

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 15, 2008 @ Ocean City, Maryland

CALL TO ORDER – The regular meeting of the MSFA Executive Committee was called to order at 0930 hours by Executive Chairman Jim Seavey.

OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG – Chaplain J. Long gave the Opening Prayer and led in the pledge to the Flag.

WELCOME – The Executive Committee was welcomed to Ocean City by MSFA President Paul Sterling.

MSFA PAST PRESIDENT'S IN ATTENDANCE - Raymond Adkins (65-66); Robert Dempsey (80-81); Leonard T. King, Sr. (85-86); Clarence Carpenter, Jr. (86-87); Joseph Robison (89-90); Tom Mattingly (90-91); Bernie Smith (91-92); Phil Hurlock (93-94); Richard Yinger (94-95); Fred Cross (95-96); Steve Cox (96-97); C. Daniel Davis (97-98); Roger Steger (2000-01); Charles Mattingly (01-02); Gene Worthington (02-03); Terry Thompson (03-04); Robert Jacobs (04-05); Lee Sachs (05-06) and Bobby Balta (06-07).

MSFA LA OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Sr. Vice President Lois Hetz and MSFA Ladies Auxiliary Jr. Vice President Kathy Knipple. Sr. Vice President Lois Hetz reported the Ladies Auxiliary President Rose Pandolfini is ill at this time and hopes to be here tomorrow.

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE – Chairman Steve Hales; Vice Chair John Means; Secretary/Treasurer Gene Worthington; Trustees Dan Carpenter and Terry Thompson.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE - All the members of the MSFA Executive Committee were present.

MISS FIRE PREVENTION - Kristi Gable discussed her power point presentation she made on the Miss Fire Prevention program. The presentation briefly summarizes the program they currently have to include the Junior Miss Fire Prevention program. In 2009, it will be the 30th anniversary of the MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Contest. They plan to crown six (6) Miss Fire Preventions next year based on MFRI Regions as opposed to one for the State. They are now accepting letters of interest from people that would like to serve as a Regional Coordinator. They have nine (9) contestants this year vying for the title of Miss Fire Prevention of the State, and over twenty (20) people to recognize as Little Miss Fire Prevention, and Junior Fire Chief.

SGT. AT ARMS – Laura Woods is the Sgt at Arms for this meeting and Richard Brooks will serve as the Parliamentarian.

TRUMPET – Amber Reamy reported the latest edition of the Trumpet is here today and the next deadline is August 1, 2008 (not July 1, 2008).

REPORTS

PRESIDENT STERLING – President Sterling thanked the Executive Committee for their work and cooperation this past year, and the gift he received from them last night. He reported the funding for the Volunteer Assistance Fund and the Appropriations. The Funding did not get out of Legislative Committee, and hopefully we will get it at a later date (1 July 2008). The Funding for the Directors position was discussed and still need the funding for the position. The Governor's Office has stated they plan to pursue the

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2008 – Page 2

funding for it. He discussed the Dues increase that is on the ballot this week, and the need for the increase. He extended his best wishes to incoming President Underwood and his officers as well in the coming year.

VICE PRESIDENT UNDERWOOD – Frank thanked everyone for their thoughts, prayers etc during his recent illness, he is slowly recovering and looks forward to the coming year. He thanked the many people that have helped him and filled in for him these past few weeks. He personally thanked several people who have helped him recently and in the past year.

VICE PRESIDENT POWELL - Roger discussed his work this past year and looks forward to the coming year. He thanked the Executive Committee for their work this past year and has enjoyed working with them. He especially thanked Lee Sachs for his help and support.

SECRETARY – L. King thanked everyone for their continued support. He thanked his Assistants for their continued help and cooperation. He said his health is improving and looks forward to the coming year. Acting Secretary Phil Hurlock presented his written report. He thanked President Sterling for his support in his appointment of him as Acting Secretary in Leonard's absence. He read a letter from the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association regarding their support (or lack of) of the Dues Increase and the office of the Executive Director. Apparently someone said this Association was opposed to both of these proposals. But rather by a unanimous vote of the Association, they voted to support both of these proposals.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY – Fred Cross reported the following member companies have not yet paid their dues (Alleghany County, Ridgley VFC, Oxon Hill VFC, Silver Hill VFC, Ewell VFC, Bishopville VFC, and Pocomoke City EMS). He discussed the suspension of these Departments for failure to pay their dues by the deadline of April 1, 2008. Leonard King said they will have to re file for Associate Membership.

TREASURER – Ron Siarnicki reported on his written Profit and Loss Balance Sheet for the period 1 July 2007 – 19 June 2008. He discussed our assets and the need for more to cover our yearly expenses, and we do need the Dues Increase for us to do so. He discussed the Income (specifically Convention Income, the sale of the car, the Raffle income, and Special Events), for a total Income of \$1,954,110.60. He said our current Net Assets are \$630,000. He said our Annual Operating Expenses are \$700,846.00. This means we do not have enough assets to cover us for a year, if we don't get State Funding (or we have a bad convention). In addition, he said our Annual Liabilities are \$767,839.00. He said as of 13 March 2008, all of the Volunteer Assistance Fund Loans will have been taken off our books and given to the Department of the Military. We do still collect the loans but every quarter, he sends a check to the Military Department. Each year MSFA is now required to submit a three year Expenditure Report for what was done with the Funds we receive from the State. They have completed the 2007 Financial Review using Fite, Connors Associates and Lovell and the Management letter had only three items on it. In the past it was about ten items per year. They all revolve around Fixed Asset Inventory. He thanked Richard Snader for taking care of that matter.

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2008 – Page 3**

COMMITTEES

NFFF – Ron Siarnicki reported on the happenings of the Foundation on the Safety Health and Survival (Stand Down) week of 22-28 June 2008. It will focus on Emergency Vehicle Policy's, Wellness and Fitness Initiative, and the use of Personal Protective Equipment. Every Fire Department in the Nation is asked to spend time that week on drilling on those topics.

CONVENTION – Ron Siarnicki reported they are here and ready for the convention.

CHAPLAIN – John Long reported on his and the Corps many activities this past year. It has been a very busy and hard year, and he thanks the other Chaplains for their help and hard work throughout the year. He thanked the Officers and Executive Committee for the help and support given him and the Corps.

ATTORNEY – Mike Farlow gave an update on the Grantsville issue, and the paperwork has gone out to the bank, with no response yet. Executive Committee Chair Jim Seavey reported on the teleconference to deal with the issue as Grantsville has a loan with the VCAF, and there is an issue with a lien on the loan as to who is going to be subordinate on that lien (Bank or MSFA). The MSFA has always been the primary subordinate on all of the other loans given out. The Executive Committee instructed our Attorney to enter into negotiations with the Bank to get them to agree to subordinate to the MSFA.

SGT AT ARMS. Laura Woods thanked everyone for putting up with her this past year, and looks forward to the coming year.

TRUSTEES – Chairman Steve Hales presented and discussed his written report. He thanked his committee for their work and support this past year, and to the others of the MSFA that have assisted the Trustees in getting their work done. The committee last met this morning on the Colburn Cup presentation. The committee has been working on a four (4) year old claim and is now awaiting the local Fire Department to approve the claim. The Trustee's are paying benefits to 38 recipients. Effective 1 July 2008, they have approved a \$25 per month increase in benefits across the Board. After the elections, they will review and update the Trustees Brochure (copy is in the convention packet).

MISS FIRE PREVENTION (and Runner Up) Brittany. Myers is not present today but her written report was received. The report contained her busy schedule this past year (235 hours of service, and 3,334 miles traveled across the State).

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS – Dennis Skinner was not here today, but his written report was received. Executive Committee Chair Jim Seavey discussed the typo on the ballot Amendment and it does not affect the intent of the Amendment. He discussed the Sustaining Members, and the Amendment shows their dues will be \$250 per year and \$50 of it goes to the Scholarship Fund.

PRESIDENTS VEHICLE – Rusty Leftwich reported that he has received four (4) bids and the highest bid of \$6307.37 was approved (at previous Executive Committee meeting) the car has been delivered and money was received. The tags have been turned in to MVA, and the MSFA insurance removed. He thanked everyone for their continued support of his son during his illness.

MSP-AV – Major A.J. McAndrew reported his activities with the MSP-AV recently and thanked the MSFA for their continued support and cooperation this past year.

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2008 – Page 4**

RISK WATCH – Theresa Crisman submitted her written report. The Maryland Booster Law (effected 30 June 2008) changes age from 6 years old (40 pounds) to 8 years old (65 pounds), the details are outlined in her written report.

STANDARDS – Bill Huttonloch continues to work with the Office of the Secretary with Grasonville VFC in trying to get the membership issue with the MSFA resolved.

BUDGET & REVENUE – Steve Kesner reported on the attached Budget for the coming year. He discussed the Budget and said they were cautious in how they prepared the Budget, and there have been some cuts made in it. He said they forgot to take out the \$25,000 for the Presidents vehicle that was sold and a new one not allotted. He discussed the newly proposed Dues and the Debt Service. If the Dues increase is approved, they may be able to restore some of the funding that was cut from certain committees.

MEMORIAL – Gene Worthington reported on the Annual Memorial Ceremony last week in Annapolis. There were about 250 people in attendance. The documentary will be aired on Public TV on 8 July 2008. The Gala is coming up in September (that we get funds out of for the Memorial). The Phase II Enhancement project will start on 30 June 2008. Memorial Bricks are still for sale and as of this year, they now have 389 Fire Deaths on the wall. He also reported that Charlie Riley's wife gave him about 50 MSFA Anniversary Coins to sell to help raise funds for the Memorial.

BESSIE MARSHALL – Gene Worthington reported for his wife, Sharon and the committee needs our support of their raffles and activities.

VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND - Joe Robison thanked the committee, officers, etc, for the support of the committee this year. Since 1982, they have given out \$8.5M in Grants and \$16M in loans. They will continue to pursue the funding this year.

SAFETY – Hoby Howell discussed the safety of the convention this week and everyone be careful. Please keep Harry Stone (Stoney) in your thoughts and prayers.

17 STATE CIRCLE – Chuck Austin reported the brickwork is on hold awaiting the Chamber of Commerce to review the work plans and give approval. The unknown permits cost about \$300 more than anticipated, and this may affect the bid price.

WAYS & MEANS – So far this year they have taken in \$26,796 plus on the Raffle. This is just over what we had at this time last year.

FIRE PREVENTION – Bob Collins said the Floats will be judged Wednesday morning at 0900 hours in front of the Convention Center.

ACTION ITEMS

MINUTES of this past year have not been approved, and should be. The following motion was made by C. Moe and 2nd by D. Cox:

MOTION – To approve all of the Minutes of the MSFA Executive Committee meetings this past year (21 June 2007 – 15 June 2008). Motion approved by all.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL – Bill Barnard discussed present and upcoming happenings around the state.

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2008 – Page 5**

NEXT MEETING – Thursday (19 June 2008) at Ocean City

ADJOURNMENT – After no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1105 hours.

CLOSING PRAYER – Closing prayer given by Chief Chaplain John Long.

Submitted by,

Leonard T. King Sr, Secretary Emeritus
Phillip Hurlock, Acting Secretary
Joseph A. Cooper
Ronald E. Watkins
Jacqueline Olson
J. Edward Cross