

**MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
17-18 APRIL 2010 AT NORTH EAST VFD**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Meeting was called to order this date by Chair Stu Carter at 0900 hours at North East Maryland Fire house (North East VFC).

**OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE** – Chaplain Jackson gave the opening Prayer and led in the Pledge to the Flag. He asked we remember in our prayers P. Hurlock, E. Preston, A. Olsen, B. Huttenloch, and Chaplain Jackson's wife.

**WELCOME** – Membership was welcomed to North East by Pete DiVirgilio President of North East VFC, Chief Jeff Issacs, County Commissioner W. Tome, and President MSFA Powell.

**ATTENDANCE** – Attendance was taken by VP Lewis as:

**Officers** – President Powell, VP Cox, VP Lewis, Secretary J. Olson, Treasurer Siarnicki, **Finance Secretary:** F. Cross, and Chaplain Long.

**Executive Committee** – All present except for R. Smith.

**Past Presidents** – O. Baker (78-79), C., Carpenter (86-87), J. Robison (89-90), P. Hurlock (93-94), R. Yinger (94-95), F. Cross (95-96), S. Cox (96-97), D. Davis (97-98), C. Edelin (99-00), R. Steger (00-01), G., Worthington (02-03), T., Thompson (03-04), R. Jacobs (04-05), L. Sachs (05-06), F. Underwood (08-09).

**Board Of Trustees** – S. Hales, D. Carpenter, T. Thompson, G. Worthington, and D. Alexander.

**LA-MSFA** – Pres, S. Lutz, VP S. Soper, PP E. Huttenloch.

**State Fire Marshal** – B. Barnard. **MFRI** – P. Marlett. **Shock Trauma** – B. Johnson.

**MSP-AV** – Lt. W. Carroll and Major McAndrews.

**MSFA Queens** - E. Drumheller, J. Barciz, K. Clinton, C. Streets, M. Bickland, A. Drake, and K. Norman.

**REPORTS** –

**President Powell** presented and discussed his written report. He said since the last Executive Committee meeting the Presidents have appeared before various Senate and House Committees in Annapolis, and testified in favor of Bills as was necessary. Considering the state of the economy and the structural deficit in Maryland, by maintaining our Budget as opposed to having our Budget cut, we did well. He said we did well in regard to the passage of Bills which were important to the MSFA, including Senator Conway's Bill for funding of the VCAF through adding an additional fee for traffic tickets paid. The Bill has provided us to be able to go to the MSFA to build the VFAC to enable it to become a true revolving loan fund. House Bill 1555 ensures that Delmar continued to receive 508 funding, did pass. The Bill to set aside the first Sunday in June to commemorate those who lost their lives in the Line Of Duty and the yearly Memorial service passed. The Move Over Bill also passed. He thanked D. Davis, R. Yinger, and R. Davis of the LA-MSFA, for their efforts this year in Annapolis. He

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reported we received the Audit Report from the legislative audit for the audit of the Military Department which contained a comment relating to the failure of jurisdiction to report on the use of 508 funds and the suggestion that the statutory penalty for failure to use or encumber the funds as required by the statute, requires that the funds be returned to the State of Maryland to the General Fund. Needless to say, money from the State comes with strings. Everyone should be reminded of the necessity of filing reports which are another condition to receiving State Funding. L. Sachs, R. Siarnicki and F. Cross continue to work on the transition of the Volunteer Fire Company Assistance Fund Procedures related to the transfer of the process and program to the Military Department. They have made progress to the point that we will be able to receive funding and go forward with settlements without the difficulty that we have encountered over the past year and a half. He thanked the many Committee Chairs and their Committee's for their hard work this past year. He thanked T. Thompson for moving forward to revitalize and lead the MSFA Foundation. He thanked his Vice Presidents D. Cox and D. Lewis for their support and efforts this past year. He said it has been an honor to serve the MSFA this past year.

**VP Cox** presented and discussed his written report. He reported the loss of members of the Fire, Rescue and EMS family, and our thoughts and prayers are with T. Thompson in the passing of his father, To the members of the Marlboro VFD in the loss of David Brady, and the Goodwill VFC of J. West Thompson. He and his wife Cathy continue to attend many banquets around the state, and thank each and every one for the invitations to their Annual Awards Banquets and special events. They are unable to attend each event, but they think of everyone as they travel around the state. The Legislative Session for 2010 was held this past Monday night. He thanked D. Davis and R. Yinger for their many hours of outstanding service to the MSFA. If not for them, House Bill 1389 would not have passed the Senate. He continues to say one of our best tools for retaining a person in an organization, is reconnection. He also thanked R. Davis and the Ladies (P. Webb, Carene Housenfluck, Cindy Mitchell, Marie Soutar, Betty Radisch, and Barbara McWilliams) that travel to Annapolis each day to provide Secretary support to our Legislative Committee. He thanked P. Hurlock for his leadership and information meetings on Friday mornings at the Maryland Fire Service Caucus. Last weekend the Presidents attended the President's Council meeting of the surrounding State Association Presidents. Their main topic of conversation was legislation. He discussed the Awards and the need for more applications for the Awards we have in the MSFA. With the next Executive Committee meeting being at Ocean City, he has started putting together his list of committees. He has received many applications for committees this year, and he has a lot to choose from. The applications will be reviewed carefully and changes will be made where necessary. He cannot guarantee that each individual will be placed on the committee requested.

**VP Lewis** presented and discussed his written report. It has only been 7 weeks since the last Executive Committee meeting and he has been busy with many major activities. He

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is saddened with the loss of our friends and loved ones, and we grieve for their loss and extend our sympathies to the families. He and his wife appreciate the support and hospitality they have received while attending many activities across the State. He recently had the honor of attending the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Friendsville VFC, and presenting them with a plaque from the MSFA for their part of history. He thanked D. Davis and R. Yinger and the office support staff from the MSFA Ladies Auxiliary for the outstanding job they do in Annapolis. He said despite this year's challenging session, the MSFA came away from Annapolis this year on the plus side with accomplishments on several Bills of interest. As we all know, the past few years have been a struggle as we adapt to the Department of Military way of doing business. He thanked L. Sachs who has been our mainstay of these discussions. While we are not yet out of the woods, he feels we have made significant progress and are nearing a point where applications can be processed in a timely manner. With the potential increase in funding from the Moving Violations Fund, it is necessary that we have processes in place that allow our members to take advantage of the VCAF program, and provide the State the protection required as the lender of the funds. He is excited about the changes made this year in the Convention format worked out by R. Siarnicki and the Convention Committee. The Committee recognized the need for change and sought inputs from our membership, and has modified the convention program to address the concerns that were raised. He thanked the EMS Committee for their diligence this past year in preparing a roadmap for Maryland's implementation of the National EMS Education Standards. Some of the changes may prove to be unpopular with some providers. It is important that Maryland remain a leader in providing quality EMS care and the adoption of the new National Standards, and to keep us at the forefront of this effort. One of his personal goals he wishes to obtain during his term of office is to change the Safety culture of Maryland's emergency services. We no longer accept injuries or death as a part of the business. It has already been proven that most injuries/death can be prevented with safety procedures, equipment and attitudes. He has been working closely with the Safety Committee to change their outlook on safety, and begin focusing on providing programs and information to our member companies to improve the safety culture and reduce injuries and deaths in Maryland. He said we can improve firefighter safety through the adoption of the 16 Life Safety Initiatives and the implementation of the "Everyone Goes Home" training program. He provided with his report a copy of a white paper on Reputation Management that was sponsored by the CVVFA. He said the explosion in the public media access to information, places us in the constant eye of the public. The paper proposes that each department consider developing a code of ethics that they ask of their members to live by since their actions in public, reflect back on the department. He thanked the membership of the MSFA for the opportunity to serve the MSFA, and he looks forward to continuing this journey for at least two more years.

**LA-MSFA – President K. Knipple** thanked the committee for having them here this weekend and they are ready to serve when needed.

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**CHAPLAIN – J. Long** presented and discussed his written report. He said most of the Chaplain Corps have been busy visiting the ill or hospitalized and attending or conducting funerals for members. So far for the Memorial Service, he has recognitions for Nettie Fox, Robert Dempsey, Robert Browning, Mary Jane Scully, Mary Russell, and Carlos Alfaro. Ed Preston remains in the nursing home in Catonsville, and Chaplain Coblentz has been hospitalized since Friday with complications. There will be a memorial service and tribute for LA-MSFA PP Robin Browning on 24 April 2010.

**SECRETARY – J. Olson** presented and discussed her written report. She thanked everyone for their prayers and support during her recent health problems. She thanked her Assistant Secretary's and PP L. King for their commitment and dedication to this office. The Minutes of the February 2010 Executive Committee Meeting, and the Special Executive Committee Meeting have been transcribed and distributed to the MSFA Executive Committee for approval, and will be posted on the website upon approval at this meeting. The committee has been working with the Convention Committee to assist them with distribution of information regarding the upcoming Convention in June. Assistant Secretary J. Cooper has been compiling a list of all 2010 Credentials received to date. A list of the outstanding companies will be distributed to all Executive Committee Representatives by 1 May 2010. All Committee chairs are reminded that if you need to update or get your picture taken for the Program Book, see Assistant Secretary R. Watkins today. She said contact her if the Secretary's office can be of any assistance to you or your committee. She thanked the Financial Secretary and Treasurer's Office for their continued assistance and many services provides for the betterment of the MSFA.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES – D. Carpenter** discussed their written report. He reported they met this morning. Line of Duty injury Claim received from Chief Ronald Hunley (Savage) who had been injured on a fire scene on 8 April 2010. He suffered a heart attack, and they are working on that claim now. They have a line of duty injury from Roger Gordon (Reviera Beach) but have stopped payments on, because he has not filled out his Quarterly Continuation Form. In February they had a Line of Duty injury from Mt. Airy VFC for a heart attack. He has since gone back to work on light duty. They also had a widower (Ken Mallard) whose wife died in the helicopter crash. He has remarried and therefore his benefits have been stopped. They are now researching the status of the children. He said the deadline for the Colburn Cup Award is 1 May 2010. To date they have received only three (3) nominations for the award. Danny will talk to Barry Johnson in reference to their Forms being in the proper PDF format for completion on line. They discussed the Mallard case, as he has remarried and moved to Georgia, and his oldest son has remained in Maryland. He has been informed via email that his monthly benefit has stopped, and the issues the Trustees have with him.

**ATTORNEY – M. Farlow** presented and discussed his written report. He thanked L. Sachs (and those working with him) for the work he has been doing with the Department

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of the Military and the Attorney General's Office, to obtain and revise loan documents satisfactory to all parties for the settlement of our VCAF loans. He reported they are close to final paperwork on the loan for Parsonsburg VFC. He said California Casualty (Insurance Company) has approached the MSFA requesting to be an affiliate partner. Having reviewed the contract and discussed the matter with C. Jewell, and in his opinion, the request should be denied. He has prepared several amendments to the By-Laws for the MSFA Foundation, which have previously been forwarded to the Executive Committee, and which will be introduced during the Foundation report.

**CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS – D. Skinner** presented and discussed his written report. At the last Executive Committee meeting in Lewistown, he was asked to review the By-Laws sections regarding Standards, and to develop a set of SOP's regarding Standards. The following SOP's along with a list of changes to the By-Laws would appear with the Standards moved to SOP's. The following SOP's are proposed:

SOP E001 – Ambulance Company Standards

SOP E002 – ALS (MICU) Standards

SOP E003 – Rescue Company Standards

SOP E004 – BLS First Responder Standards

SOP E005 – Watercraft Standards

SOP S001 – Pumpers Standard

SOP S002 – Tanker Standards

SOP S003 – Ladder Truck Standards

If the Executive Committee approved these SOP's and the changes to the By-Laws, there will be three (3) questions on the ballot at the convention in June:

Question 1 – Increases the number of members on the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board and the Executive Committee by giving Frederick and Washington County each a representative.

Question 2 – Defines the numbers and duties of the Financial Review Committee.

Question 3 – Removes Equipment Standards from the By-Laws and places the Standards in a series of SOP's (pending the approval of the Executive Committee).

He needs approval of this to be able to put it on the ballot in June 2010. After discussion, the following motion was made by M. Bilger and 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Seavey:

**MOTION – To approve the Standards move to SOP's and the three (3) Questions listed above be placed on the ballot at the Convention in June 2010.**

The motion was approved by all.

Dennis said in the past they are to mail out the Amendments (full Text). If they did that, it would be a 40 page document. He proposed they do a summary mail out from the Secretary's Office, and post the changes on the website.

Donaldson said there is a correction to be made with the Pumper Tanker information as presented. The following motion was made by J. Seavey and 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Donaldson:

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**MOTION – To approve mailing out the summary of the changes and not send the entire 40 some pages, and direction to our website.** Question made by C. Moe if the By-Laws allow doing this summary, or not. Attorney M. Farlow said it is legal and should be put on the website as proposed. Motion was approved by all. Craig asked that this still be looked at further.

B. Huttenloch challenged the legality of doing this, and the companies should be aware of the entire change and every time a change in the standard is made in the future. J. Seavey said this body can put in place a procedure put in place by the committee. W. Donaldson said we already approved taking it to the floor in June and they will decide if it is approved or not. R. Yinger asked who inspects and enforces the new changes to make sure it is being done?

**PRESENTATION – B. Schweers** made a presentation to Cecil County President Joe Fucharno, Cecil County VP Tex Flowers, J. Denver, G. Worthington, and from the Hartford Cecil Association, President Ausie Amoss, B. Schweers, Secretary Robin Sheltonhun, Treasurer L. Johnske, Eileen Edeloin, Bill Lay, and the Queens Allie Graig, Katie Norman, Courtney Street, Cassie Clinton, Meghan Bicking, Erin Drumheller, Jennifer Bareiz, Heather Miller, and Pappy Hahn. Expressed all of their endorsement of John Denver for the upcoming office of 2<sup>nd</sup> VP of the MSFA. John thanked the group for their endorsement. Buddy said Gene Worthington will be running this year for the Board of Trustees.

**PRESENTATION – L. Sachs and F. Cross** presented to E. Huttenloch and K. Knipple a check for \$1850 from Baltimore County to the Bessie Marshall fund. D. Moonies wife (Peg) found a photo they are presenting to the Bessie Marshall Fund to be put in the archives. E. Huttenloch accepted the donations on behalf of the Bessie Marshall Fund and said they had two more Cases today making a total so far this year of 46 Cases.

**SHOCK TRAUMA – B. Fosler** presented and discussed her written report. She reported on the FY2010 vs 2009 Patient Admissions with a variance of 344 higher in 2010. The variance for the FY2010 Patient Admissions showed a variance of 487 for FY2010. The OR Cases for FY2010 vs 2009 had a variance of 101 for FY2010. In fulfilling their Educational Mission for Third Quarter FY2010: Two Group tours plus 3 EMS today. The ALS Skills Lab had 4 sessions and 64 EMS providers. In the Observation Program: TRU had 76 EMS Providers plus 22 EMS today. The Critical Care had 53 EMS Providers. On-site Clinical Programs had 6 programs. The Evening Educational Programs, had 2 programs. On Wednesday 5 May 2010, they will be presenting “The 60 Second Consult” with Dr. Richard Alcorta.

**GRANTS – B. Stone and S. Barr** discussed her written report. The team once again presented Grant Workshops across the state of Maryland. New to the Team this year is Steve Barry of Rosedale VFC. He said Grant requests are down so far this year and they don't know why. On the road presentations they are pursuing a Fire prevention and

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Safety Grant request on behalf of the MSFA and the Fire Prevention Committee. As always the Team Maryland is available to assist the MSFA committees in researching grant avenues for funding of projects. D. Lewis had a copy of the discussed magazine about grants that was copied and handed out today. J. Seavey said we are 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in the county and we and they do not know why.

**MSFA FOUNDATION** - T. Thompson presented and discussed his written report. He said the members have been meeting monthly in trying to get the Foundation up and running. They are working with a Martha Bruder (a marketing volunteer) on a new Tri-Fold. They are still searching for individuals to be Honorary Chairs (3) for the Foundation, and also additional Board Members. P. Sterling is working on a design for the Foundation's Stationary. They will be meeting with the Scholarship Committee to go over scholarship applicants and they will meet in May to make the approval of the funding for the scholarships. D. Alexander is the new Treasurer of the Foundation effective in June. They received a request from S. Copado (Trumpet) for them to use their non-profit status for the bulk mailing rate, and the paperwork is being worked on now. They have been doing a lot work on proposed By-Law changes that have been forwarded to Stu and a copy given to each of the Executive Committee members so they could be reviewed before the meeting today. M. Farlow discussed the proposed 10 Amendments to the By-Laws. He said the current By-Laws for the MSFA Foundation require approval by the Executive Committee of any changes to the By-Laws. He discussed the 10 different amendment proposals as presented in his written report. He said the Foundation gives the final approval of who gets the funding. Mike said the donation funds are in turn given back to the MSFA. W. Donaldson asked about the Director who is currently appointed by the President of the MSFA and would choose a successor Director. This would alter that and allow that power to be in the hands of the Board of Directors of the MSFA Foundation. The next one would make the President of the MSFA an ex-officio member of the Foundation. Currently the procedure is that the Presidents get invited to the meetings, but they wanted to put a little extra recognition of the President of the MSFA, even in a non-voting capacity. The final Amendment proposed is of great concern to the Foundation as currently in order to be able to do an Amendment to the Foundation By-Laws, we have to first approve it in recommendation form in the Foundation, and then send it to the Executive Committee. It takes it out of the hands of the Executive Committee and send it over to the Foundation. L. Sachs said the Foundation cannot give the funds to the MSFA, but they can spend money for the MSFA or use it toward the MSFA scholarships, etc. They have language in the By-Laws that firms out the relationship between the Foundation and the MSFA. So, the Foundation has the fiduciary duty to the MSFA. F. Underwood asked if someone wanted to donate funds to the MSFA and get a tax write off, do they have to give it to the Foundation first? Mike said essentially the answer is yes. R. Powell again thanked Terry (and Mike) for their work on the Foundation.

The following motion was made by M. Bilger and 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Schweer:

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**MOTION – To adopt the Foundation Guidelines proposal from the MSFA Foundation as presented with the attached ten Amendments.**

Motion was approved by all.

**MSP-AV – Major McAndrews and Capt. Kerr** presented and discussed their written report. He gave an update on the Aviation Command's progress in implementing recommendations made by the House of Delegates EMS workgroup during the 2009 Legislative Session. The MDOT continues to lead the helicopter procurement process that is now in the proposal review phase. The Command has been working with a consultant group in the preparation of documents required for Party 135 Certification. The Command has developed specifications for the procurement of NVG equipment, and recommendations made to the Department of Budget and Management to award a contract to an NVG vendor. The Flight Simulator is currently posted on Maryland Marketplace for bid to the industry. The bid process closes on 21 April 2010. The Command strongly requests that all EMS personnel watch the MSP Landing Zone Safety Video that is contained on the MFRI Website at <http://www.mfri.org/video/msplzs.html>. Trooper 8 is still out of service since the accident, and will be for some time. J. Seavey asked if it will be some time before it ever comes back in service, has MSP considered a realignment of the helo? He said no, and discussed the present covered by the helo's now. He asked that we put this information and the MSP Landing Zone Safety video (on the MFRI website) be linked to the MSFA website (front page for the next few months). Chair said it will be done by R. Snader. The following motion made was by J. Seavey and 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Schweers.

**MOTION – To support the present MSP-AV recommendation that the present helo alignment remain as it is now.**

Motion was approved by all

**MFRI – Report presented and discussed by P. Marlett.** M. Bilger asked about why the program is being expanded to cost more with no benefits spelled out in the report. Pat said they do not control these requirements. B. Schweers asked about the increase in time to be required now. M. Bilger questioned the new EMT pilot classes planned for the Fall, and asked why we are doing some thing that will cost more and do more harm to our people and there is no benefits spelled out as to why we are doing it? He asked that at the end of the pilot classes, information on the outcome of the classes be made available. P. Marlett said he and the Director do not control any of these requirements, but it is their intent to provide the program that meets the National Standards, but they do not participate in the development of those courses. They do have to come in and do the program and train the people to whatever the National Standards have established. B. Schweers questioned these changes putting even more pressure on the High School Students? D. Stevens said with more hours required, they will look at this with the counties now teaching the courses, and maybe have to drop one of the other Cadet

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courses because of this new requirement. This will probably also mean a higher failure rate in the program.

**STATE FIRE MARSHAL** – B. Barnard presented and discussed his written report. They currently have six (6) vacant full time positions (five Deputy Fire Marshals, and one Fire Protection Engineer). They are filling one position now and hope to hire more in the near future. He said Dennis Gensel has been offered a job with the US Fire Administration and will probably be moving soon. He introduced Tim Warner who is assigned to the American Coordination Analysis Center to work with the Fire Service around the State. They now have one new K-9 (Nominee) on board, and assigned to the Westminster Office. As of 9 April 2010, the fire deaths total 26. He said several fire departments and/or counties are not submitting the MFRI reports to the OSFM in a timely manner. Please continue to remind all fire departments of the importance of submitting them in a timely and accurate manner to the OSFM. On Monday 1 March 2010, Howard County became the first Colony of Maryland to adopt the 2009 edition of the ICC Building Codes, effective 1 January 2011. The newly revised criteria for the Life Safety Achievement Award can be found at [info@firesafefhome.org](mailto:info@firesafefhome.org). He said House Bill 87 (State Fire Marshal Non-Government Electrical Inspections) passed both the House and Senate and sent to the Governor for his signature.

**AWARDS** – E. Graf presented and discussed her written report. The committee last met on 28 March 2010 at Earleigh Heights VFC to discuss the proposed new Safety Award. There were a few issues on the proposal that need clarifying: Where is the money coming from, is it going to be there from year to year, or is it for just one year? The wording on the proposed award was very similar to the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Award, which is already in line. It was recommended by D. Davis, if the donor has money to give, they could look at supporting the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Award. As a result, the committee does not support the proposed award at this time.

**NEW CLOWN** – J. Barci (Cup Cake) is our new MSFA Clown (and her degree).

**SAFETY AWARD** - R. Powell discussed the newly proposed Safety Award and said he has \$2500 today to present to the MSFA to fund the newly proposed Award. It will be earmarked for the purpose of recognition of the Department Safety Prevention and Education Efforts. The sponsor of the Award is the MSFA, and will be administered by the MSFA Safety Committee. They discussed the way the program would be run and a list of the Rules for the Award.

**DATA SYSTEMS** – R. Snader had no written report. He discussed the new communications equipment, saying it is not available today because of other items of importance. They will work with it and should have it in operation at the June meeting.

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**MFRI BOARD** – D. Stevens reported they have not met since the last MSFA Executive Committee meeting, but are scheduled now to meet next on 8 June 2010 at Ocean City.

**MFRI Training Commission** – D. Stevens presented and discussed his written report. The Commission last met on 14 April 2010 in Annapolis. Secretary of Higher Education Dr. James Lyons thanked the Commission members for their service and handed out letters of appointment and re-appointment for Commission members. They were briefed on the work done to get full funding for the Charlie Riley Tuition Reimbursement Program. The language was modified to allow for partial payment and to prioritize the use of carryover surplus funds from other programs to supplement the Charlie Riley Program. A committee will be seated to work on a permanent solution to the funding problem. He said the Award is out of money, and they don't know about next year, maybe it will be partial reimbursements, so that everyone will get something this coming year. The Heavy Vehicle Driving Course is still being researched and funding sources will be sought. He said three (3) new college programs are in the clearance process (A Fire Science Program at Prince George's, an EMS Paramedic program at Carroll County, and an Emergency Management program at Montgomery County Community College). Eric Jacobs is working on an intern project with the UMUC to establish a website that will contain information on a variety of educational subjects (where training is available, info on scholarships, and reimbursement and ACE credit information). The next meeting will be held on 12 June 2010 at Ocean City.

**STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION** - R. Brooks introduced his replacement on the Commission (President Brian Lockhardt).

**TRAINING** – S. Mahan and J. Roth presented and discussed his written report. They discussed their last meeting on 11 April 2010 in Cecil County. S. Mahan questioned the active status of their membership. There are many members listed, but many members of the committee have either attended only one or none of the committee meetings. The co-chair will make a list of the members attendance record and give the data to the incoming President. He said the Training Committee has not been able to get around to all the Regions to gather input for the final plan. M. Bilger presented his draft of the 10 Year Plan, and several points of concern were discussed. It was agreed they should follow up on this and will travel the other Regions in June and July 2010. They discussed the cost of printing, and asked that the MSFA and Partners put your information on the website so interested parties can download as desired. D. Stevens raised the issue of the caliber of the High School Students being assigned to the Fire Technology classes throughout the State. It appears the School Councilors are just assigning students to fill the quota, and they either do not finish the class, or if they do, they never appear at the fire stations. The next committee meeting is scheduled for the Southern Maryland Fire & Rescue Training Site in LaPlata at a date to be determined.

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**HALL OF FAME** – D. Carpenter presented and discussed his written report. He said they have received 39 nominations for the Hall as of today. They have received 26 nominations for the Marbury Gates Service Cup Award. The committee will be meeting on 5 May 2010 at the Prince George’s County Fire Service Building. to discuss and elect the individuals to be inducted in the Hall of Fame. They will also select a nominee for the Marbury F. Gates Service Cup Award.

**MIEMSS** - P. Hurlock presented and discussed Dr. Bass’ written report. He reported as of 1 April 2010, there were 28,266 certified or licensed EMS providers in Maryland. MIEMSS continues to closely monitor Yellow and Red Alert activity, which again decreased significantly in 2009, even with the onset of the H1N1 virus in April 2009. He said there are currently 1187 approved layperson AED programs in Maryland, with a total of 3375 sites. The latest copy of Protocols for EMS providers will be coming out soon and every EMS must have an updated copy by 1 July 2010. The third draft of Cardiac Interventional Center Standards was published in the Maryland Register on 29 January 2010. The Volunteer Ambulance Inspection program was approved by the work group, then by the EMS Committee, then the MSFA Executive Committee, then SEMSAC the State EMS Board, and now the document is an official document and will be coming out very soon. MIEMSS continues to work with system stakeholders to improve acute Stroke Care in Maryland. Presently there are 34 designated Primary Stroke Centers in Maryland. He said the RFP for the replacement system of EMAIS, was approved and published on the Maryland marketplace. MIEMSS and Dr. Bass continue to recommend everyone get the Flu shot in case you have not. There is talk the H1N1 may come back. National EMS Week is May 16-22 and the theme this year is “EMS Anytime Anywhere, We’ll be there”. The Emergency Services for Children (EMSC) was May 19<sup>th</sup>. He discussed training and EMS and EMT classes being offered, and whether you can complete an EMT class within the curriculum of the school system and the new classes and the number of hours being proposed.

**MEMORIAL** – G. Worthington presented and discussed his written report. S. Owen is their new Secretary, replacing Robin. They contacted Walnut Hill Landscaping for another year to do the lawn maintenance at the Memorial. The contract is basically the same as last year. J. Spiker is in discussion with an electrical contractor to add some additional lighting along the walkway. The Memorial ceremony this year is on 6 June 2010 at 1400 hours (2:00 pm) at the Memorial. They have no Line Of Duty Deaths this year but the ceremony will go on to commemorate those that did give their lives in the past. They discussed with D. Davis their desire to have the Memorial Bill reintroduced in this legislative session, recognizing the first Sunday as the Fallen Firefighters Day. Gene said they are still selling Memorial replicas, bricks, pictures and DVD’s. He said we have an annual budget we must meet. Their next meeting is scheduled for 5 May 2010 at AA County Fire Headquarters in Millersville.

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**OUT OF STATE** – G. Worthington reported they are done for this year. They had the Presidents Council Meeting last week in Delaware, with a lot of good information exchanged. We will be having a lot of out of state guests this year at Ocean City in June, possibly the largest number yet.

**EMS** – W. Tome presented and discussed his written report. He discussed their last meeting on 27 March 2010. The committee has been working on two core issues. One is the new increase in training hours being proposed, and is concerning to all of us. They are asking that they not look at increasing the hours but come up with a better way solve the issue, like making the extra hours be accomplished On Line. Hopefully there will be no longer travel time to go to classes and be away from other commitments. They are looking at the new recert options being offered for EMT, and the issue of MIEMSS proposal to use testing and certification in the future for EMT with the National Register Exam. They do not want to see any retesting requirements and the funding involved if you fail the test. They did get an issue resolved thanks to VP Lewis, that if someone goes through a number of modules in the EMT program, and has to drop out due to a family emergency (etc), they can (within a time period) come back in and pick up that module. The EMAIS program was discussed and they think they will have a good product. They are concerned with the COMAR regulation proposal to make sure that within 24 hours, the report at the hospital cannot be done now, but must be done at the company level, and getting that report faxed, etc to the hospital. This is a difficult task. When you hit click Save, the report should automatically be sent to the hospital that your patient went to, without any difficulty. This should be the rule. They have received two nominations so far this year for the Josiah Hunt Award for EMS Person of the year, and only 13 days left to the deadline. They like the By-Laws committee putting the Standards in SOP's. J. Seavey asked how far off we are from the National Registration Standards? They said it could be around 2013 to become effective. They also discussed the need for a computer room for the EMT's to make their report.

**FIRE LAWS BOOK** – M. Bilger said the committee has not met. He has talked to the Publisher and will have a more detailed report by convention time.

**HAZMAT** – R. Brooks discussed International Chief's 3 day seminar meeting in May 20-23, 2010 at the Waterfront Marriott. He said the Emergency DOT Guide Book has been put together and said the Book belongs to the FF on the Fire Engine. It has no business in the HM Technician hands. He said the book should be in the apparatus, and no where else. The EPA Hazardous Materials Conference will be in Baltimore at the Hyatt on 8-11 November 2010.

**WAYS & MEANS** – L. Jonske presented and discussed his written report. So far this year they have taken in \$17,526, which is \$103 ahead of last year at his time. The committee has turned over 140,000 tickets to the member companies and auxiliaries. The next event will be Springfest in Ocean City on 6-9 May 2010. He discussed companies

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that send their unused chances back to him (and pay \$10 to do so). He said about 37 percent of the companies do not sell their tickets each year.

**PRESIDENT'S VEHICLE** – Reported the new car has been ordered and should be here by the Convention. Cost is \$22,721. The outgoing car will be sold “as is” and a flyer is out now. There is no minimum bid on this car at this time. Sealed bids will be received until 13 June 2010, and they should be sent to Lefty.

**CELL PHONES** - R. Powell reported the “Hands Free Phone” use will become illegal on 1 January 2011. The Bill has been approved and signed by the Governor.

**RURAL WATER SUPPLY** – D. Alexander presented and discussed his written report. The committee met on 6 March 2010 at Smithburg VFD to plan for the Spring Rural Water Supply Drill. Registrations will be accepted the day of the drill at Smithburg. The emphasis this year will be on fill sites from draft. They have received a preliminary request from Lewistown VFD to host the Fall 2010. A preliminary request has been received from New Market VFD to host the Spring 2011 drill. The next meeting of this committee will be at the Rural Water Supply drill at Smithburg on 2 May 2010.

**SPRINKLERS** – D. Alexander presented and discussed his written report. They have been busy getting the work out on Sprinkler Systems. So far they have had no county amend out the sprinkler requirement. They have Howard county on board now with the adoption of the IRC in March. The sprinklers will become effective January 2011. He said Carroll County has also put into place a provision to maintain their sprinkler requirements in place throughout the adoption of the 2009 IRC. He said the committee is willing to assist in any way to a department or county government in information on sprinkler systems, please let them know. He said Baltimore City has a proposal in place to adopt residential sprinkler ordinance. Currently there are 10 of the 23 counties, and 82 of 157 municipalities in Maryland with residential sprinkler requirements in place for all new one and two family dwellings. They are watching the counties and what they are doing with the Code until 1 July 2010. After that, it is Rule.

**SAFETY AWARD** – Proposed Safety Award action asked about by Stu, and was further discussed by R. Powell and D. Cox. J. Seavey discussed the situation and the view of the committee, and the receipt of the \$2500. After discussion the following motion was made by B. Schweer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Seavey:

**MOTION - To table any action on the proposed new Safety Award.**

The motion was approved by all.

**FIRE PREVENTION** – R. Collins presented and discussed his written report. The committee last met on 21 March at Orchard Beach VFD. They reviewed projects now in progress and new projects for the new year. They set up meetings for next year and

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discussed the budget already submitted. He said the Fire Prevention Books and Silver Spring Award nominees must be turned into the State Fire Marshal's Office by 30 April 2010. He discussed the Hearing Impaired Smoke Alarms that no one else is supporting except us. He said if we did a \$50,000, then we might have to do a 20 percent match (\$10,000). The committee will further discuss this in July. He said Bruce Stout (Fire Marshal Office educator) will be coming to their committee meetings

**MISS FIRE PREVENTION** – Written report submitted. Reminder that all Miss Fire Prevention Applications are due to Kristi no later than 1 May 2010. Any questions, please call Kristi. Recognition Forms for all Miss Fire Preventions not competing in the contest plus all Junior Miss, Little Miss, Junior Chief, and Little Chief, are all available on the MSFA website. All forms are due to Sherry Soper by 1 June 2010. The Junior Miss MSFA Representatives will be emailed a schedule of activities to attend in Ocean City. Miss Fire Prevention winners in Ocean City will have a schedule of events to attend as well. The Contest will be held on Monday 14 June 2010 at 3:45.

**HISTORICAL & ARCHIVES** – F. Underwood, and J. Spiker presented and discussed their written report. The committee last met on 6 March 2010 in the FF Room in College Park. They cleaned the Room and mounted the new Hall of Fame plaque. He thanked the University electrician who repaired the broken light fixtures. They have received donations from several of our Partners, which will be placed in the Display Case. If anyone has anything to donate, contact a committee member. C. Jewell discussed the status of the Frederick Museum and said once it is ready for occupancy, there will be an area for the MSFA.

**PIO** – F. Underwood discussed happenings this year in Annapolis, and said this year was not as exciting. They will get out a Press Release in mid May. He said we should put any items on our website for more people to see what is happening in the MSFA.

**RISK MANAGEMENT** – C. Jewell presented and discussed his written report. The Risk Management Committee last met in February, however, at this point does not believe the proposal to enter into an agreement with California Casualty could be affected due to the restrictions of Maryland Law regarding direct payments to non-licensed organizations or individuals. Our Attorney has reviewed the proposed contract and has advised against this proposal. The agreement is very specific that they would provide direct funding in relation to sales. The problem is Maryland Law is very specific that you have to have an agent to receive the money in Maryland. They do not operate to an agency force, and the recommendation is that we not proceed with the contract as presented at this time.

**INTEROPERABILITY** – S. Jewell discussed his written report. They have not had a meeting mostly due to the snow. He did meet last week with APSCO, requesting that organizations contact our legislators on the Federal level, with regard to the 700mhz D-Block. He discussed what this means. There is now a proposal the Broad Band section

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should go to auction to commercial, which would then provide income to the Federal Government. This would potentially jeopardize the future of Emergency Communication, for Public Safety. He said the Delaware Volunteer Firemens Association has delivered a letter to VP Biden. Chip recommends the MSFA Executive Committee write a letter to both the Vice President and our legislators in Maryland, requesting the 700mhz D-Block remain committed to public safety.

The following motion was made by J. Seavey and 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Hildebrand:

**MOTION - To support the presentation made by C. Jewell on the 700mhz D-Block, and that C. Jewell be directed to assist the President of the MSFA in drafting the letter so that it comes from the Office of the President of the MSFA.**

Motion was approved by all.

**HONOR GUARD** – J. Hawley presented and discussed his written report. The committee has not met since 7 November 2009. He has since been contacting those scheduled to participate in Honor Guard activities during the convention in June, to confirm there have been no changes. This year the workshop/seminar is not just for Honor Guards. They are inviting any department that uses a Color Guard for parades and other events. He asks this information be sent to all departments and be posed on the MSFA website. He asked for ok to pursue a fund raiser on selling the 911 Commemorative Chin Strap's. He said MSFA would be the only Association in Maryland to sell the Strap. They will sell for \$12.00 each and MSFA would receive \$5.00 of that. When a department in Maryland sells at least 100 chin straps for \$12.00 each, Lighthouse Uniforms will send a check for \$500 to the MSFA. The following motion made by B. Schweer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Hildebrand:

**MOTION: To approve the Honor Guard Committee following up on this 9/11 Chin Strap program as presented, and pending the approval of our Attorney.** After discussion, the motion was approved on vote of 5 yes and 4 no votes.

**MEMA** – B. Hildebrand presented and discussed the report from Director Muth. Application for the FY 10 Non-Profit Security Grant was submitted on 26 March 2010. Thirty Nine applications were reviewed and forwarded to DHS for final consideration. MEMA continues to work with the Military Department on FY2011 budget planning and state wide budget cuts. MEMA received and scored the applications for the Lower Eastern Shore Regional Administrator, and interviews are being scheduled. He said the MEMA annual report is complete and available on their website. On 11-12 March 2010, MEMA activated to Level 2 in support of potential flooding in Western Maryland. MEMA's Mitigation and Recovery Teams have been conducting statewide FEMA reimbursement meetings with local elected officials, etc to ensure everyone is familiar with the FEMA policies and procedures regarding the reimbursement of expenses incurred during the December 2009 Blizzard. Maryland is still awaiting a decision on the issuance of a Presidential declaration for the Blizzard. During a recent mine incident in

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Allegheny County. Communications occurred with SME Johnson due to the nature of the incident and request for Swift-water assets. Johnson was also deployed to MEMA on 13 March 2010 at the request of MEMA due to predicted flooding issues at various locations around the state. A full listing of MEMA's Exercise and Training calendar can be found at [www.mema.state.md.us/calendar](http://www.mema.state.md.us/calendar). He said the Individual Assistance Program is supporting the Public Assistance (PA) Program with the severe winter snow storm Disaster Declaration for December 2009, and the winter storms in February 2010. Information was received from some volunteer fire companies, having issues with their insurance companies refusing to pay for damages to equipment suffered as a direct result of the snow storms. Associate Commissioner Joy Hatchette has offered to assist those having issues with their insurance carriers (410-468-2029) MEMA Public Assistance has been receiving requests for the December disaster until 19 April 2010. T. Johnson was asked by J. Seavey of the severe issues we have. He discussed the recent Flood Warning from the last storm, and no activation of any Assets noted from MEMA. He explained the situation and asked the question of why we were not involved? Jim said we need to do something aggressive to step up and defend ourselves against what is occurring. T. Johnson discussed the situation and what happened to the best of his knowledge. He was notified on 9 March to start rostering our resources as participants in the SF-9. They were able to roster 56 persons and 17 boats within 24 hours and ready to respond. He felt that we did not have anyone at FEMA'S planning meetings table before he was contacted by Erica Mowbray. He said they did eventually call for us. He said for some reason, the police assets are easier to reach out to than us, and maybe we just needed to be at the planning table for them to know we are here and available.

C. Jewell said Frederick County was not contacted nor activated. R. Powell said R. Muth met the presidents yesterday and told them this was a mutual aid matter under the statewide compact and that there was never any activation of MEMA. President Powell was assured that Todd had been in the loop for all notification for everything that was happening with the event. R. Muth assured Roger and the other MSFA Presidents, of his intent to cooperate with the MSFA.

S. Kesner said he was at several of their meetings representing EMS for the county and no other position and cannot comment any further. Todd said Erica told him this was not coming from MEMA and she is helping as a regional person helping the local emergency manager make some calls. Todd said he did participate in some of MEMA meetings, but they were not the entire work group. Jim said Cole Brown is the one person driving ESF-9 to be run by and handled by MSP. He is the volunteer Search and Rescue Coordinator for the MSP, and just happened to be at the place it was all taking place. He said there was a formal request made by Washington County EMA Director of MEMA for backfill resources. Three hours later when those resources did not start, it was officially withdrawn.

**ESF-9 – T. Johnson** presented and discussed his written report. Todd said MEMA has incorporated changes from all stakeholders to the ESF9 document and has presented a

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final draft for review by all parties. MEMA will be a Signatory to the final document once approved. Once we become an official Signatory to the document, we feel our responsibilities will need to be carefully evaluated so that we are prepared to produce whatever product we are called upon to provide. Plans are being made to staff a table at the convention to allow face-to-face contact with those member companies that are able to offer the technical SAR assets required of us. We should assure that any staff sent to assist MEMA meets some basic training/experience level such as webEOC familiarization and various upper level ICS certifications. Since our last meeting MSFA ESF9 asset/SME assistance has been requested three times:

- On 9 March 2010 he was contacted by Erica Mowbray with a request to roster swiftwater/flood resources to assist with anticipated flooding in Western Maryland. A total of 56 personnel and 17 boats, all mission capable, were rostered and placed on stand-by by mid-day March 10<sup>th</sup>.
- On March 11, the MSP dive team was called to assist the Frederick County Sheriff's Office on a body recovery. The body was in an area inaccessible to divers and local technical fire service assets were called in to complete the recovery.
- On March 16<sup>th</sup>, he was again contacted by Erica Mowbray to roster 4 person teams of SW/F rescuers to assist with relieving Allegany County resources involved in a mine flooding event. The request was for sufficient teams to cover nine 12 hour shifts through 20 March. He said MDE had mitigated the incident and resources were told to stand down.

**WATERCRAFT – T. Johnson** presented and discussed his written report. He received a response from the Maryland Natural Resources Police concerning our inquiry as to display of registration both on the vessel and storage of document in the vessel, and the need to have boater safety certification in possession. The response quoted the Natural Resources Laws (NRE8-712 and NRE8-712.2). He said the numbering of fire and rescue vessels is exempt. The same vessels may be operated without first obtaining a certificate of boating safety education. However, for liability reasons, it is highly encouraged and recommended that each operator receive a certificate of boating safety education prior to operating a vessel. He said Colonel Johnson resolved an issue (storage and labeling of an inflatable rescue vessel stored deflated) and the response that had been generated in August 2009, was never sent to/received by Todd. He attended the Severe Storms Awareness conference this past week. The committee was also present at a Coast Guard conference last week. J. Seavey asked to have the letter from the Colonel at DNR put under the Watercraft Committee on the website. Todd said he will work it out with R. Snader and get it posted.

**LEGISLATIVE – D. Davis and R. Yinger** presented and discussed their written report. Danny said the 2010 Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session concluded on 12 April 2010. Of the approximately 2700 Bills introduced, the MSFA was watching 66, and only 810 Bills passed both chambers. He discussed several of the many Bills we were

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watching. HB1389 (Traffic Cases) Funds for State Police Helicopters and Ambulance, Fire, and Rescue Companies, has been amended to give 100 percent of the fines to the VCAF. The Bill passed 43-1, with Senator Mooney voting in the negative. HB1555 (Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Funds) is the distribution of money to Companies outside the State, passed both chambers. The novelty Lighters Bill (HB151) was defeated and SB226 received an unfavorable report. He said no local Fire Department sponsored gaming Bills passed. He said the recent snow storm did some damage to the building (17 State Circle) it did pull the guttering down and Chuck has been notified and will take care of what else needs to be done to the building. Danny said they sent out 13 Bulletins with the final version going out this past Thursday. He thanked the MSFA Ladies Auxiliary for all their help in Annapolis this year for the tremendous job they did for the MSFA. He said it was a tight session this year, as money was tight, but we did very well. Our Budget came out almost untouched. The Budget Reconciliation Act (SB141) in its original form would have taken all of our money out of VCAF for FY10, 11, and 12. That money would then have gone into the General Fund. The Senate Bill would take ½ of the money for FY10 and 11. The House version took ½ of our money for only FY10. The result was we lose half our money for only FY10, and it is intact for the other two years. HB1389 would increase the way the \$7.50 Moving Violation money was accumulating. As it ended up it will be added to the court cost, and we will get the \$7.50. When it finally came out of committee, all of the Fine Money collected would be 100 percent, given to the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund, and no money would go to the MSP-AV. The Bill was finally passed. He discussed the DECA Bill that he will review after many years. He said SB226 (Novelty Lighters) died in committee, and HB191 (Novelty Lighters) passed out of the House but died in the Senate. He said the “Move Over” Bill passed, and the first Sunday in June has been set aside as the Annual Commemorative day for Maryland’s LODD personnel. He said when the Statistical Form comes out, fill it out and return it. The information contained in this report is very important to the Legislative Committee and the Presidents of the MSFA. He said the Ads for the convention are coming in very slowly. Please remind your Company to get their ad in ASAP. They will accept the ads up until 1 May.

**NVFC - J. Seavey and L. Sachs** presented and discussed their written report. L. Sachs reported the Congressional Fire Institute names the NVFC one of three recipients of the 2010 Paul Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award for its Best Program of volunteer Firefighter Health and Safety Priorities. They also received the Fire Prevention and Safety Grant from the Department of Homeland Security to support the Heart Healthy Firefighter Program. He reported on the activities of the Advocacy Committee, that continues to receive and respond to inquiries by “two hatters” all over the country. The annual Spring meeting of the Board of Directors of the NVFC takes place the last weekend in Virginia. They hope for the creation of an EMS Section of membership in the NVFC to pursue its mission on behalf of volunteer EMS providers. J. Seavey said the Advocacy Committee has been busy with the two hatters and career firefighters issues

being filed against by the union. There will be a group called the “Now Force from Israel”

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formed to assist the volunteer EMS and Fire Responders across their nation, coming here to use Montgomery County as a Test Site for a pilot.

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES – Margaret** reported over \$1500 worth of merchandise sold today.

**THANK YOU** - Rose Davis, on behalf of the spouses that attended all of our affairs, thanked President Powell and J. Olson’s hospitality to them with the shopping trips, etc.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting today was adjourned at 1600 hours, and will reconvene tomorrow at 0900 hours.

**RECALL 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY** – Meeting called to order this 2<sup>nd</sup> day by Chair S. Carter at 0900 hours. We were welcomed back by North East VFC President Pete Fagilio.

**CHAPLAIN LONG** gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the Flag. He said to remember in your prayers, Ed Preston, S. Olsen, P. Hurlock, B. Huttenloch, L. Hetz, A. Miller, and Chaplains Jackson’s Wife.

**ATTENDENCE** – In addition to yesterday’s Roster, the following members and guests were present today:

**DNR – Monte Mitchell.**

**Del Marva Power Co – Vince Decona, Linda Tipton (J. Denver’s replacement).**

Vince thanked the MSFA for their Partnership and help the MSFA has provided to Del-Marva Power and PEPCO.

**PRESIDENT POWELL** – welcomed everyone back today. He thanked everyone for their support and cooperation this past year.

**MINUTES** – The following motion was made by D. Keller and 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Donaldson:

**MOTION – To approve the Minutes of the 27-28 February 2010 MSFA Executive Committee meeting as printed and distributed.** Motion was approved by all.

**REPORTS –**

**FINANCIAL TEAM** – R. Siarnicki discussed his written report on the financial status of the MSFA. He discussed the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statement for the period ending 2 April 2010, and a Budget vs Actual Statement. J. Seavey discussed the Convention expenses and the increase noted. Ron said they are due a reimbursement on the Registration, as the Registration costs was up. He asked about the postage expenses and will they cover one more mailing for the convention? The answer was yes it will cover the one remaining mailing.

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**Fixed Assets** – R. Siarnicki said the reports are now all in and are being reviewed and compared with the different items and their control numbers.

**Copier's** (two) to be replaced was discussed and they are to be sold as is. The following motion made by W. Donaldson and D. Keller:

**MOTION – To authorize the Treasurer's Office to dispose of the two copy machines mentioned above, and they are to be sold as is.** Motion was approved by all.

R. Siarnicki discussed the investments of the MSFA and said they are not very good at this time. They have talked about the recommendation from the Financial Review Special Committee that was put together a few years back, to write a Investment Policy statement for the MSFA, and have our investments follow that track. They need to reserect that recommendation and the Finance Team will move forward with that.

**VCAF** – L. Sachs said they have worked out some of their issues on the Military Department's list and the MSFA, and as of now everything is on hold until we get the loan document issued. The loan document issue is resolved and we are down to the last review. Each revision requires more comments, and they are now waiting for comments from the Military on the last batch, hopefully this week. The Legislative session had delayed it on their end. They have several settlements (closings) that are ready to take place, and they hope to have them done by Convention. He said the Amoss Fund guideline issues are on hold until they finish with the documents.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** – F. Cross discussed those Dues not yet in. They (7 Comp. anies) are being notified again of the requirement. He said he will run again for the Financial Secretary Office in June.

**BUDGET** – S. Kesner said the committee met yesterday and formulated the 2011 Budget. There is nothing new, the line items stay about the same as last year. Line 4300 (Credit Card Royalty) has been zeroed out. Line 4503 is a new Line item with income we are receiving. He said Account 300 VCAF has been zeroed out completely, because we no longer have income expenses thru that. He discussed several items of interest in his report. Line 5310 (Public Education) has had some difficulty spending the money thru the appropriation. They have a very limited definition of what we can spend the money on. It was primarily designed for training, safety, etc. The two committees that could qualify in this category, is Fire Prevention and Safety. They have increased the Fire Prevention line item. They did not approve the whole request and the rest will be pursued. He said they have \$2900 that was not committed. For Appropriations, all of the monies have been appropriated as required. The Convention fund is based on the figures of 2009 convention, and they show a \$55,000 profit (that does not mean that is what it will be). Lastly they have \$1,000 uncommitted at this time. M. Bilger asked about future numbers, do they look good, or not? Ron said it is too early to predict. J. Seavey asked about Convention income, etc of Income vs Expenses? Steve discussed the Budget figures and said last year they were approximate, and this year they are more real. C. Moe asked about investment income compared to last year. Ron said it is low now, and going down at this time. He is looking at another bank with a possible zero fee. State Appropriation

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was discussed by S. Kesner and said it can not be changed. J. Seavey asked about the increase to the 17 State Circle Budget and the damage increases in its needs, has it been increased in the Budget? Steve said they did not receive a request for additional funding. Stu said the Budget is submitted today and will be voted on at Ocean City.

**NFFF** - R. Siarnicki had no written report today. He said the Planning committee meeting is scheduled for May 26, and 14 July in Emmitsburg. He discussed the Vulnerability Assessment project with the intent to build a web based tool where a department can enter in on specific data about their organization (number of calls, ISO ratings, etc). After the survey is filled out, based upon known causes of firefighter deaths and injuries, and based upon accreditation models, it can tell you where your department is vulnerable for a firefighter duty death (LODD) or injury. The Fire Administration is putting up \$300,000 to start this project. They think Honeywell will put up the rest of the needed funds. This will be used by the department without any cost to them. He said next week at the Instructors conference, the NFFF will announce at the request of the Department of Defense, they will be adding Military Firefighters who die in the Line of Duty fighting fires will be added to the Memorial at Emmitsburg. Currently there are 12 names to be added to the Memorial.

**CONVENTION** - R. Siarnicki discussed what is happening for the upcoming convention and the new and same sponsors were listed for the Officers Banquet, Prayer Breakfast, MSFA Past Presidents Lunch, Ladies Auxiliary Past Presidents Lunch, and the morning coffee breaks. They have been attending the Chamber of Commerce and the Hotel/Motel Business Association meetings in Ocean City. They have seen an increase in the Ad purchases from the Ocean City community, and hope to see some increases in our exhibits at Ocean City as well. The Exhibits status was discussed by Lee and Wylie. They said they are slightly behind at this time, but it is still looking good too. J. Gatton said the Flea Market is looking good, and R. Steger said the Parade also looks good too. Ron said the Issue developed is an internet connection at the Convention Center. The Mayor has said that no matter what happens, the MSFA will not pay for the Internet connection this year. There are some changes being made with high speed internet being put in the Convention Center with a new WIFI connection. He said the Jolly Roger event is back on for Monday night as a family based event. The events will also include four hours of amusement rides, go cart and miniature Golf for one price per family. He said Monday night will be dry. The OC Hotel Association will sponsor a movie on the Beach that night. He said the picnic is trying to be reinvented for Tuesday. Fred discussed the Golf tournament and said entrants are coming in slow at this time. They still need players and hole sponsors. They will have a second "Hole in One" this year. Lee said the Ads for the convention book are coming in slow at this time. He said regarding the construction at the Convention Center, the Board of Public Works did approve the construction project, and it is still in two phases and the first impact on us will probably not be until 2012.

J. Seavey discussed the Color Guard and phone calls he has received regarding the DC Pipes and Drums. He said they will not be here this year. He read a letter from the DC

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Corps explaining why they will not be here this year. He said they were contacted in February by D. Beard and invited to a meeting with the other Pipe Bands to discuss the future participation of the three bands that had participated for several years. Dennis was told that a rotation had started last year, and he thought it would continue. Dennis said it is not working and needs to be revisited. The Bands did meet and Dennis received word from them (the Pipe Major), that he would like to graciously step aside, and allow the two Maryland Fire Department Pipe Bands to share in the Convention agenda. In the past they have been delighted to share in the duties of the convention, as noted this past year. When financial restrictions were abound and they understood why MSFA chose to support only one band for the convention. By taking them out of the mix, they hope MSFA can invite both Maryland Bands and satisfy our needs. If for some reason the Maryland Bands cannot perform, they would be delighted to revisit the MSFA convention in their future. It has been a pleasure, signed Peter Elliott, Band Manager. Jim said this clears the air as to what really happened, and why. Ron said the request to meet with all three bands was his request, because he heard the Bands did not like the rotation, and would not participate. M. Bilger asked about the Basket Bingo and are they still looking for sponsors? Jackie said they are doing Baskets and Bags this year. They will have a separate mailing for this, and they will also have advance tickets this year for the event. B. Hildebrand said the OC Chamber would like a table at the convention this year.

**BESSIE MARSHALL – E. Huttenloch** presented and discussed her written report. So far this year they have paid 43 cases for a total of \$34,000.00. Because of this large demand, they were required to take \$10,000 out of the Savings Account. She reminded everyone that the fund is for firemen not hurt or killed in the Line of Duty, and does not pay just because someone has lost their job, home etc. It is only for illness and the member is down and out. Last year they paid out \$31,050 for 39 cases which went to 17 counties. This year they raised the maximum you can get to 6 weeks or \$900. Their main fund raiser is the Annual Lottery. Last year they took in \$9,761, and so far this year they have taken in \$10,880. They are sending out the 50-50 raffle tickets for the convention raffle. She included with her report a list of the counties and departments that have received funds so far. She said they still have Susan Pins for sale.

**DNR – M. Mitchell** presented and discussed his written report. He said the Forest Service has responded to 19 wildfires burning 1,115 acres in January and February 2010. There was no reported wildfire occurrence in February with the state covered with snow. The 2010 VFA Grants applications will be available in early May. The package will be distributed via the MSFA and on the Forest Service website at: [www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/wfm.asp](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/wfm.asp). He said there should be approximately \$100,000 for grants awards in this year's program. The maximum grant award of \$3,000 per department will remain the same as well as the 50/50 match requirement. The Spring Basic Wildland Fire Courses have been scheduled for 10-14 May at the Madonna Ranger Station in Harford County. The RT-130 Annual Wildfire Refresher training and pack test

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are ongoing. Two sessions have been completed in Western Maryland with 63 firefighters recertifying. Sessions are also scheduled at Martinak, Cedarville, and Madonna with over 80 firefighters registered. The Mid-Atlantic Wildfire Training Academy is scheduled for 5-11 June in Morgantown West Virginia. Detailed information and registration is available online at <http://www.mawfta.com/>. He said three Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) are near completion for the Baltimore City properties at Loch Raven, Prettyboy, and Liberty Reservoirs in Baltimore County. M. Bilger asked about the Chain Saw training, and is that thru your DNR or has MFRI adopted that class and also offer it? Monte said they do have a chain saw class (S-212). He does not think MFRI offers such a class.

**INCENTIVES – Joan Robison** presented and discussed her written report. She still has 13 Counties to get their Incentive Tax list to her before 1 May 2010. The committee continues to monitor the counties for any changes in their respective programs. Charles County's basic monthly payment is \$233 with increases of \$9.31 per month for each full year of certified service over 25 years. She said there is a new Administrative No-29 out now and they still did not change the 36 month requirement. She said Senate Bill 12 reduces the duration of active membership with a bonafide Maryland Volunteer Fire, Rescue or Emergency Medical Services Organization or Auxiliary. She said this not a true statement and she will contact Annapolis about it.

**GUEST - Congressman Kratavil** (1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District) discussed certain happenings in the State that he is involved in and of interest to the MSFA.

**PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY – L. Sachs** reported, no report.

**VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE FUND – G. Curfman** presented and discussed his written report. The committee met last on 21 March at Junior Fire Company of Frederick. The Board received an application for a loan to purchase an ambulance from Thurmond Ambulance Company. The application was not received 30 days prior to the Board meeting, but was discussed after the applicant pointed out that the Guidelines nor the Application are on the MSFA website, and the application says when it has to be filed with the Board. When the application was received, there was two items missing in the packet. The Board agreed to review the application and take a vote by telephone on 11 April 2010 to approve or deny the loan request, as long as the Secretary had all of the missing information from the original application packet. Due to the items still missing, the application will be on hold and a decision will be made at the Boards next meeting on 23 May 2010. On 23 May the Board will not review applications, but will review all current Forms, Procedures, and Guidelines to ensure there aren't any contradictions in the material. The Board feels this is necessary so that the member companies know exactly what is required of them when applying for a loan or grant. When finished, the information will be put on the MSFA website. They will make up their committee meeting schedule for the next year and put it on the MSFA website, so there is no

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Confusion as to when their applications have to be turned in (60 days prior to the Executive Committee meeting, and 30 days prior to the Committee's meeting).

**FIREFIGHTER OF YEAR – J. Gatton** reported they have received only 3 applications as of today. Again he asked everyone to please go back to your company and look again for an applicant.

**TRUMPET** – Word from **S. Copado** is 15 May 2010 is their next deadline. Her new email address is on the website or send to Trumpet @msfa.org.

**RECRUITMENT & RETENTION - J. Denver** presented and discussed his written report. He had a short discussion on the 1-800-FIRELINE PSA. Copies of the PSA are available on disc in wmv format. The R&R Committee requests the assistance of the MSFA Presidents and Executive Committee members in spreading this message. Secretary Olsen has prepared a letter to each county association president requesting a county contract for 1-800-FIRELINE referrals. He said one of the goals of the R&R Committee is to serve as a clearing house for information. He discussed the concept if a mobile display and prices are to be obtained for inclusion of one display in next year's budget. They have received two applications for the Family Appreciation Award, and two members were appointed to review the applications. He said the award is a one night stay for a family up to four members, at the Hilton in Baltimore. He said their next request will be for the Mobile Display, and an amount for the Family Appreciation Award (in case no donations are available).

**FIRE CORPS** discussed by **W. Powell**. He was asked by President Powell to discuss the insights on the opportunities afforded the nation's Fire and EMS community by way of FIRE CORPS in Maryland. He handed out a lot of information and Ad items to join or start a membership in your department. He said [www.firecorps.org](http://www.firecorps.org) has many insights and resources suitable for use by any department of any type and size. Currently there are 29 registered programs in Maryland. He said they have State Fire Corps individuals ready and willing to assist local, county, and state-wide organizations to learn more. They will have a Fire Corps Workshop presentation during the MSFA convention in June.

**SAFETY – S. Scheinin** presented and discussed his written report. He said the committee met only once since his last report. Chairman Scheinin met with the Convention Planning Committee, and they will have presentations for member companies at the convention, along with a joint display with "Everyone Goes Home" Program. They have not been very successful in getting member companies to report to them any incidents involving their departments. They will contact their Work Comp Carriers and have them notify the committee of fire company incidents. They are attempting to identify these carriers, and to send a letter to them. D. Stevens said he will try to help the committee in getting the data from the departments. Their next committee meeting will be held here this after noon after the Executive Committee.

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**CADET – D, Stevens** reported they will next meet on 20 April at MFRI. He said the committee continues to monitor the programs throughout the State, and research the problems with the programs. He said they are always ready to assist in any way they can, and encourage County Coordinators to communicate issues and challenges to us. Director Edwards has scheduled a meeting for 20 April 2010 at MFRI in College Park to discuss the programs. The meeting should address some of the challenges they are currently facing in the various counties.

**STANDARDS & PA SYSTEM – B. Huttenloch** reported on the safety vest that should be on all apparatus, and running gear. The new NFPA package is coming out soon. He said the PA system is still two items short of a set.

**SGT AT ARMS – L. Woods** did a good job this weekend and we had a quiet morning.

**STATISTICS – S. Carter** said the stats are coming in very slowly.

**SURPLUS PROPERTY – E. Woods** presented and discussed his written report. They helped Pittsville recently to obtain items for their ladder truck. He read a list of items still in the Trailer at Cedarville, and asks permission to dispose of as many items as he can. Any department with items you no longer need, let him know. The following motion was made by M. Bilger and 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Donaldson:

**MOTION – To approve letting E. Woods dispose of the items he has now.**  
Motion was approved by all.

**TRANSPORTATION – T Flint** presented and discussed his written report. Since the February meeting, they have collected \$560 in recertification fees and new tag fees. The committee is still in the process of sending out letters to the President of each outstanding company advising that we have not received the recertification package along with the proper fees. W. Frazier has written an article for the Trumpet with information regarding the recertification process and a reminder of the procedure to try to eliminate the remainder of the old black and white logo tags. The outstanding companies that have not re-certified, are listed in the article. He said Butch Britton, Jr. has replace Kurt Wise as the new County Coordinator for Queen Anne County. He included with his report, a list of those Companies that have not recertified all of their FD Tag holders in their Department.

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES – M. Gouty** reported that she sold \$2, 360 dollars worth of merchandise was sold, it was a good weekend. She said the trailer is now almost empty and items for the 2010 convention have been ordered. She also has a new MSFA logo mark available for sale.

**PRESIDENT POWELL – President Powell** thanked those that were able to be here this weekend.

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**GOOD OF ASSOCIATION** – Each member of the Executive Committee discussed happenings of their area departments around the state.

**HOST COMPANY** - President Powell thanked the host company on behalf of the MSFA Executive Committee for the food and hospitality received this weekend.

**ADJOURNMENT** – With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1200 hours.

**NEXT MEETING** – The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for 13 June at Ocean City.

**CLOSING PRAYER** – The closing prayer was given by Chaplain Jackson.

Submitted by,

Jacqueline Olson, Secretary MSFA  
Leonard T. King, Sr., Secretary Emeritus  
Joseph A. Cooper  
Ronald E. Watkins  
Richard Snader  
Kristi Gable

