from \$1,000 to \$5,000. If anyone knows of any changes in your county's benefits, please let her know. She reminded everyone that their Income Tax Subtraction Form has to be in by 15 February 2008.

MFRETC – D. Stevens presented and discussed his written report. The MFRETC met on 15 November 2007 at MFRI in College Park. He said this was the second meeting in a row that they did not have a quorum. Because of this, no official business was conducted. Much of their discussion centered on the Minimum Standards Committee report on 1403 Conducting Safe Live Training Fire Burns. They have been to several organizations (Metro Chief's, Council of Academies, and met with the MSFA Safety and Training Committees) discussing this issue. He was also invited to sit on a panel at the National Fire Academy with the Region III Trade with three other gentlemen that were familiar with Live Fire Burns. The problem centers on education and instructor competency. He said attitudes and culture are at the root of the problem and we need a method to insure the departments adhere to NFPA 1403. A concept currently being pursued is the idea of a permit process for live fire burns in acquired structures. VP Powell has requested time to discuss this concept. Dan said they will keep the communications lines open with the MSFA on this very important issue that affects many Maryland Fire Departments

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FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR – J. Gatton Sr. presented and discussed his written report. He said this award is judged on the nominee's activities for the year 2007 only. He thanked the Executive Committee for their support last year asks them again this year to continue to talk up the awards as they travel around the State. He has the Forms available now for your nomination. He asks the nomination cover letter be on Department letter head. They also ask if possible, please attach a photo of the nominee with the letter. All nominees will receive a certificate of appreciation, and the winner will receive a jacket with the MSFA logo embroidered on it with their name and "Firefighter of the Year", a plaque, and a FF of the Year rocker patch. The winner's name will be engraved on a plaque that hangs in the Volunteer FF's Room at the University of Maryland. The deadline for receiving nominations is 1 May 2008. A copy of the Rules is attached to his written report.

MFRI BOARD OF ADVISORS – D. Stevens presented and discussed his written report. He reported they meet only twice a year and their next meeting is scheduled for 11 December 2007 in College Park with President Mote. He said this is an excellent forum to pass along suggestions to MFRI for needed improvements or enhancements. It is also an excellent forum to get questions answered.

RISK WATCH – Teresa Crisman presented and discussed her written report. She said they have had their displays or information handouts at many different Fire and EMS events around the State. An estimated 4000 professionals were spoken to, provided materials or participated in a workshop that included Risk Watch materials during 2007. She listed a few of the events they already have scheduled for 2008. The committee is finding that the educators in the State are allowing them to enter the schools and do Risk Watch, but they are having problems with the administrators to the schools. Most of the programs being done now in Maryland are being done thru the Before and After Care Program. She discussed the different schools doing this program, and said there are presently 10 communities working with Risk Watch. They have curriculum in boxes ready for any new communities that are interested. She thanked Cindy Wright and Marie Warner of MIEMSS because they are the sole backbone of this program. NFPA is looking at revitalizing the program, and increasing certain projects. Of the eight areas of injury prevention, they feel some of the program could be partnered better. They are reviewing the information getting back to them as some of the projects just cannot get done in a school year. She said they are getting good returns from the counties on the Risk Watch program. It is titled under Safe Kids where they can all meet quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for next Tuesday (4 December 2007) at the Hanover Elks Lodge (the location for the MTA). Cindy is taking over the Chesapeake Safety Council to make sure these programs continue. They do get a lot of work, and some counties get no work from. They may be doing the program, but she doesn't know that. Their next step is to put the program in the hospitals Emergency Room.

EMERGENCY VEHICLE ISSUES – R. Steger said they have not met since the September meeting because they did not have any issues until a few minutes ago. He discussed a request received for the Easy Pass from Mt. Airey VFC for their apparatus. It was denied by the Bridge Authority. Roger will continue to follow up on this and report back. He said if anyone has any issues with a vehicle or driver's license in reference to an emergency vehicle, pass it to him or the committee. He said if you are on an emergency call with red lights and siren, they will waive the toll. He said Ocean City uses the Bay Bridge and they just tell them the vehicle number and what county, and they waive the toll. They do however, have the Easy Pass for the Chief's vehicles. He said he will follow up on this and report back. T. Flint discussed the Easy Pass and who is authorized to have it. He said the one's for the emergency vehicles are for the Bay Bridge only.

J. Baer asked Roger about the color of lights on the apparatus and the use of Amber lights on the apparatus? Roger discussed the lights and said they will have a Bill in Maryland Congress soon to clarify this issue. The NFPA Standards is requiring amber lights to the rear of emergency vehicles before they can leave the factory. The white lights are to shut off when the emergency brake is applied. This is because

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when the white lights are on, the vehicle is supposed to be moving. No white lights, the vehicle is stopped. The Maryland law requires the red and white lights to remain on while on an emergency and parked on the roadway. He said they are trying to get Maryland to pass a law saying we are authorized to have amber lights. Tow trucks are to use amber lights only. They will discuss this further in committee and report back. B. Huttenloch said NFPA refers to the flashing lights to control traffic to the rear of the fire truck. They are trying to get the Maryland law to allow the amber lights that now direct (left and right) or caution to also be on the rear of the fire truck.

TRANSPORTATION – T. Flint presented and discussed his written report. He discussed the status of the Black and White Tags and they are getting ready to recert the other FD tags. New instructions have been written to assist the member companies in defining changes, additions, deletions and transfer of information on the forms. The forms will go to the coordinators to distribute within their county. The coordinators will distribute as well as collect the completed forms and the fees. The coordinator will have three months to get the forms back to the Transportation committee. The instructions will be placed on the website as well as sent with the certification form. This year they will be recertifying 10,488 tags.

BUDGET - S. Kesner presented and discussed his written report on the Budget VS Actuals. He said we are still in a financial crisis and are not in the black yet. Steve said we still need to make changes to help us with our finances. President Sterling discussed finances and said we have overload. That is, we have the same people doing the same work. PP Balta asked about additional funding coming in and still we remain in the red. S. Kesner said we are just over spending. Over the years we have over spent and it has now caught up with us. He said we are not into the Dues period yet, which is the large influx of monies that start coming in each year in January and February. We are not there until January or February when the Dues start coming in. C. Moe suggested we get together and see where any cuts could possibly be made.

17 STATE CIRCLE – C. Austin reported our lease is almost up at 17 State Circle (in May 2008). He was told we have to redo some items in the building before the lease can be renewed. He is working on bids and it will cost \$5-6,000 to get the outside of the building in shape. He will obtain the needed Bids and report back. Chip Jewell said a Grant might be available for restoration of the building. He will assist Chuck in pursuing this issue.

STATISTICS – C. Stack said a Form is being prepared to send out to each Area of the state. He needs a representative for Cecil and Charles Counties. They will be meeting later in December, day and location to be determined.

SURPLUS PROPERTY – E. Woods presented and discussed his written report. They obtained a pickup load of items for the Lakes and Straights VFD in Dorchester County. If anyone knows of anything that may be of use to a fire/rescue/EMS organization, please let him know so they can do what they can to help. He included with his report, a list of the items delivered to Lakes and Straits VFD on 30 November 2007.

TRAVEL & OVERNIGHT STAY GROUP – B. Hildebrand presented and discussed his written report. With the increase in the price of gas, they have made the following recommendations for the reimbursement for mileage as:

CURRENT	PROPOSED
0-50 miles = 0	0-50 miles = 0
51-100 miles = \$20	51-100 miles = \$25
101-200 miles = \$25	101-200 miles = \$30
Over 200 miles = \$30	Over 200 miles = \$35

The above rates are for those driving their own personal vehicle, and not for those driving Fire Department or Government vehicles. The driver will also sign a **statement** that says “**I am the primary driver of my**

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personal vehicle and not a government or department vehicle". The person filling out the **Form** will also check one of the following, or not get reimbursed for mileage:

1. Elected Officers including the Trustees
2. Executive Committee Members
3. MSFA Attorney
4. Assistant Secretaries
5. Assistant Treasurers
6. Assistant Financial Secretaries
7. Chaplains
8. Committee Chairs, or their Designee giving a report

Recommend the **over night stay allotment for lodging be increased from \$40 per night, to \$50 per night for a maximum of two nights**. The over night reimbursement is recommended only for the following:

1. Elected Officers including the Trustees
2. Executive Committee Members
3. MSFA Attorney
4. Assistant Secretaries
5. Assistant Treasurers
6. Assistant Financial Secretaries
7. Chaplains.

All committee Chairs, or their Designee, giving a report will be entitled to one night reimbursement only. They recommend a list of the names of those entitled to two nights, be given to the Treasurer's office by the first full weekend meeting of the Executive Committee, and those not on that list and requesting reimbursement for lodging would be entitled to one night only. The Constitution & By-Laws will have to be amended. They have talked to D. Skinner regarding the correct section(s) of the By-Laws that will have to be changed.

It was pointed out that the Assistant Financial Secretaries were not included in the first presentation, and should be. The following motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by H. Schweers.

MOTION – To approve the recommendations of the study group as presented above and amended to include the Assistant Financial Secretaries. Discussion on the motion – W. Press asked about the Parliamentarian that is required to be at these meetings, but is not on the eligibility list mentioned above? B. Hildebrand agreed they were over looked and should be included. The following motion was made by D. Alexander and 2nd by J. Dulina;

MOTION – To table this motion so the Committee can make the proper changes as discussed at this time. Motion was approved by all.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES – M. Gouty presented and discussed her written report. She said they have taken in over \$1,000 this weekend. In addition to the other items, they also have four (4) MSFA Bags for sale.

MARKETING & INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP - J. Denver presented and discussed his written report. He presented and discussed his new draft of a tri-fold of the MSFA to promote and represent the MSFA. The wording will be updated and a finished copy will be brought back later for approval.

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WATERCRAFT – Chair not present today, but his report was submitted. The committee continues to attend the statewide Water Rescue Technical Advisory Committee meetings. They are planning a statewide training day in January and a survey of resources. The committee will be meeting after the holidays to discuss planning and participation in the MCMERG spring gathering. J. Dulina said the Sub Committee Water Rescue Technical Advisory Committee is very active. They meet quarterly around the State. On January 12 they will hold a Regional Training Program. They are also looking at what type of water resources we have in Maryland.

WATER RESCUE – Report given by J. Dulina. B. Stone said they need a copy of all of the water resources in Maryland and that list given to all Departments involved with Water Rescue in Maryland. B. Stone said we need to get a handle on all of the water resources available, and not leave any one out. They are trying to get a survey out to all companies that have any water resources at all.

LONG RIFLE RAFFLE – D. Cox reported the raffle is ongoing with just over \$4,000 turned in to date. The drawing will be on December 16 at the Joint President's Holiday party in Centerville.

ETHICS AMENDMENT – W. Donaldson said they have not met yet but will do so very soon. The Chair has been ill and in the hospital.

FIXED ASSET INVENTORY – President Sterling said the Inventory has not been done and does need to be done ASAP. Our Auditor gipped us for not having the Inventory done. He said the Secretary's Office took on this project, and had most of it done. This is on hold with Leonard's illness. President Sterling said he will pursue this with the Assistant Secretaries. The audit also said it had to be published in the Annual Proceedings Book, which is something we may have the Constitution & By-Laws Committee look at. R. Siarnicki said they have the data base list and will put it on the web for the committees to view and update.

ACTION ITEMS –

RESOLUTION - Resolution on 17 State Circle for the Assistant Secretaries to also be able to sign such items as the lease on this property. The following Motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by D. Fishack:

MOTION - To approve a Resolution to have the Assistant Secretaries also be able to sign such items as the lease on the property at 17 State Circle. Motion approved by all.

RESIDENT AGENT - L. King is the current Resident Agent for the Association and our Attorney recommended it be changed to Mike Farley (MSFA Attorney) and his address. The following motion was made by W. Donaldson and 2nd by H. Schweers:

MOTION – To approve changing the MSFA Resident Agent from L. King to Attorney Mike Farlow and his address. Motion was approved by all.

FINANCIAL REVIEW – Contract for a Financial Review of the MSFA at a cost of \$6500.00. Our Attorney has reviewed the contract and says it is in order, and should be signed by President Sterling if it is approved. The following motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by W. Donaldson:

MOTION - To approve the contract for conducting a Financial Review of the MSFA funds, at a cost of \$6,500.00. Motion was approved by all.

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AMBULANCE INSPECTION – Request by C. Wills that a Statement be made by the MSFA that the Ambulance Inspection Program not be mandatory, but voluntary. The following motion was made by W. Donaldson and 2nd by B. Hildebrand:

MOTION – To support the EMS Committee and approve a statement that the Ambulance Inspection Program should be voluntary and not mandatory. Discussion – P. Hurlock discussed how the mandatory part of the Ambulance Inspection occurred, and was not wanted by all companies as well as the cost may be a factor of importance to some of the companies. Motion was approved by majority vote (one no vote).

HIGHWAY RESPONDER SAFETY PROGRAM - Request by C. Wills to have the MSFA contact MFRI and MIEMSS to share their highway responder Safety Program information with the MSFA prior to Winter-Fest, and that something be put on the Agenda for the Seminar at Tilghman Island relative to Highway Response Safety, and that their delivery system for that topic be similar so we are all on the same page. D. Cox said Cumberland Valley has a program similar to this. Agreed that no motion needed.

DNR – Request by PP Balta to write a statement regarding the position losses in DNR over the last 7 years, and the impact on the wild fires manpower in Maryland. The following motion was made by PP Balta and 2nd by J. Gunto:

MOTION – To send a letter to Head of DNR requesting a report on how they plan to continue to support the Volunteer Fire Service in Maryland with the declining number of personnel in the DNR. Discussion by C. Moe and E. Woods discussed the manpower cuts and who should write such a letter. Motion was approved by majority vote (5 yes, 4 no votes).

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS - Constitution & By-Laws Committee has seven (7) Tasks recommendations and three (3) Amendments for actions. B. Press discussed the seven Tasks and if the Executive Committee wishes to approve any of them (as there is no proposed text for an Amendment) then the Constitution & By-Laws Committee will then come up with the proposed text for your review and action. He presented and discussed the following Amendments:

AMENDMENT 1 - Remove specific reimbursed amounts in Article IV, Sections 4,7,8,9,10,11,16, and 20. **Add** Section 21- “All Officers and Committee Chairs shall be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with their budget submittal as approved by the Budget and Revenue Committee and the Executive Committee. Expense reimbursement for Assistant Officers and the Chaplains shall be included in the budget request of the Officer that has requested the Assistant Officer”.

AMENDMENT 2 –

a) In Article 1, Section 2, Paragraph 2: **Change** the amount of the annual dues from \$125.00 to \$200.00 **Delete:** “Twenty dollars (\$20.00) of the annual dues shall be deposited in a Special Account to be known as The Scholarship Account and be used for payment of necessary expense to be approved by the Executive Committee, and a scholarship as provided by Article K of the By-Laws”. **Insert:** “Twenty dollars (\$20.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships”.

b) Article 1, Section 4, Paragraph 2: **Delete:** “Twenty dollars (\$20.00) of the annual dues shall be deposited by the Financial Secretary in the existing Special Account known as the Scholarship Account”. **Insert:** “Twenty dollars (\$20.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships”.

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c) Article 1, Section 5, Paragraph 2: **Delete:** “Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) of the annual dues shall be deposited by the Treasurer in the existing Special Account known as the Scholarship Account”. **Insert:** “Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships”.

d) Article K, Section 11, Paragraph 2: **Insert:** the word “Foundation” after MSFA.

AMENDMENT 3 – Is being looked at by the Travel and Over Night Stay Group.

The following motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by C. Moe:

MOTION - To approve Amendments 1 and 2 as presented and recommended by the Constitution & By-Laws Committee, and that it be placed on the Ballot in June 2008. Motion approved by all.

TASK 1 – Combine Awards Committees, (combine Hall of Fame and Firefighter of the Year Committees and make them a sub-committee of the Awards Committee). Also Add a Planning Committee to the List of Standing Committees, and remove the Surplus Property Committee from the list of Standing Committees. D. Cox recommends on the combining of the Awards Committees go back to the Awards Committee for reconsideration. He also recommends a Planning Committee be added to the list of Standing Committees, and the Surplus Property Committee be removed from the list of Standing Committees. The following motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by W. Donaldson:

MOTION - To remove the Surplus Property Committee from the list of standing committees, and add the Planning Committee to the list of Standing Committees. Motion was approved by all.

Chair Seavey said the recommendation to combine the Awards Committees will be referred back to the Awards Committee for consideration. R. Graf discussed the possible problem with the combination of all of the awards committees being lumped together. He said there is a problem now with the one committee and would be increased with the addition of two more committees. Chair Seavey said they would be sub-committees of the Awards Committee, where you would not necessarily be handling their functions. Ron said he will take this recommendation back for consideration.

TASK 2 – The length of the current document is too long and they recommend placing the Standards for Equipment in a manual referenced in the By-Laws. Discussed the pros and cons of moving the standards out of the By-Laws, and to a separate manual. D. Cox asked if they are taken out of the By-Laws, what gives the Executive Committee the authority to require they be moved. President Sterling said this was a committee recommendation, and thought they should not even be in the By-Laws. B. Press said they are not recommending they be done away with, but only moved to a separate document that is referred to. M. Farlow said “it takes out the 29 pages of language requiring specific requirements and inserts a clause that says it (the outside document) is what is necessary, and the Standards Committee would recommend something to the Executive Committee who would ultimately ratify that and then the By-Laws would cover it in a paragraph as opposed to the 29 pages, thus enabling us to change things”. PP Sachs said the way it is now, every company gets to vote on the Standards. If you take it out, then you are taking that away. He said the whole Association should have the right to vote on what should be a Standard, and not the Executive Committee. He said most of the 29 pages is today on the website, so it doesn’t really matter how many pages it is. B. Huttonloch (Chair of the Standards Committee) said he would like to see it stay as it is now. After additional discussion, it was agreed no action should be taken.

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TASK 3 – Awards Committee requested the creation of an amendment that any new sponsored MSFA Awards must be approved by the Executive Committee. D. Cox said this is in place now as that is the way it is done now. B. Press said it is done now but there is nothing specific that says you have that authority to do that. The following motion was made by C. Moe and 2nd by D. Fishack:

MOTION - To support the recommendation of the Awards Committee to make a formal statement in the Constitution & By-Laws that any future Awards must be approved by the Executive Committee. Motion was approved by all.

TASK 4 - Expand the number of Executive Committee members so that Washington and Frederick Counties could have separate representatives. S. Kesner said if approved this would open it to each county in the state wanting their own separate representation on the Executive Committee. Attorney Powell agreed this would just open the door to what might not really be wanted by anyone. The following motion was made by H. Schweers and 2nd by W. Donaldson:

MOTION - To not act on this issue at this time, but keep the Frederick County and Washington County representation as it is now. Motion was approved by majority vote (1 no vote).

TASK – 5, and 7 are tabled until the February 2008 meeting.

INCOMING REPORTS - Request by R. Snader to have the incoming Committee Reports put on the website (uploaded) in the Members area, by the chairs instead of R. Snader doing it. The following motion was made by J. Dulina and 2nd by R. Balta:

MOTION - To approve the recommendation from R. Snader to have the incoming Committee and Officers Reports put on the web site (Members Area) by the Chairs and officers as per his direction. Motion was approved by majority vote (1 no voter).

POSITION PAPER ON RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLERS – D. Alexander recommended approval of the following document as the official statement of the MSFA:

“Reviewing the last five (5) years, over 60 Marylanders have died annually as the result of hostile residential fires. It is disturbing that the one place most people feel safest is actually the deadliest at risk from unwanted fires. In most cases, the real threat of fire is from the rapid spread potential and deadly smoke. Smoke alarms, family escape plans, fire resistive construction and plenty of easily accessible ways out in an emergency are all helpful in saving lives and reducing injuries in a fire. However, the single most effective way to protect the life of family and friends in a residential fire, including the firefighters that respond, is to have a fire sprinkler system. There has never been a multiple loss of life in a structure with a properly working fire sprinkler system. The local fire department, no matter how fast they arrive or how effectively they perform, cannot assure your rescue from a burning home. RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLERS SAVE LIVES. There is no debating this fact. Therefore, it is the position of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association that all homes regardless of size, construction or type should be protected by a residential fire sprinkler system. The MSFA recognizes that the economic realities of trying to retrofit existing homes with fire sprinkler systems can be cost prohibitive, but the MSFA advocates for fire sprinkler systems in all new residential construct and encourages those with the financial ability to retrofit their homes as well. Fire sprinklers have been required in new apartments, condominiums and townhouses

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since the early 1990's and these systems have proven their effectiveness in numerous incidents by saving the families in these homes. Fire sprinkler systems work even in affordable and manufactured homes.

The Maryland State Firemen's Association will work with any group, team with any association, support any legislative body and assist any agency in the effort to educate our citizens, promote, require and apply for sprinkler technology in the homes across our great state. Our goal is simple, REDUCE THE LOSS OF LIFE IN HOSTILE HOME FIRES."

W. Donaldson asked if the statement that "there has never been a multiple loss of life in a structure with a properly working fire sprinkler system" Doug said according to NFPA that is a fact. After discussion, the following motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by D. Fishack:

**MOTION – To approve the Position Paper on Residential Fire Sprinklers as discussed above.
Motion was approved by all.**

INTEROPERABILITY - C. Jewell asked for support of him for a seat on the State Interoperability Executive Committee and to support the concept of the statewide system that will allow the jurisdictions on the interoperability as presented. The following motion was made by C. Moe and 2nd by W. Donaldson:

**MOTION – To support C. Jewell to have a seat on the State Interoperability Executive Committee,
and endorse the concept of the State Interoperability Group. Motion was approved by all.**

NFFF LITHOGRAPH - D. Cox and R. Sarnicki discussed the history and status of the NFFF Lithograph. Each year it is presented to the LODD surviving families at the annual Memorial weekend in Emmitsburg. Ron said the lithograph is the property of the MSFA, and he asks does the MSFA want to continue to own it, and also continue to provide it to the families. The original ones are gone and they would like to have a new one made that shows the changes made to the Memorial since the old one was made. There will be costs involved in the making of the new Lithograph and its copies. D. Cox said they do not have a cost on this at this time, but do need to start moving on it if we wish to continue with our involvement. The following motion was made by D. Cox and 2nd by R. Balta:

**MOTION - To approve the ownership and proceeding with the Lithograph sponsorship program,
with the conditions to be determined in the future.**

**Discussion: C. Moe said we should agree to the continued ownership of the Lithograph by the MSFA.
We should also look into just what is in the old design, before we go into a new design of the
Lithograph. D. Davis said the where-bouts of the original are not known and it was never sold, but
given to the LODD families. Ron suggested the new design because the Memorial has changed and the
families today will not be familiar with the old design. R. Powell discussed the costs to obtain such a
Lithograph. The ownership of the new Lithograph (MSFA or ?), and its cost is still in question. Ron
said they are researching this but don't have any prices yet. Doyle said this year and last year they
handed out reproductions of the Lithograph. They still have maybe 10 of the reproductions.
Motion was approved by majority vote (1 no vote).**

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GOOD OF COMMITTEE – Executive Committee members discussed the happenings and upcoming events in their area of the state.

EXIT MEETING – The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for 16-17 February 2008 in New Windsor. They wished Happy Holidays to everyone.

CLOSING PRAYER – The closing prayer was given by Chaplain Hetz.

ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 1325 hours

Submitted by,

Leonard T. King, Sr, PP
Joseph A. Cooper
J. Edward Cross
Ronald E. Watkins
Jaqueline M. Olson

MOTION SUMMARY

MOTION – To approve the requests for the grant and the five loans as requested by the Committee and listed above, for a total of \$146,669.95. Motion was approved by majority (one no vote).

MOTION – To approve the recommendations of the study group as presented above and amended to include the Assistant Financial Secretaries. Discussion on the motion – W. Press asked about the Parliamentarian that is required to be at these meetings, but is not on the eligibility list mentioned above? B. Hildebrand agreed they were over looked and should be included. The following motion was made by D. Alexander and 2nd by J. Dulina;

MOTION – To table this motion so the committee can make the proper changes as discussed at this time Motion was approved by all.

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MOTION – To approve changing the MSFA Resident Agent from L. King to Attorney Mike Farlow and his address. Motion was approved by all.

MOTION - To approve the contract for conducting a Financial Review of the MSFA funds, at a cost of \$6,500.00. Motion was approved by all.

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MOTION – To send a letter to Head of DNR requesting a report on how they plan to continue to support the Volunteer Fire Service in Maryland with the declining number of personnel in the DNR. Discussion by C. Moe and E. Woods discussed the manpower cuts and who should write such a letter. Motion was approved by majority vote (5 yes, 4 no votes).

MOTION - To approve Amendments 1 and 2 as presented and recommended by the Constitution & By-Laws Committee, and that it be placed on the Ballot in June 2008. Motion approved by all.

MOTION - To remove the Surplus Property Committee from the list of standing committees, and add the Planning Committee to the list of Standing Committees. Motion was approved by all.

MOTION - To support the recommendation of the Awards Committee to make a formal statement in the Constitution & By-Laws that any future Awards must be approved by the Executive Committee. Motion was approved by all.

MOTION - To not act on this issue at this time, but keep the Frederick County and Washington County representation as it is now. Motion was approved by majority vote (1 no vote).

MOTION - To approve the recommendation from R. Snader to have the incoming Committee and Officers Reports put on the web site (Members Area) by the Chairs and officers as per his direction. Motion was approved by majority vote (1 no voter).

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MOTION – To support C. Jewell to have a seat on the State Interoperability Executive Committee, and endorse the concept of the State Interoperability Group. Motion was approved by all.

MOTION - To approve the ownership and proceeding with the Lithograph sponsorship program, with the conditions to be determined in the future. Discussion: C. Moe said we should agree to the continued ownership of the Lithograph by the MSFA. We should also look into just what is in the old design, before we go into a new design of the Lithograph. D. Davis said the where-bouts of the original are not known and it was never sold, but given to the LODD families. Ron suggested the new design because the Memorial has changed and the families today will not be familiar with the old design. R. Powell discussed the costs to obtain such a Lithograph. The ownership of the new Lithograph (MSFA or ?), and its cost is still in question. Ron said they are researching this but don't have any prices yet. Doyle said this year and last year they handed out reproductions of the Lithograph. They still have maybe 10 of the reproductions. Motion was approved by majority vote (1 no vote).