

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING November 13-14, 2010 Aberdeen Volunteer Fire Company Aberdeen, Maryland

**Call to order:** By Dan Steven, Executive Committee Chair

You all be cognitive of the Sergeant of Arms here because she is armed I understand. With that good to see you all here and we will turn the Chaplain's Corps here for the Invocation, Pledge and some devotional words. I was going to put the Mayor first but I was told God comes before the Mayor. I am sorry Mayor.

**Chaplain:** Before we have the Invocation, we have some folks to remember with prayers. Iris Powell, Rev. Marvin Jackson, Tyler Smith – needs a heart transplant; Past President Ed Preston, David Grove Family – PA Wildlife killed by hunters caught poacher; Bill Huttenloch, Lawrence Hawkins passed away, Donna Struntz – LAMSFA Color Bearer – automobile accident; and Joann Robison and Carol Flints brother with heart problems, Jim Cursey. Please stand for prayer and pledge to flag and devotional.

**Chairman Stevens:** Again welcomed everyone and thanked the Aberdeen Volunteer Fire Company for hosting this meeting. Please note the fire exits, they are all around the room and it should be no problem to exit if it is necessary. Restrooms are in the back. One thing please, one meeting - if you have to have a conference with somebody else, please either step outside or go out into the lobby. Turn off cell phones, pagers and so forth. Summarize reports. We have copies of most of them but I know the folks here don't and they want to know what is going on within the Association. We will break for lunch when lunch is ready. Bobby and I are going to Bay District Banquet tonight and we will adjourn at a reasonable time today. We will meet again following lunch.

I'd like to introduce the Mayor of Aberdeen. He is a Past Chief and President of the Aberdeen VFC. He worked for State Police as well please welcome **Mayor of Aberdeen Mike Bennett.**

**Chief Steve Hinch and President Russ Piper** of the Aberdeen VFC. **President Piper** recognized the Ladies of the Aberdeen VFC and the Ladies of Grace Church for all their help with breakfast and lunch each day. He also thanked John Bender for all his hard work the last six months in planning for this meeting. **Vice President of the Harford Cecil VFC Buddy Schweers** invited everyone to a hospitality get together at the hotel in President Cox room (503) starting at 4 p.m. **Harford County Firemen's Association President Bill Dousa** welcomed everyone.

**President Doyle Cox:** You have copies of my report but I have a few things I need to report before my report. This is the first time in 118<sup>th</sup> years of this Association that we have met at the Aberdeen VFC. I would like to thank all those involved in planning and assisting with this meeting. Special

thanks to John Bender who has spent the last 6 months working on this. Thanks also to the Ladies of Grace Church and the Auxiliary of the Aberdeen VFC.

As Buddy indicated, tonight there will be reception in the Hotel, Room 503 at the Holiday Inn somewhere around 4 p.m. I would like to make a couple of introductions of some people here today. LAMSFA President Sandi Lutz, Miss Fire Prevention Elyssa Cool, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up MSFA Miss Fire Prevention, Katie Norman, Eric, MSFA Jr. Fire Chief, Sandy Brown, Miss Cecil County Fire Prevention. Each thanked the President for their invitation and offered their assistance where ever needed.

First Vice President Lewis, Second Vice President Denver, Chairman Stevens, Members of the Executive Committee, Officers, Committee Chairs, members of the Ladies Auxiliary and guest.

Who would think that we are approaching the half year mark? The first five month has been extremely busy, and it has been very rewarding. The Vice President's and I have been traveling to the various county association meetings, committee meetings, banquets, out of state conventions, and a variety of other appointments.

As I indicated in my last report, it seems that we always start our reports with sad news. With the Association family being so large, we are always being notified of a friend that has passed on or one is under medical care. I am sure that the Chaplains Office will report on the many that have passed away or the ones that needs our prayers. Our condolences go out to Mr. William Olsen, on the loss of his wife Alicia and also to the Hall family of the Prince Frederick VFD on the passing of Life Member Robert L. Hall, Sr. Please keep Past President Jenks Mattingly in your prayers and as all know Mr. William Huttenloch is still going through some tough times these days, we also need to keep him in our prayers.

Cathy and I would like to thank each and every one of you that has invited us so far to the different banquets. I know we are coming into the time of the year that everybody is going to be going to these events. Dan I appreciate you going tonight to cover Bay District. I will be in touch with a lot of you to cover these different functions. We cannot be at every one of them. I'd love to be at each and everyone but unfortunately they have not figured out a way to put me at each and everyone.

Congratulations to the Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad on the celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and to the Eastern Shore of Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association on their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Mr. Hurlock was the emcee and did a fabulous job. A special congratulation also goes to the Manchester Volunteer Fire Department who will be celebrating their 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tonight.

During the last couple of months, the Vice President's, Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Legislative Committee and I met with Col. Sheridan, Maryland State Police and Dr. Robert Bass, Director of Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS) where we were very open and discussion was held on many topics of interest to both parties. At both meetings, discussion was held on the Novelty Lighters and the funding for the Emergency Medical Services Operations Fund (EMSOF). We will continue to work together on building on the strong relationship that we share.

In September the two Vice President's, several Past Presidents, a member of the Executive Committee and I traveled to Delaware where we attended their Annual Convention Memorial Service and luncheon. A week later, the Vice President's and I, along with other officers of the Association, traveled to Pennsylvania, where we also attended their Annual Convention in Wilkes-Barre. PA. As always, the delegation that attended both Conventions was welcomed with open arms. There is a special relation with many of their past and present officers.

On October 20, the two Vice Presidents and I along with other Officers and Members of the Association attended the Department of Public Works meeting where the funds were approved and the contract was awarded to Augusta Westland for six helicopters. Later that afternoon, we traveled to Lee Airport where Governor O'Malley held a press conference announcing the awarding of the contract to Augusta. Additional information on the helicopters will be forthcoming this weekend by Capt. Mark Gibbons, Commander of the MSP Aviation Division.

During the first weekend of October the Vice Presidents and I traveled to Emmitsburg for the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend. If you have not had the opportunity to visit the memorial or attend the memorial service, you should make that one of your goals for the coming years. It is a very emotional weekend. This year, as in the past years, a lithograph of the memorial was presented to each family that lost a loved one the previous year. I am sure that Ron Siarnicki, Executive Director of the Foundation will give a detailed report on the weekend.

I would like to congratulate the Fire Prevention Committee, the State Fire Marshal's Office and Treasurer Ron Siarnicki for a job well done on the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Grants Program. As you know at the last Executive Committee the announcement of the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Grant was made. Yes, there were some problems, but we overcame them. And we were able to help departments with funds for their Fire Prevention Program. There were somewhere around 10% of the departments that took advantage of this program. Later on today, you are going to hear more about the program. Again, congratulation to the ones that participated in the program and a job well done to the ones that made this happen.

Again, I would like to thank Past President Lee Sachs for all of the hard work he is doing with the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund and the Senator Amoss 508 Fund. Each month he is making headway in working with the Department of Military in correcting or establishing guidelines for these programs. Last month in our discussion with General Atkins, he indicated that the two would work together is solving these problems to where the programs will flow in a more smoothly process.

As I indicated before, when we met with Dr. Bass, one of the main discussions was the status of the Emergency Medical Services Operations Fund (EMSOF). Each member of the coalition (MIEMSS; MSP Aviation; Shock Trauma: MFRI, MSFA) receives funds from this account. As it stands now, if no new revenue is found beyond 2013, there will be no EMSOF. Through our discussion, a suggestion was made that we should start working on some new ideas. The coalition has started their search, and will continue to work together along with the Legislative Committee and with the legislators in finding a solution to this program.

In addition to the County Association meetings and the MSFA Committee meetings, I have attended the following, along with other Officers of the Association.

- Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Anne Arundel County Convention
- Meeting with Col. Sheridan – Maryland State Police
- Meeting with Dr. Bass – MIEMSS

- Montgomery County Convention Memorial Service
- Prince George's County Convention
- Delaware State Convention
- Howard County Annual Meeting
- Pennsylvania State Convention
- Maryland Fire Rescue Service Memorial Gala
- National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend
- Meeting with General Atkins, Military Department
- Eastern Shore of Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In closing, I would like to leave the following with you. I want to thank each of you for your support, but most of all I want to thank you for what you are doing for your Company. Your County Association and this Association. You are the Volunteers that have been keeping this Association moving during the past few years. You are also the Volunteer that has provided and are providing a vital service to the Counties and Communities you live in. You need to reach around and pat yourself on the back for a job well done, because you are the ones that gave up another weekend to provide a service for the fire, rescue, and EMS community.

As many of you know. We are getting older each day. Who is going to step up to your position? Have you trained someone or are you training someone to work as you do in your committee or other position not only in this association but also in your county association? When was the last time you saw someone new around your association or even this association? At the next Executive Committee Meeting let's bring a new face, a new person to the meeting.

Attached you will find a complete itinerary of my travels for the months of September, October, and November.

Mr. Chairman, this completes my report to you today. As always, I will continue to work with First Vice President Lewis and Second Vice President Denver.

Congratulations to each and every company that took advantage of the grants for fire prevention and received them. That is \$500 going to their fire prevention programs.

The State Police will be giving us an in-depth presentation on the helicopters. Recently Mark was with the Governor and then we went down to Lee Airport to see the prototype they will be getting. Contract for six helicopters was approved and they have been ordered. Around eighteen months the first ones should be arriving. We now are being told they should be here in sixteen months.

## Itinerary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
September 2	SEMSAC	MIEMSS – Baltimore
September 4	Banquet - 50th	7 <sup>th</sup> District Rescue
September 7	Carroll	Lineboro
September 8	Anne Arundel Convention	Memorial Service – Arundel
September 9	Anne Arundel Convention	Arundel
September 10	Kent-Queen Anne's	Grasonville
September 11	Parade	Anne Arundel Convention – Crofton
September 12	Fundraiser – John Denver	North East
September 13	Col. Sheridan – MSP	Pikesville
September 14	EMS Board	MIEMSS – Baltimore
September 14	Visit – Bill Huttenloch	University Hospital
September 14	Dr. Bass	MIEMMS – Baltimore
September 14	Prince George's Convention	Memorial Service – Accokeek
September 15	Montgomery County Convention	Memorial Service – Damascus
September 16	Prince George's Convention	Marlboro
September 17	Delaware Convention	Dover
September 17	Howard	Lisbon
September 18	Banquet	Perryville
September 19	Eastern Shore	Hurlock
September 21	Officers Meeting	Ripps – Bowie
September 22	Leave for Pennsylvania Convention	
September 23	Pennsylvania Convention	Wilkes-Barre
September 23	Caroline	Goldsboro
September 25	Maryland Memorial – Gala	Turf Valley
September 27	Southern Maryland	Cobb Island
September 28	Mid Atlantic Conference	
October 1	Fallen Firefighters	Emmitsburg
October 2	Fallen Firefighters	Emmitsburg
October 3	Fallen Firefighters	Emmitsburg
October 3	Frederick County Queen	Walkersville
October 4	Dorchester County	Church Creek
October 5	Department Meeting	Prince Frederick VFD
October 6	Grant Conference Call	
October 6	Southern Maryland Ladies	Avenue
October 8	Cecil County Queen	Rising Sun VFC
October 9	Ladies Fall Conference	North East
October 11	Calvert	Prince Frederick Fire
October 13	Talbot	Tilghman
October 14	Smoke Alarm Giveaway	Salisbury Station 16
October 15	Banquet	Laurel VFD – Savage Mills
October 16	Fire Prevention/Open House	Bunker Hill
October 16	Banquet – Lisbon	Goldstar American Legion
October 17	Safety	Glenn Dale
October 17	Fire Prevention	Level

<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
October 19	Lunch Robbie Robison	Prince Frederick
October 20	Board of Public Works	Annapolis
October 20	Governor's News Conference	Lee Airport – Edgewater
October 20	ADForm	Baltimore
October 22	Bingo – Fundraiser	St. James Hall
October 24	VCAF	Friendsville
October 25	EMSOF Coalition	MIEMMS – Baltimore
October 27	General Atkins	Baltimore
October 29	Dedication of Station	Takoma Park VFD
October 31	Campaign Committee	North Beach
November 1	Carroll	Reese
November 3	MD Memorial	Anne Arundel Fire – Millersville
November 4	SEMSAC	MIEMSS – Baltimore
November 4	Marketing	West Annapolis
November 5	Anne Arundel	Eastport
November 6	Banquet – 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Eastern Shore – Cordova
November 7	Training	MFRI – College Park
November 7	Awards	Dunkirk
November 9	EMS Board	MIEMSS – Baltimore
November 9	Memorial Service	Robert Hall – Prince Frederick VFD
November 10	Somerset	Princess Anne
November 12	Open House	Aberdeen
November 12	Executive Committee	Aberdeen
	Financial Review Team	
November 13	Executive Committee	Aberdeen
November 13	Open House	Aberdeen
November 14	Executive Committee	Aberdeen

## **David W. Lewis, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Thank you President Cox. Just like Doyle, I want to thank all the companies and county associations for welcoming my wife, Gloria, and I at each of your events. It certainly has been a great time and it is heartwarming to get around the state and visit with every one of you as often as we can

My report was filed electronically and there are companies in the back for those who do not receive electronically. The big thing that I kind of want to highlight, and Doyle has hit on that, is committees. Want to thank each of the committees here today and for the work that you do on behalf of the Association. You really are the wheels that keep the Association turning, the wheels that make the Association successful. A number of you will be reporting today and tomorrow and I do not want to steal your thunder. You and your committee members are the ones to share their information to you.

On September 6<sup>th</sup> I had the honor to represent the Association up at the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, where the Australian Tour of Duty Team came through. There were 36 firefighters from Australia and they picked a couple of stragglers from LA and Chicago and St. Louis. They were running across the country to commemorate the fallen firefighters of 9 1 1. It was my honor to present them with a resolution from the MSFA thanking them for stopping in Maryland on their way to New York City and recognizing our fallen heroes.

September was number of conventions and I certainly not gone to go over all of those, we had some in August and September – congratulations on those celebrations.

The Annual Gala, Gene Worthington and his crew deserve congratulations for a successful gala. Thanks to the companies that supported it and we had an excellent turnout in Ellicott City. We will probably return to the same venue and hope we have as good a turnout as we did this year.

The Fallen Firefighters week-end, was a very nice tribute. If you never have attended, you need to just once. It is an excellent tribute to those who died in the line of duty and for their surviving family. The need to know we share their loss and are there to assist however we can.

Congratulations to Sandi and the Ladies on their successful Fall Conference. We did have the opportunity to attend the Fall Conference.

And as Doyle said, it was kind of the highlight when we met with the Governor and the Board of Public Works on October 20<sup>th</sup> for the approval of the contract for the new helicopters. Danny Davis and those from the State Police who met to evaluate the contract. We certainly have helicopters coming that are more mission capable than any of the previous helicopters.

Thanks to the Financial Team and Residential Sprinkler and Safety Committees, Fire Prevention and the Grant Program.

President Cox, Vice President Denver, Chairman Stevens, Members of the Executive Committee, Officers, Committee Chairs, and Guests:

Since our last executive committee meeting, it has been an honor and privilege to represent the MSFA while traveling across this great state attending many association meetings, committee meetings, partner agency meetings: dedications: and banquets. I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome that my wife, Gloria, and I have received anywhere that we have traveled. We have made many new friends while traveling on behalf of the MSFA and we look forward to making many more in the coming years head.

Let me begin my report by extending my sincere condolences to Bill Olsen on the loss of his wife, Alicia. Both Bill and Alicia have been strong supporters of this Association and Alicia will truly be missed. To Bill, your fire service family stands ready to give you the support that you need to carry forward.

On a positive note, it was heartwarming to see Bill Huttenloch return to Maryland. I had the pleasure of visiting Bill at University Hospital shortly after his return and he was looking good. He still has a difficult road ahead and we wish him the best. And to Elaine, please call on any of us whenever you need assistance.

It was also good to hear that PP Jenks Mattingly came home from the hospital and is continuing his treatment at home. We wish Jenks the best in his continued recovery. We also extend best wishes to PP Ed Preston as he continues to suffer his illness.

My report begins with a big Thank You to each of the members who serve on an MSFA Committee. It is truly the committees of this association that makes it successful. As an elected officer of this association, you quickly learn the value of having good people assigned to the committees to move the association forward in meeting its mission and goals. To the committee members, I say "Thank You"!

Over the course of this weekend, you will hear reports from those committees as well as our partner agencies. I don't want to steal the message of their report but I would like to highlight some notable activities that I have had the honor to participate in since our last Executive Committee meeting:

- On September 6, I had the honor to represent the MSFA in meeting with the members of the "Tour of Duty" team, a group of Australian and U.S. Firefighters who were running across the U.S. in tribute to those who died in the line of duty on 9/11/01.
- September seemed to be a popular month for conventions. Along with President Cox, Vice President Denver. I attended county conventions for Anne Arundel County, Howard County, Prince Georges, and Montgomery County Associations. I also attended the conventions for Delaware and Pennsylvania State Associations.
- On September 25, many of us attended the annual gala held by the Maryland Memorial Foundation. It was heartwarming to see such a good turnout in support of the foundation's major fundraising event. Congratulations to Gene Worthington and the foundation members on a successful gala event. We look forward to seeing another large crowd again next year.
- On October 1 – 3, The MSFA was represented in the annual services held by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in Emmitsburg. This year the NFFF recognized 105 fallen firefighters that included 80 from 2009 and 25 from previous years including the first-time



recognition of 11 military firefighters who died in the line of duty as a firefighter. I would like to extend a special note of appreciation of the members of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association who do an outstanding job of supporting the transportation needs of the families while they are in Maryland.

- On October 9, the MSFA Presidents attended the Fall Conference of the MSFA Ladies Auxiliary. Congratulations to President Sandi Lutz and her officers on a successful Conference. Listening to the reports make you appreciate the job that our Ladies Auxiliaries do on behalf of their fire companies and their communities. To each of the ladies, I say “Thank You.”
- October 20, it was a pleasure to be present when Governor Martin O’Malley and the Board of Public Works approved the contract for the purchase of the new MSP helicopters. These new helicopters will be more mission capable and address our needs for the new few decades.
- I had the pleasure of attending new fire station dedications for Takoma Park and Parsonsburg, as well as the groundbreaking for the new Marley fire Station. I also attended new apparatus dedications for Arnold, Riviera Beach, Eastport, Mt. Vernon and United Communities. To each of these departments, I extend my congratulations on your new acquisitions that will better enable you to provide services to your communities.

Thanks to the Financial Team for taking the initiative to get the Association's financial program in order and meeting full compliance with federal and state laws. Since our last Executive Committee, the team has worked hard on a policy to bring us in compliance with IRS reporting requirements and another policy to gain control of the association's fixed assets. Thanks to Treasurer Ron Siarnicki and the Financial Team for their hard efforts.

It seems that the effort to promote residential sprinkler adoption is a never ending battlefield. Despite national and state recommendations, we have had several counties and local jurisdictions across Maryland opt out of the code provisions that will save the lives and property of our citizens and firefighters. Congratulations to Doug Alexander and the Residential Sprinkler Committee for their hard efforts to continue promoting these measures and thanks to Fire Marshal Bill Barnard and his staff for providing expert assistance to this activity. We should be comforted that about one-half of the state has adopted residential sprinkler requirements and that our committee has done its best to provide the facts and information to the rest of the jurisdictions.

Thanks to the members of the Safety Committee for having the courage to address the safety needs of the members of this association. I regularly review LODD reports from across the country and many of these involve preventable actions. The Safety Committee has an obligation to providing our members with the resources to reduce LOD injuries and deaths. I believe that the committee is moving in the right direction towards meeting their goals and mission. I thank each member of the committee for their participation.

Thanks to the Fire Prevention Committee for initiating a new grant program to provide funding to departments for the purchase of fire prevention educational materials. This will greatly help many departments and improve our outreach opportunities to the citizens that we serve. I encourage the committee to review the application procedures from this year's program and make it easier next year for more departments to take advantage of this funding opportunity

Thankfully, the November elections are now behind us. But, the work with the new legislative assembly has just begun. I know that Danny Davis and Richard Yinger are already hard at work defining measures to educate the new legislators that will be coming to Annapolis on the value of the volunteer emergency services. Each department should take the same initiative to educate your local legislators and state representatives on what you do and how much money you save your county and the state. Invite them to your fire station, show them your capital stock and don't be afraid to tell them about your needs.

We are quickly approaching the banquet season and many of you will be holding your annual banquets. I want to thank each of the departments in advance for the invitations that we receive and send my regrets to those that I will not be able to attend due to conflicting schedules. Congratulations to each of the departments celebrating an anniversary on a successful year of service to your community.

In closing, I repeat my thanks and appreciation to each of the committees of this great association and its members. The progressive actions that you take are what moves this association forward and makes it successful. Thank you for what you do on behalf of the Association and its members.

A copy of my itinerary since the August Executive Committee meeting is attached, representing my participation in 71 activities and traveling 5248 miles on behalf of the members of the MSFA.

### ITINERARY

#### **September, 2010**

Wed.	1	Memorial Foundation	Millersville
Thurs.	2	SEMSAC	Baltimore
Mon.	6	Meet Australian "Tour of Duty" team	Emmitsburg
Tues.	7	AACVFA – Past President's Dinner	Gambrills
Wed.	8	AACVFA – Memorial Service	Davidsonville
Thurs.	9	AACVFA – Convention Meeting	Davidsonville
Fri.	10	Harford/Cecil VFA	Norrisville
Sat.	11	AACVFA Parade and Outing	Davidsonville
Sun.	12	Fundraiser – John Denver	North East
Mon.	13	Partner meeting – MSP	Pikesville

**September (Cont'd).**

Tues.	14	EMS Board	Baltimore
		Partner meeting – MIEMSS	Baltimore
		Hospital visit – Bill Huttenloch	Baltimore
		PCVFRA Memorial Service	Accokeek
Wed.	15	Montgomery County Memorial Service	Damascus
Thurs.	16	Montgomery County Convention Meeting	Damascus
Fri.	17	Delaware Convention	Dover
		Howard County VFA Annual Meeting	Lisbon
Sun.	19	Eastern Shore VFA	Hurlock
Tues.	21	ATAC Executive Committee	Columbia
Wed.	22	ATAC Plenary Session	Columbia
Thurs.	23	Pennsylvania Convention	Wilkes Barre
		Caroline County VFA	Goldsboro
Sat.	25	Memorial Gala	Ellicott City
Sun.	26	New Engine Housing	Arnold
Mon.	27	Southern Maryland VFA	Cobb Island
Tues.	28	Mid-Atlantic Safety Conference	Laurel

**October, 2010**

Fri.	1	NFF Memorial Week-end	Emmitsburg
Sat.	2	NFF Memorial Week-end	Emmitsburg
Sun.	3	NFF Memorial Week-end	Emmitsburg
		Frederick County Miss Fire Prev. Contest	Walkersville
Mon.	4	Dorchester County	Church Creek
Tues.	5	Odenton Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	Odenton
Wed.	6	Residential Sprinkler Committee	Millersville

**October (cont'd)**

Thurs.	7	Council of Academies	Cresaptown
Fri.	8	Kent/Queens Association	Kennedyville
Sat.	9	MSFA Ladies Auxiliary Fall Conference	North East
Mon.	11	DWL Fundraising Event	Atlantic City
Tues.	12	Company Meeting	Odenton
Wed.	13	Somerset County	Mt. Vernon
Thurs.	14	Pipeline Awareness Seminar	Columbia
Fri.	15	New Fire Station Ground-breaking	Marley
Sat.	16	EMS Committee	Kensington
		Banquet	Lisbon
Sun.	17	Safety Committee	Glendale
		Fire Prevention Committee	Level
Tues.	19	ATAC	Columbia
Wed.	20	Board of Public Works – Helo contract	Annapolis
Wed.	20	Governor’s Press Conference – Helicopters	Edgewater
		Funeral Visitation – Alicia Olsen	Waldorf
Thurs.	21	Baltimore County VFA	English Consul
Sat.	23	Ladder Truck Dedication	Eastport
Sun.	24	Marine Unit Dedication	United Communities
Mon.	25	Coalition Meeting – EMSOF	MIEMSS, Baltimore
		NFF Memorial Week-end Critique	Emmitsburg
Tues.	26	Kent County Commissioners – Sprinkler	Chestertown
Wed.	27	Partner Meeting – DMIL	Baltimore
Thurs.	28	Planning Committee	Middle River
Fri.	29	Firehouse Dedication	Takoma Park

## October (cont'd)

Sat.	30	Fire Prevention	Riviera Beach
Sun.	31	Engine Dedication	Mt. Vernon

## November, 2010

Sun.	7	New Firehouse Dedication	Parsonsburg
Tues.	9	EMS Board	MIEMSS, Baltimore
		AACVFA Ladies Auxiliary	Earleigh Heights
		Company Meeting	Odenton
Wed.	10	Prince George's County VFRA	Bowie
Fri.	12	CFSI Training Day at MFRI	College Park
		President's Reception	Aberdeen
		Financial Team Meeting	Aberdeen
Sat.	13	Executive Committee	Aberdeen
Sun.	14	Executive Committee	Aberdeen

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President John Denver** gave a brief summary of the written report that follows below as well as his itinerary below.

President Cox, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lewis, members of the Executive Committee, officers, and guests; Some have described the year as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President as the "learning year." For me, the learning has been fast and furious. As 1 attend meetings, banquets and other fire service events around the state, I continue to be amazed at the commitment and professionalism of volunteers across the state. One cannot help but be energized by the incredible work done by the volunteer tire service.

1 has also learned a lot about Maryland by traveling outside the state. In Maryland, we have invaluable partnerships with a number of agencies. MIEMSS, MFRL MSP, and the OSFM are only some of the partner agencies. These partnerships have been built over the years by some of the people in this room, and many others before them. We may sometimes take these partnerships for granted, but we never should. We need to continue grow our relationships with our partners and recognize their assistance. Our effectiveness in Maryland and our stature as a national leader in the fire service are enhanced through these partnerships.

In closing, I would like to thank President Cox, 1 SI Vice President Lewis, and many other officers and members of the MSFA, and county and regional associations for their advice and assistance.

## ITINERARY

### August

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance</u>
08/24/2010	HCVFA Ways & Means	North East	15
08/25/2010	Harford County Association	Darlington	49
08/26/2010	McNutt and Farrington Viewings	Delta, PA	79
08/26/2010	HCVFA Ways & Means	North East	16
08/27/2010	Executive Committee Meeting	Hollywood	295
08/31/2010	Zentz Service	North East	16

### September

09/01/2010	Memorial Foundation	Millersville	138
09/02/2010	SEMSAC	Baltimore	134
09/07/2010	Carroll County Association	Lineboro	125
09/08/2010	AACVFA Memorial	Crofton	158
09/09/2010	AACVFA Convention	Crofton	175
09/10/2010	HCVFA	Norrisville	101
09/11/2010	AACVFA Parade	Crofton	160
09/12/2010	HCVFA Breakfast	North East	16
09/12/2010	Turner Service	Abingdon	66
09/13/2010	Meeting with MSP	Pikesville	125
09/14/2010	EMS Board & Dr. Bass	Baltimore	122
09/15/2010	Montgomery County Memorial	Damascus	194
09/16/2010	Baltimore County Annual Meeting	Chestnut Ridge VFC	131
09/17/2010	Delaware Convention	Dover	
	Howard County Annual Meeting	Lisbon	245
09/19/2010	Training Committee	Centreville	
	Eastern Shore Association	Hurlock	178
09/21/2010	Officer Meeting	Bowie	181
09/22/2010	Pennsylvania State Convention	Wilkes-Barre	
	Caroline County Association	Goldsboro	141
09/24/2010	Anne Arundel County Boat Dedication	Sandy Point	
	Southern Maryland Association	Cobb Island	
09/27/2010	Mid-Atlantic Life Safety	Laurel	418

### October

10/01/2010	NFFM Ceremony	Emmitsburg	307
10/06/2010	Residential Sprinklers Committee	Millersville	139
10/08/2010	Cecil County Fire Prevention Queen	Rising Sun	37
10/09/2010	LAMSFA Conference	North East	
	Aberdeen Dedication	Aberdeen	60
10/10/2010	Rural Water Supply Drill	Denton	132
10/13/2010	Worcester County	Ocean City	
	Smoke Alarm Distribution	Salisbury	267
10/16/2010	Delmar Banquet	Delmar	200

## October (cont'd.)

10/17/2010	Fire Prevention Committee	Level	53
10/18/2010	CCFA	North East	19
10/20/2010	MD BPW, Press Conference	Annapolis/Edgewater	
	Olsen Viewing	Waldorf	248
10/21/2010	Schnackenberg Service	Havre de Grace	36
10/25/2010	EMSOF, NFFM Critique	Baltimore/ West Friendship	163
10/27/2010	5 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Armory	Baltimore	137
10/27/2010	Harford County Association	Havre de Grace	34
10/28/2010	Planning Committee	Middle River	113
10/31/2010	Mount Vernon Truck Housing	Princess Anne	282

## November

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance</u>
11/01/2010	Carroll County	Westminster	167
11/04/2010	SEMSAC Marketing Committee	Baltimore Annapolis	174
11/05/2010	Anne Arundel County	Eastport	180
11/06/2010	Baltimore County Awards	North Point Edgemere	116
11/07/2010	Allegany-Garrett Association	Grantsville	438

**President Doyle Cox:** Mr. Chairman that concludes the reports of the three presidents. I turn everything back to you. To each and every one of you have a day of learning. A day of sharing and it is all yours.

**Chairman Stevens** calls for the Chaplain's report.

While the Chaplain is coming forward, just a reminder that there is a button on the bottom of your microphone – push once and it powers on – push it again and it will go to standby. We request that you push it a third time to turn it off when you are done. Thank you.

**Chaplain Long:** The one thing I want to high-light in my report is at the Federation of Fire Chaplains Conference the Lighthouse Uniform Company was there and Steve informed us Maryland did not have a beneficiary organization and he contacted the Maryland Fire Chiefs and they had turned them down. What this is Memorial Chin Straps cost \$12.95 each and the beneficiary organization of the state receives \$5.00 and the National Fallen Firefighters gets \$1.00. Doyle read my report and he said the Honor Guard brought this up. I would like to recommend that the Maryland State Firemen's Association come on board as the Beneficiary organization for state, so whoever buys these we get the \$5.00. Also, not on my report, I just found out that last night that Chaplain Marvin Jackson was named Chaplain Emeritus for the Harford Cecil Firemen's Association. It is good to have Chaplain Coblentz with us today and continue to keep him in your prayers as well as Marvin Jackson. We also have the daily devotionals just released by the Fellowship of Christian Firefighters for sale for \$15.00 a piece. I was proud to represent this Association at the Pennsylvania Firemen's Association Convention in Wilkes Barre.

## **Report of the Chaplain, Rev. John F. Long, Jr.**

Greetings, I hope everyone is doing well. As we conduct the business of the association this weekend take heed in what the bible tells us in Proverbs 16:3 "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."

Most of the Corps has been busy visiting those who are ill or hospitalized and attending or conducting funerals for members. Along with one of our own Chaplain Marvin Jackson has been hospitalized since the last executive meeting.

I attended the Maryland Fire and Rescue Memorial Gala in September. I also attended the Federation of Fire Chaplain's Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio in October. I have requested to host the conference in October 2014 and right now I have the support of Chief Ray from the Anne Arundel County Fire Department and other Chaplains across the state.

At the conference we were introduced to a program initiated by the Lighthouse Uniform Company. This program deals with the sale of 911 memorial chin straps. The straps cost \$12.95 each, and for each strap sold in the state \$5.00 would go to the designated state beneficiary, and \$1.00 to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Fund. I was told that the Maryland Fire Chiefs turned them down. So I would like to ask that the Maryland State Firemen's Association accept the offer to be the designated beneficiary. These funds could be used to offset the cost of the Chaplains Corps.

See attached document. Keep safe and God Bless.



# LIGHTHOUSE

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**Almost Ten Years has gone by, if you can believe it..... and the memory of 9-11 is beginning to fade.**

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[www.lighthouseuniform.com/commemorative](http://www.lighthouseuniform.com/commemorative)

**President Doyle Cox** on the Chin Straps – the Executive Committee if you go back 2 or 3 years by the Honor Guard. He does not remember if there was any action on this. This is up to you – you take it from there.

**Chair Dan Stevens:** Is there any action on the Chin Straps? Is there any action on the Chin Straps? Is there any discussion on the Chin Straps?

**Executive Committee Member – Stuart Carter:** Mr. Chair, either the February or April meeting it was brought up. Craig Moe made a motion that there was too much profit made off of 9-11 and it was not the proper thing to do and the motion was made and carried not to do it.

**Chair Stevens:** I believe I recall that. Does anyone have comments on that or do we want to stand by that. Motion that dully passed and we will stand by that.

**Office of the Secretary:** Jackie will be here either late today or tomorrow and will give her report then.

**Board of Trustees:** Danny Carpenter for Steve Hales. Good morning Mr. Chairman. Chairman Steve Hales is sorry he could not make the meeting this week-end, he is out of town. But the Trustees have been in touch and have been meeting. We just met this morning. We had a case line of duty injury back in 2009 – a gentleman from Riviera Beach, Anne Arundel County. He was injured and we had asked for a continuation claim for him in early 2010, he had not turned one in. So in June at Convention we met with him and he assured he was going to get us something. We had stopped his payments until he turned something in. He just turned something in to us on October 10<sup>th</sup> and we did meet on that and we have approved to continue his claim. He will have to turn in claims quarterly, so in February he will have to turn another one in and it will be reviewed by the Trustees. The Trustees are trying to keep the line-of-duty injuries in base.

Currently now, they have 32 widows that they are paying claims on, they have 4 dependent children, one they will lose next month because he turns 18. So that will drop us to three. And they have 3 line-of-injuries at this time. Any questions for Trustees? Thank you.

**Financial Team:** Ron Siarnicki, Treasurer; Fred Cross, Financial Secretary; Steve Cox, Budget & Review Chair; Lee Sachs, Assistant Treasurer.

**Ron** – Good morning to all of you. The Financial Team has submitted three reports via the MSFA internet site. You should have a Balance Sheet ending as of November 2, 2010. A Budget vs. Actual as of July 2010 until June 2011 and a Profit and Loss Statement July 1 to Nov. 2, 2010.

In lieu of going through each individual item, are there any questions? Awesome.

The 2-009-2010 financial review is getting started.

- We are using Fike, Connor & Associates in LaVale, MD.

Fixed Assets Inventory and are being corrected

- Assistant Financial Secretary Chris Hyzer and Webmaster Richard Snader
- Have gotten together and we think we have a pretty decent inventory of the fixed assets for the association.
- So we are anticipating not have that as an issue on our management letter.

2-009-2010 IRS Management Letter Items:

- 1099-R's will be issued this year to relief fund recipients
- W2-G's will be issued to gaming winners over \$600.00
- MSFALA have been briefed on these requirements
- Bessie Marshall Chair has been given appropriate IRS forms

Draft Investment Policy Statement is under review.

Three temporary restricted funds have been established

- Bi-annual Officers Retreat
- Fire Laws Book Publication
- MSFA Anniversary Celebration

Fire Prevention Grant Awards are being distributed

- 14 of 38 have been paid to date

October Monthly reconciliation of all accounts has been completed

State Appropriation and Relief Funds have been received and deposited

- Financial Secretary to report out on this

Approved budget modification have been entered into QuickBooks

- Fire Laws Books
- MSFA Anniversary Fund
- Water Rescue Membership
- NVFC Payment

Mid Year expenditure review was completed

- Budget Chair to report on this and other items.

**Financial Secretary Fred Cross** – only thing he has is dues will be coming out the first of January, if not before. Dues \$200.00 for member departments and \$50 for individual.

**Budget & Review Chair Steve Cox** – basically realignment. To make sure that you can follow the budget 100%, I asked the Secretary's Office to get this out to you this morning to make it easier. I apologized that it was not there sooner. We are looking at some of the activities that the Association is conducting:

- Anniversary Activities
- The Maryland Fire Rescue Memorial Gala

We determined we needed to identify some budget items. You can see the accounts, the 5268, 5269. We did some re-allocation of funds \$250.00 from Item 5250 Meals and Entertainment; and \$250 and \$250.00 to created a \$500.00 account for the Gala. Then we re-allocated \$2,500.00 from Item 5268 to 5360 to create that account for the anniversary. It made no change in the total dollars for the budget, just re-allocated the funds so that could be used effectively and the Association benefits from those activities. Request your approval.

***Motion made by Ben Kurtz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wylie Donaldson that we approve the Budget as revised.***

**Chair Dan Stevens:** *Any discussion on the motion? Being none, I call for the questions. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Steve Cox** – One last item. The Budget Committee requests that the Executive Committee request the Car Committee come up a policy on the President's Car.

**President Cox:** I know there was a policy came out two years ago when this started. But does not believe any action came out on it. I know there is a policy out there. There was draft copy or written but no action taken.

**Ron** – I believe the policy was for usage but we are talking about car replacement.

**President Cox** – I thought that was covered in the same policy.

**Ron** – No.

**Dennis Skinner** – the thought there was something put out but he will check and report back.

**Rusty Leftwich** – the one you are talking about was done, I did and forwarded it and I have no idea what happened to it. So Doyle and I talked about it before the last Executive Committee Meeting and I think I forwarded that to you but you may not have gotten with the way things are coming out of the Proving Grounds at times disappears. I also sent it to Steve. What I can do, when I go home tonight and see if I can get it off my computer, I will forward it to you Dan. The other stuff I have here is for the basic usage, in case of accidents, etc. He also has the transfer sheets, the other stuff that has been in for several years. Replacement Plan has been done.

**Mark Bilger**, just for everyone's knowledge 2011 will be the last year for the Crown Victoria.

**Lee Sachs** – I am talking about the VCAF and the Amoss Funds. From a meeting with Del. Conway several years ago, I, on behalf of the MSFA and the Legislative Services Director for the Military, who is Katherine Kelly, are the two representatives that negotiate these things. We have worked very hard for the last couple years. We have probably 10 meetings or more on those two main categories. The Amoss Fund is down to one major issue – and then the guidelines will be up-dated. The one major issue is on the table. The last meeting we had was about three weeks ago when we agreed on the last two issues and I think we have them resolved at our level and I know they are satisfactory to the MSFA. But, I don't have the answer from the military yet. The President was kind enough to invite to join them when they met with General Adkins last week and that was a major topic at the meeting and he pledged his cooperation and Katherine told me she was optimistic the new Chief of Staff who told me his name but I forget. He told General Hinges place, he was very supportive also so I think we are going to get there but not just yet. I am very confident when we reach the next Executive Committee meeting, we will have already passed all that and have the guidelines out for review.

VCAF – Let me say first that I recognize and acknowledge that for the last three years, pretty much, it has been extremely difficult for borrowing companies, who wanted to borrow, to get their money. As a matter of fact, at least three companies withdrew their applications because they could not wait any longer. Let me synopsise what has happened.

In essence, there is a new sheriff in town. When the military took over, the operations of our funds from MEMA, their position was – "we are going to follow the law." The law says a, b & c. and whenever we have any question about the law, we are going to go to the safe officers, which is the Attorney General's Office and we are going to get their opinions. As a result of that, which we can't

quarrel with that – we have gotten away with murder, and that is candid, for twenty or thirty years since the Emergency Assistance Trust Fund began. For the real test interval was from 2001 when the new interest fund was created until 2005 when MEMA took over the funding and actually 2007 when the military took over the funding. In those 6 or 7 years, we handled everything – and when I tell you that, the state and the MSFA were protected. Equally as candidly, I must tell you that the process was very much the way we wanted it to be without regard for how other people do a similar process.

When the military took over, they said we are going to do this the way we do all other state loans because it is still state money. It is not MSFA money – the statute says very clearly – the funds will be retained by the Treasurer and managed by the Comptroller. So what we are doing now, the settlements – more documents requested and it takes longer to get there but what we are doing now is what EVERY OTHER borrower from the state does and has done LONG before we started having to do it. The truth is it is more burdensome and more troublesome but it is not outrageous. It is consistent with what every borrower does for every lender in every other environment that I know of except maybe the underground environment and the mafia does not have all these papers but everybody else pretty much does and now we do. It's all getting in the right frame of mine. If our companies will realize that they need to be responsive to the lists that are sent out, and the first one is sent as soon as Mike Farlow (our attorney) knows that the Board of Public Works has approved the loan – which I let me know about because I attend those meetings. He sends out the first letter which has the list of almost everything that is going to be needed. When I say almost, that because when the AG's office reviews what comes in, based on those documents, there are sometimes further questions and they ask for further documentation. The bottom line is there is plenty of 2% money available. The only one issues left with VCAF with one company that there was some late payments made and the treatment of those late payments for the final approval. Everything else has been resolved and I fully expect a favorable resolution as well.

**Mike Farlow and Lee** are very willing to help any company who would like some assistance filling in the blanks on the forms. If we need other resources, between Mike and me, we know where to go to get the other resources.

**Question from Wylie Donaldson:** The application packet is now updated and when a company comes in for a loan.

**Lee** stated the application packet is being updated but it does need some changes. It has to do with the company getting some documents up-front – even before the application process is underway. We have two companies who are in the process – we are back in business.

**Question from Wylie Donaldson:** Does VCAF have a schedule of their meetings?

**Lee:** They schedule the next meeting at the end of the current meeting. It is always scheduled to be two weeks prior to the MSFA Executive meeting.

**Dan Stevens, Chair:** The Amoss Fund is probably the reason our Treasurer quit last year. The paper work is tremendous – she is sitting right there if you have any questions. Our current Treasurer will probably be a one term because of how burdensome the Amos Fund is.

We appreciate what you are doing Lee. Any other comments or questions?

**Ben Kurtz** – Lee you can assure me now – I know back in '08 we were the guinea pigs – cause you and Mike told me, we were basically the first company – and that was a nightmare. It got to be where we were applying for \$475,000.00 and they can obviously see through our audits and our 9-

90's they type of assets our company had. The requests they had were outrageous. Further discussion followed.

**Lee** stated that the problems Jarrettsville had was because they were the first to go through the process since lending resumed and was a trial and error in getting to the new process properly.

**Office of the Parliamentarian:** Richard Brooks stated they are there if needed.

**Office of the Attorney: Mike Farlow** – Let me start with the loans. We do have three loans which are getting very close – Ellicott City has provided all of the initial paperwork that he has asked for now the Dept. of Military has asked for additional information and he is waiting to get that back from Ellicott City. As soon as he gets that back, he is hopeful they will be able to go to settlement.

Joppa has given him the initial packet and he is waiting on one more thing for them before he sends it off to the Department of Military. But it looks like that will get done in short order.

Parsonsburg we were waiting for the certificate of occupancy to settle their loan. They just dedicated their new building, so I anticipate, if Steve White does not call me by the beginning of the week, I will be calling him to see here we are in that process. Should be going in relatively short order as well. I won't be here tomorrow.

The other thing, please use the following email address and phone number to get in touch with me.

[Michael.Farlow@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.Farlow@gmail.com) and 410-726-3458. He has one old email account that he has NOT regularly checked and every once in a while and that can significantly delay my response time getting back to you. So please use the above email and phone number. Since his boss lost the election by 100 votes, he is not sure where he will be working – SO PLEASE USE THAT email address and phone number. Any questions?

**Chair Stevens** asked that he not leave today until he meets with him on their company's loan.

**Steve Edwards with the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute.** Good morning, I have a bit of a cold so you may have trouble hearing me. I can only hear from my left ear, so I'll only be taking questions from the left side of the room.

Many of you may know Dr. Wallace Lou is the new President of the University at College Park. He has not met him yet but he will be at MFRI on Monday at 10 a.m. to meet with the faculty and staff there. We will start a relationship with him and hopefully it will be as good as the one we had with Dr. Kirwan and Dr. Mote – I anticipate it will be. I will at sometime set up an appointment with Dr. Lou and the MSFA Presidents and maybe some other people. We have done that in the past and it has worked out well for all parties involved

There has been a fairly significant change in the Hazardous Materials Training in course structure due to changes in NFPA 472 standard. Previously HazMat Ops was a 24-hour course and could be taught either on-line or in the classroom with a final exam and a little bit of practical work using the ERG manual.

The new standard requires two additional requirements. One is the Mission-Specific Competencies of Product Control and the other is Personal Protective Clothing. What that is going to mean is that in the future, there will be a six hour practical component included in Hazardous Materials Operations

which includes SCBA to complete the course. So they will have to have either Protective Envelope and Foam (PEAF) or Pre-Emergency Response Training (PERT) or Firefighter I in order to complete the Hazardous Materials Course. The good news is we were able to keep the class to 24 hours

This does affect their on-line course. Previously we have had HazMat Operations on-line and it could be completed entirely on-line and it was working very well. Now it is going to have to be a blended opportunity, learning opportunity where they will complete the cognitive portion online but they will have to come to class for six hours of practical and examination. Total hours have not increased just a different way we have to approach that. And again, it is not our decision it is what we have to do to be compliant with NFPA 472 Standard. We have delayed this as long as we could, so this will be effect from this day (November 13, 2010) forth.

Medical Clearance for MFRI Classes: Let me give you three examples which have occurred in the month of October, 2010 in MFRI Classes.

1. A student was participating in a Firefighter I class doing a ladder drill complain of pain and numbness in his/ her arm. When questioned by the instructor, the states that he/she is scheduled to have a pacemaker implanted in the near future.
2. The student was transported from class and was diagnosed as a problem in the left ventricle of the heart. Has been treated in the past is undiagnosed at this time.
3. A student in EMT class passes out during class. Transported from the class to hospital and was diagnosed with congenital heart condition.

That's one month. What I am proposing or talk about is a way of having some level of medical clearance in order to participate in some MFRI classes. If you look at fire training, 11% of the firefighter fatalities each year occur in training. It is the only category where firefighter fatalities have increased over the last 15 years. All the good work done by the National Fall Firefighters and all the groups in safety and everything else has reduced structural fire, reduced vehicle accidents, reduce heart attacks and strokes. The only thing that is still increasing is heart attacks and strokes. What occurs in training is the first time the person is subjected to the stress and strain you normally encounter in firefighting activity.

If you look at the NFPA stats for 2009 and you look at heart attacks and strokes as far as injuries and the injuries are higher because they are all not fatal. 1.2% heart attack and strokes occur on the fire ground doing firefighting activities. 1.6% of heart attacks and strokes occur during training which is actually 25% more than the actual firefighting activity.

He would love for everyone to take the NFPA 1582 compliant physical but that is just not possible because of the cost. In light of all this information MFRI is considering requiring medical clearance before a firefighter can engage in stressful activities such as Firefighter I and II, Rescue Tech, Swift-Water Rescue and possibly a few other courses. It would consist of an approval of a medical facility or physician of a minimum level of medical health/fitness, much like anyone has t do to engage in sports activities. This is seen as a low cost option that does allow for a minimum level of medical clearance. Cost could be a problem. They are looking into a several avenues to keep costs down. They welcome comments from in the interest of improving firefighting health and safety.

Director Edwards was asked what the requirements for instructors. If they are under age 40 a medical physical every 3 years and 40 to 50 every two years and over age 50 yearly. Cost to MFRI is almost nothing because they will accept the fire company physical or the instructors go to their own physician and as a last resort MFRI will send them to the University Health Service for a physical.

There was more discussion that followed. Several expressed their concerns including that Diabetes should be considered as well. Director Edwards wanted to clarify that this is only for personnel taking fire/rescue/EMS classes. Any constructive suggestions are welcome.

Chair Dan Stevens stated he works Safety at the Southern Maryland Training Center, particularly with the Cadet Program during the day. It has now happened to him twice, that one of the students can you hold this while I go in the burn building and it is an inhaler. He asked if the instructor knew they have asthma. The reply is no. Further discussion continued on this subject.

North East Regional Training Center – The good news there is the center is actively under construction. He was on site two weeks ago and there must have been 80 to 100 workers there. The base layout is complete, the buildings walls and roof is going up on the structural burn building. The classroom and administration building and training pads and is going well as far as construction. They expect to be open by May or June 2011. Only issue they are having is with Aberdeen Proving Grounds – they signed a written agreement with us two years ago that they agreed to contribute \$750,000 for the utilities to this site. They had utilities to our current site, we moved sites at their request and they agree to bring utilities to the current site. Now, for some reason, the Department of Defense Budget they cannot find \$750,000 to bring them to the site. We are continuing to work that but they are at a point it is critical. I don't expect to have a training center with 6 port-a-potties outside. He made need some help from the Presidents and the Executive Committee with regard to this in the near future. Not there yet and just wanted to make everyone aware of the issues that they have been working on for several months and they do not have it resolved. Aberdeen has been very good in the past and he thinks it will come to resolution.

The High School Cadet Program. Thanks to the Executive Committee Chair Dan Stevens, MFRI and the MSFA and others have met with the State Board of Higher Education regarding the High School Cadet Program, we are attempting to have at the State level is to have some type of articulation agreement between the State Board and MFRI that would set the broad parameters for High School Cadet Programs that each county would be able to operate within. Discussion followed. For further details refer to his report.

American Council of Education (ACE) Review. There is a list of classes that were reviewed for college credit. The only issue with them and us is that we previously entered into an agreement with the American Council of Education that MFRI courses would be reviewed every five years for equivalent college credit. The reason being our courses are aligned with NFPA Professional Qualification Standards. The Standards change every five years and our courses change every five years. They now have said we have to be on a three year cycle, so I am not really interested in paying the American Council of Education to come in at a three year point and look at the exact same course, the exact same material, and the exact same examinations and charge us \$20,000 for review of the session. We are good for the next three years so it is not an issue now but in the future it very well could be.

**Comment from the Chair Stevens** on the high school cadet program. It has been extremely productive, very positive. There has been give and take on both sides and some of the same people that Bobby and I worked with 10 years ago to get it as a complete program. The State is more involved than a lot of people think.



Comments from Mark Bilger – He wanted to comment that when he started back to school at the community college, the ACE credit saved him a lot of money. It is something that we need to promote more and more. We have issues with tuition reimbursement but this program can save a parent or student by taking the courses at MFRI and the National Fire Academy. We need to get the word out that these classes can save them a lot of money.

**Executive Director of MIEMSS – Dr. Bass.** Good morning, it is a beautiful day. My pleasure to be here and got some great news off the top. Hope electronic report was received ok. If you have any problems let us know.

***MED-EVAC Helicopter Replacement*** Begins, On October 19, 2010, the Board of Public Works approved a contract to begin replacing Maryland's aging med-evac helicopter fleet. A contract for \$72.2 million was awarded to Agusta Aerospace Corporation for six new A W 139 helicopters. The new helicopters contain the latest in avionics and equipment, including terrain awareness warning systems, night vision compatibility, cockpit voice and video recorders, radar altimeters, and advanced instrument flight rating capabilities, all recommended by the Federal Aviation Administration. The new helicopters also provide more space in the patient and cargo areas, enabling medics to have better access to patients and to carry rescue equipment on board all the time. The first two new aircraft are expected to be delivered in about 18 months. All six are expected to be in operation in less than two years. The new aircraft will replace the oldest of the current Maryland State Police. Eight of the 11 helicopters currently in use are more than 20 years old. There were a number of agencies and groups involved in all this that we need to thank. MSFA is certainly one of them.

***New "Move Over" Law Effective October 1, 2010.*** Maryland motorists need to be aware of a new traffic law that took effect October 1<sup>st</sup> requiring drivers to 'move over,' if possible, and is aimed at increasing safety for police, fire, and emergency medical services personnel working on Maryland roads. The new law requires drivers approaching from the rear. An emergency vehicle using visual signals while stopped on a highway to, if possible, 'make a lane change into an available lane not immediately adjacent to the emergency vehicle.' This movement should only be done if another lane in the same direction is available and the move can be made safely and without impeding other traffic. If moving to another lane away from the stopped emergency vehicle is not possible, the law requires drivers to 'slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for existing weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions. The intent of the 'move over" law is to provide an extra barrier of safety for police officers, fire fighters, and emergency rescue personnel.

Under Maryland Vehicle Law, emergency vehicles are defined as:

- Vehicles of federal, state, or local law enforcement agencies;
- Vehicles of volunteer fire companies, rescue squads, fire departments, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute;
- State vehicles used in response to oil or hazardous materials spills;
- State vehicles designated for emergency use by the Commissioner of Correction;
- Ambulances; and
- Special vehicles funded or provided by federal, state, or local government and used for emergency or rescue purposes in Maryland.

Violation of the "move over" law is a primary offense with a fine of \$110 and one point. If the violation contributes to a traffic crash, the fine is \$150 and three points. If the violation contributes to a traffic crash resulting in death or serious injury, the fine is \$750 and three points.

**New Law Regarding Use of Hand-held Cell Phones.** On October 1, 2010, a Maryland law took effect that prohibits drivers in Maryland from using hand-held cell phones while operating a motor vehicle on a street or highway. Drivers in Maryland may use hands-free devices to access wireless telephone service.

According to the new law, a driver may use a hand-held phone to:

- Make phone calls to 9-1-1 (public safety communications system), a hospital, an ambulance service, fire department, law enforcement agency, or first-aid squad
- Turn a hand-held phone on or off and to initiate or terminate a call
- Conduct official business if he/she is emergency or law enforcement personnel

*What does compliance mean/or EMS personnel?*

*(Note: The following information is informal legal information and not the official opinion of the Maryland Attorney General.)*

The new law allows "emergency personnel" to use a handheld device "when acting within the scope of official duty." This statute has been in effect only a few weeks and will need judicial interpretation in some areas.

The plain meaning of the statute suggests that "emergency personnel," who are not defined, probably include:

- A career firefighter of a county or municipal corporation;
- An emergency medical services provider of a county or municipal corporation *[as defined in § 13-516 of the Education Article]* and probably a commercial services provider;
- A rescue squad employee of a county or municipal corporation; and
- A volunteer firefighter, rescue squad member or advanced life support unit member of a county or municipal corporation. *[Note: This is the definition of "Emergency Services Personnel" in Courts and Judicial Proceedings. Section 2-608. Maryland Code.]*
- Emergency personnel probably should also include hazmat personnel in the course of responding to and working at a hazardous materials spill.
  - "When acting within the scope of official duty" (which is also not defined) probably means when acting within the scope of emergency services employment.

So if your phone call is part of your EMS duties, use of a handheld cell phone should be allowed. If it is a personal call while on duty it may not be allowed. If you are off duty, it is safe to assume it will not be allowed.

Remember that it is important for pre-hospital EMS providers to set an example for the public in matters of safety. They may be exempt but, like everyone they need to be careful and only use handheld devices when absolutely necessary in the course of their duties-and even then, with a great deal of caution and as a last resort. Please let someone handle the communications while on a call, rather than the driver.

**Reminder: Get Flu Shot.** Maryland is moving into flu season, but unlike last year, when the H1N1 flu pandemic triggered a scramble for vaccine, public health officials say there is plenty to go around. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the first time has recommended that everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccination. The 2010-2011 flu vaccine will protect against three flu viruses, including the H1N1 virus.

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene reported its first lab-confirmed flu case of this season on October 13, 2010. The best way to protect everyone is for everyone to get a flu shot. MIEMSS recommends that all emergency services providers get a flu shot. The vaccine is widely available at doctors' offices, retail outlets, and public clinics.

**Maryland's new ePCR System.** MIEMSS has secured the services of ImageTrend, Inc. to provide the new electronic Patient Care Reporting (ePCR) system. The ePCR Project Team has been working diligently on the reporting requirements and will be initiating a pilot of the ePCR system in three jurisdictions starting in November, 2010. The ePCR Project Team worked with both internal and external EMS stakeholders on this project. Presentations have included an overview of the application's capabilities, a review of the data elements to be collected, the user interface and workflow, a review of the changes to the data reporting requirements in COMAR, a discussion of computer-aided dispatch (CAD) to ePCR connectivity and the patient billing interface, and a general question and answer session. Input from these providers has been compiled and incorporated into the final pilot product. The ePCR will include the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) data requirements and the additional Maryland data required by MIEMSS.

The ePCR has been given a Maryland specific name. It will be known as the **electronic Maryland EMS Data System (eMEDS)**. The eMEDS implementation is moving along as planned, and support from the EMS community continues to play an important part of the implementation effort.

**Maryland Cardiac Arrest Surveillance System (MCASS).** Since 2001 many of our Maryland Emergency Medical Services Operational Programs (EMSOPs) have been helping our system in identifying the key features of cardiac arrest incidents. In part, this has been accomplished through the supplemental case reporting to the Maryland Cardiac Arrest Surveillance System (MCASS). In that time over 21,000 incidents have been submitted for entry into the database which has assisted the EMS system in measuring the effectiveness of cardiac patient management; report on the little known aspect of pediatric cardiac arrest; and inform the Maryland State Legislature of the most beneficial placement of public access AEDs.

With the implementation of eMEDS, the new electronic patient care record system, we will no longer need the supplemental form submission. All data elements will be collected through direct entry in eMEDS or record transfer from EMSOP host systems via the pending NEMSIS-MIEMSS XML/XSD. Therefore, as of November 1, 2010 all programs can cease submission of the cardiac arrest form.

**Ambulance Safety Taskforce.** MIEMSS has brought together leadership from across the EMS and Fire communities to form an Ambulance Safety Taskforce. The group was charged with considering ambulance safety factors across four domains human, operational, vehicle, and environmental

factors. It is hopeful that a consensus driven white paper will be developed that will include key recommendations for improving ambulance safety across the State. As the work evolves, the Taskforce has plans to convene a Statewide Ambulance Safety Symposium in early to mid 2011. **MIEMSS Grant Opportunities.** Currently MIEMSS makes available to the EMS Community opportunities for funding equipment, training and EMS-related programs. These grants are both "pass-through" as well as direct. All grant requests should be made through the MIEMSS' Regional Councils.

#### Current Grant Opportunities

##### *MIEMSS / Radio Grant Program (Federal Funds)*

MIEMSS will reimburse a county and/or volunteer company in the county, up to a specified amount for the purchase and installation of new narrowband mobile radios that meet the MIEMSS specifications. There is no matching requirement. The Radio Grant Program will continue through FY11. Jurisdictions should contact with their Regional Administrator for more information on how to participate in the Radio Grant Program.

##### *MIEMSS / Matching & Hardship Grants for AEDs, Monitor Defibrillators and Upgrades (Special Funds)*

These direct grants are 50% matching funds, or in some cases 100% hardship funds. They are awarded annually, based on the State's fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). Contact your Regional Office for applications.

##### *MIEMSS / Maryland Highway Safety Office (AIHSO) Grants (Federal Funds)* These pass-through awards fund selected initiatives for the betterment of EMS within the state.

They require a match and are based on the federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30). The current MHSO Grant is targeting CAD connectivity in support of the State's electronic Maryland EMS Data System (eMEDS) project. Contact your Regional Office for expressions of interest (EOIs)

##### *MIEMSS / Maryland Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program (Federal Funds)*

These pass-through awards fund Bioterrorism Preparedness for EMS. Eligibility is based on project compliance with guidance criteria. These grants are for 100% funding and are based on the federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30). Contact your Regional Office for expressions of interest (EOIs).

##### *MIEMSS EMD and ALS Funding (Special Funds)*

These educational grants are for Emergency Medical Dispatch training and Advance Life Support training. These grants are 100% funded and are based on the State's fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). Please contact Education, Licensure and Certification for applications and additional information.

**HC Standard.** HC Standard 3 is currently in operation. Version 3 of the program continues to host a more robust CHATS (County Hospital Alert Tracking System) with alert definitions displayed for the public and includes FRED (Facility Resource Emergency Database), CHRS (County Hospital Request System), and the PTS (Patient Tracking System). HC FRED is operational and in use throughout the state. It is receiving positive feedback, with many facilities expressing an interest in future enhancements to this system. The CHRS application is being used by hospitals, EMS Operations Programs and EMRC to electronically request diversion status changes. EMRC has been fully moved to the HC3 EMRC application. The Patient Tracking System (PTS) was successfully utilized during the Western Maryland Health System hospital move, Andrews Air Force Base Haiti Repatriation, Baltimore NDMS FCC Tabletop Exercise, and Tennessee NDMS Patient Reception Exercise. The program provides real time situational updates as patients were scanned, triaged, and

transported from one site to another. The application provided maps showing where patients were in real time, as well as what facilities they went to, who they were transported by, interventions that were performed, and demographic information. Planning is underway to create a dashboard to incorporate additional programs including the Maryland Health Alert Network, ESSENCE, and WebEOC. MIEMSS has conducted two administrator training courses, seven in-person user training courses, and six online user training courses. MIEMSS continues to provide support and assistance to facilities as they come online to the new HC Standard 3. MIEMSS is in the process of explaining current PTS capabilities within the state to allow for more units to be utilized in the field. Many jurisdictions are planning to purchase PTS handheld units using this year's Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) funds.

**2010 Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP).** The 2010 Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP) Manual, which includes the new inspection guidelines, is now available on the MIEMSS website. The 2010 inspection guidelines, which are reviewed every two years, reflect the recommendations of the VAIP consensus workgroup, which met throughout 2009, and the MIEMSS Regional Medical Directors. Changes in the updated manual primarily involve changes to BLS and ALS supplies and equipment reflected in revisions to the Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers.

An ambulance inspection involves verification of supply and equipment inventories necessary to adequately care for patients in the pre-hospital setting. Suction and oxygen delivery equipment, both portable and on-board systems, are tested to ensure their proper and safe operation. In addition, the Maryland EMS communications equipment is tested for proper operation. MIEMSS Regional Administrators can answer questions regarding the program, assist with pre-inspection checks of your oxygen and suction equipment, and schedule an inspection for your vehicles. A request for an inspection must be submitted in writing along with a completed application, to your MIEMSS Regional Office.

**CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control Issues "Teachable Moment".** In early November, the CDC monitored news reports that federal law enforcement authorities had arrested a Northern Virginia man, in connection with an alleged plot to carry out terrorist bombings at stations in the Washington Metro system. The CDC believes this is an important "teachable moment." The CDC Division of Injury Response has responded to civilian terrorist bombings throughout the world by providing "just in time" information on assessment and treatment of bombing victims.

While "just in time" clinical information may help, being familiar with the clinical and health system issues in advance of an actual civilian terrorist bombing will improve our ability to decrease morbidity and mortality. Additionally, through improved preparedness, we build greater resilience to these threats.

The civilian terrorist bombing preparedness and response materials have been prepared with broad input from clinicians at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), throughout our nation, and with international colleagues who have had real world experience in leading the clinical and system response to terrorist bombings. For further information civilian terrorist bombing preparedness and response, please visit <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masscasualties>.

**Glucometry for BLS Providers.** There have been cases of confusion regarding the use of glucometers by BLS providers. This information will clarify this optional supplemental program available to operational programs.

1. Most critical is the shortage in epinephrine 1: 10,000 (0.1 mg/ml). Epinephrine 1: 1000 (0.1mg/ml) can be used to prepare epinephrine 1: 10,000 (0.1 mg/ml) but must NEVER

The glucometer protocol on Pages 192-193 of the Maryland Medical Protocols lists the purpose. Indications and treatments available for hypo- and hyperglycemic patients. The treatments listed are for ALS providers, but blood glucose monitoring is still available to BLS providers; Page 144 registers the glucometer as an optional supplemental program for EMT -Bs. To participate in this option, an operational program must submit an application and be approved by the Office of the Medical Director. This includes a quality management plan which contains a plan for CLIA compliance for device testing and calibration based on manufacturer's recommendations. Please contact the Office of the Medical Director at 410-706-0880 with any comments or questions or to obtain an application.

BE ADMINISTERED IV UNDILUTED..

Supplies needed: epinephrine 1:1000, 1 ml syringe, 10 ml syringe, three-way stopcock

- Attach stopcock to 10 ml syringe and IV line
- Draw up 1 ml epinephrine 1:1000 in 1 ml syringe
- Attach 1 ml syringe to stopcock and draw into 10 ml syringe
- Occlude line between patient and stopcock
- Draw up 9 ml Lactated Ringer's Solution into 10 ml syringe
- Invert 10 ml syringe to mix
- Occlude line between stopcock and fluid bag
- Administer 1 mg epinephrine 1: 10,000 IVP

2. Prefilled syringes of dextrose 50% are also scarce.

3. Naloxone is available in vials and prefilled syringes.

- For formulations available in a vial, draw up 25ml with available syringes and administer as you would normally
- For formulations of dextrose 10% in a fluid bag, administer 250ml
- For formulations available in a vial, draw the appropriate dosage into a syringe and administer per protocol.
- Currently, 2 ml prefilled syringes of 1 mg/ml are available.

Please contact the Office of the Medical Director at (410) 706-0880 with any comments, questions, or suggestions.

**Comprehensive Stroke Center Regulations.** MIEMSS is working with the members of the stroke and other interested parties to draft regulations for the designation of comprehensive stroke centers to provide a level of care above the designated primary stroke centers. Designated comprehensive stroke centers will provide higher intensity medical/surgical care and testing not available at a primary

stroke center. The comprehensive stroke center will also serve as a stroke resource for the regions and the State.

**Infection Control Program Regulations.** The EMS Board has proposed regulations laying out the framework for the responsibilities of Infection Control Officers in EMS operational programs. These regulations were developed from the work of a joint MIEMSS/DHMH committee mandated by the legislature to look at the issue of bloodborne pathogen exposures among EMS providers and other health care providers. The legislature required MIEMSS and DHMH to develop regulations for the collection of data on such exposures. The committee ran a pilot project collecting the data and is now preparing to move forward with the program. The proposed regulations were published in the Maryland Register on April 9, 2010. For copies of the draft please contact: Sarah M. Sette, Assistant Attorney General at MIEMSS, (410)706-8514.

Others things covered in Dr. Bass's report were Pre-hospital Data Reporting, Education Standards Committee, CRT Program, NREMT for EMT, EMT Renewal Options, SEMSAC BLS Committee, MIEMSS Learning Management System (LMS), National EMS Education Standards and Instructor Guidelines Available, Pre-hospital ID Cards, Maryland EMS Providers, Regional Programs and Emergency Operations, Emergency Medical Services for Children Program (EMC), Public Access AED Program, Cardiac Centers, STMI Systems of Care in Maryland; Primary Stroke Centers, The Child Passenger Safety (CPS) and Occupant Protection Healthcare Project, Maryland Risk Watch Champion Team, the Safe Kids Maryland Coalition, Yellow Alert, EMD Online Stroke Course, and Pre-hospital Stroke Course Online. Dr. Bass also went over the 2010 EMS Continuing Education Programs and the 2011 EMS Educational Programs being offered.

**Questions? From Mark Bilger:** Dr. Bass I read on-line an article called the Chesapeake Regional Information System. Are you familiar with this? Apparently October of this year several hospitals went on line and they report all 48 Maryland hospitals are committed to the program. It is designed to provide patient information on-line - so if my family doctor in Carroll County and for whatever reason, I have to go to Baltimore, the doctors would have access to my information – called CRISP. It sounds like this would be very valuable if first responders could access. Is this something MIEMMS could look into and see if it would be possible for our first responders to access?

Dr. Bass would like a copy of this, he would look into it. There is a program that a number of them are looking at. Question from about Ben Kurtz about the use, or rather non-use by EMS responders of glucometer. When you personnel can administer all different types of treatment but cannot use a glucometer makes no sense. He thought we had this corrected years ago.

Dr. Bass said that using a glucometer is looked at as performing a lab test. Discussion followed.

### **Report of the State Fire Marshal – William E. Barnard, CFPS**

Good morning. Mr. Chairman, members of the *Executive Committee*, President Cox. Vice Presidents Lewis and Denver. Members the Maryland State Firemen's Association and guests, it is an honor and privilege to present you with a brief update on events and activities of the State Marshal (OSFM) the last of the Association's Executive Committee.

I have a member of the State Fire Prevention Commission, Richard Yinger with me – he's my protection.

- **OSFM Staffing:** -Currently the Office of the State Fire Marshal has five full-time vacant positions, four Deputy State Fire Marshals (DSFM) positions and one Protection (FPE) position. Effective September 8, 2010. FPE Larry Iseminger was promoted to Fire Protection Engineer. A hiring freeze exemption was approved to fill Larry's vacated FPE position.
- **Fire Deaths - Update:** - as of November 4, 2010 the death total stands at 50. This compares favorably with a total of 65 deaths during the same time period in 2009, a decrease of 23%.

2010 Fire Deaths by jurisdiction are as follows:

Anne Arundel County – 4  
 Baltimore City - 12  
 Baltimore County – 9  
 Calvert County – 2  
 Cecil County – 3  
 Charles County – 1  
 Frederick County - 1  
 Garrett County - 1  
 Harford County – 3  
 Howard County – 1  
 Kent County – 2  
 Montgomery County – 1  
 Prince George's County – 7  
 St. Mary's County - 1  
 Somerset County – 1  
 Talbot County - 1

**Deputy State Fire Marshal Eligibility List:** - List: During the last of September the OSFM conducted mandatory orientation sessions for those individuals interested in the position of Deputy State Fire Marshal. One hundred and thirty went out to invite applicants to the functional fitness test which is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2010. Those individuals that pass will be invited to take the written examination which will be administered on Wednesday, December 8, 2010.

**Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference:** The 2010 Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference was held on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, at the John Hopkins APL, Kossiakoff Conference Center, in Laurel, Maryland. Ms. Gina M. Russo, Survivor of the "The Station" Nightclub in West Warwick, Rhode Island, was the keynote speaker for the event. Her personal story and survival of this tragic event brought the audience of 220 attendees to complete silence. The event was a great success and feedback regarding the conference and workshops was positive. Firefighter Kevin D. Williams of the Baltimore City Fire Department was recognized as the public Safety Educator of the Year.

**Fire Prevention Week:** - Governor Martin O'Malley proclaimed October 3-9, 2010, as Fire Prevention Week in Maryland. This year's theme "Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live w

**MFIRS:** - Several fire departments and/or counties are not submitting MFIRS reports to the OSFM in a timely manner. MFIRS reports each month should be forwarded to the OSFM by the tenth of the following month. Please continue to remind all fire departments of the importance of submitting accurate and timely MFIRS reports to the OSFM.

with." The OSFM issued a New Release on the topic and assisted other jurisdictions with their events. On Saturday, October 9, 2010, the OSFM assisted the Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department in Calvert County with a side-by-side burn demonstration. Two identical rooms were constructed with similar furnishings and smoke alarms. The only difference was that one room was equipped with a residential sprinkler head. This presentation was conducted as a part of Fire Prevention Week to



provide convincing evidence and show the importance of residential fire sprinklers in the home. The demonstration was successful and very well received by the public.

**Residential Fire Sprinkler Update:** - On September 21, 2010, the State Fire Marshal testified before the Worcester County Council concerning the proposed adoption of the 2009 edition of the International Residential Code (*IRC*) *requiring* residential fire sprinklers in all newly constructed one and two family dwellings. On Tuesday, October 26, 2010, the OSFM Chief Fire Protection Engineer and Acting Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal testified at a public hearing in Kent County regarding the proposed adoption of the 2009 IRC. Kent County is expected to make a final decision on November 16, 2010. Various jurisdictions including the Town of Ocean City, St. Mary's County and the City of Cumberland held public hearing on November 9, 2010.

**News Release:** - On Wednesday, October 13, 2010, the OSFM issued a News Release titled "Portable Space Heater Safety – Safety Tips to Live By." Tips to Live By: with cooler weather approaching the State Fire Marshal reminds Marylanders of the risks associated with the use of portable space heaters. According to the National Fire Protection Association, in 2007, U.S. fire departments responded to 66,400 home fires involving heating equipment. These fires resulted in 580 fire related deaths, 1,850 fire related injuries and an estimated \$608 million in direct property damage. A list of safety tips was included on the News Release in order to reduce the chance for injury or death when using portable space heaters.

On Friday, October 2010, The Office the State Marshal issued a News Release on "Halloween Fire and Life Safety Tips." The information encourages Marylander's to plan ahead in order to make this Halloween a fire safe holiday. Suggestions provided: Making sure fabrics for costumes and decorative materials are flame-resistant, flashlights or glow sticks as alternatives to candles when decorating walkways and yards, and instructing children how to stop, drop and roll in the event their clothing catches on fire.

On Thursday, November 4, 2010, The Office the State Fire Marshal issued a News Release on "Change Your Clock Change Your Battery" in anticipation of daylight savings time ended in the morning hours of November 7, 2010. Citizens were asked to change their batteries in smoke alarms and CO detectors, along with developing and practicing their home escape plans in order to best protect themselves. The OSFM would like to thank the Maryland Department of Transportation and the State Highway Administration for helping to spread the word about life saving reminder through the use of their boards over the weekend.

**Delmarva Power Annual Smoke Alarm Donation:** -This year, Delmarva Power's Emergency Services Partnership Program donated 2,000 regular alarms and 70 special needs alarms for the deaf and hard hearing to Maryland fire safety officials. This is the tenth year of the program and a presentation was made on October 14, 2010 at the Salisbury Headquarters Fire Station. Numerous organizations supported this event including the Maryland State Firemen's Association, the Fire and Burn Safety Coalition of Maryland, the State Prevention Commission, the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association, Salisbury Fire Department and Office of the State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal thanked Delmarva Power for their continued support and partnership in contributing these valuable life-saving devices to the individuals and communities that they serve.

**NFPA Conference:** -The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) hosted an event in Boston, Massachusetts on October 25 & 26, 2010: *Faces of Fire - NFPA Sprinkler Initiatives*. The OSFM's Director Public Education and Media and the Director of Maryland Code Administration attended the training. NFPA provided the training at no cost to the agencies. Valuable information was shared including a report which identified various incentives to expand the installation of fire sprinkler

systems into homes. A new website sponsored by the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition was announced to assist jurisdictions and builders with information regarding residential fire sprinklers.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the ***Maryland State Firemen's Association Executive Committee***, this completes my report to you today. As always, it is our pleasure to provide you with this updated information. Thank you for your dedication and hard work in making Maryland a better place to live.

Would like all departments to complete the survey 20/20. It takes just a few minutes and he would appreciate all departments to participate.

### **Fire Prevention Commission – Richard Yinger**

The Commission is going to meet on Thursday, December the 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department. He does not have an agenda at this time.

### **Shock Trauma – Brenda Fosler Johnson**

Good morning. The report was submitted electronically. She is going to go over a couple of those slides.

We are approximately 85 patients ahead of this time last year and on the next slide you will be we are about 208 more than we budgeted for. Bed occupancy is still very high and that is why we are looking forward to the new space in the tower building being built.

We are 103 cases more this year than last. Fortunately we have been able to keep our doors open and have not to transfer any patients.

On Educational Mission: Pre-hospital Education Activity for FY2011, during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter we had 6 groups of tours; Evening education program that started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter; ALS Airway Course has had 1 session with 16 providers; Observation program, TRU had 23 EMS providers and CCU had 20 EMS providers; and On-Site Clinical Programs offered 7 programs at firehouses, training academies and EMS Conferences

We are very pleased that our Evening Education Broadcast locations over the entire state/each region for online education.

They are partnering with MIEMSS for two evening classes and hopefully will have more in the future.

This concludes their report and questions.

None.

Chairman Stevens would like to thank everyone who came down to Alicia Olsen's funeral. It meant a lot to Bill and there was a good turnout by members of the MSFA

### **Maryland State Police Aviation Command – Capt. Mark E. Gibbons**

On behalf of Colonel Terrence B. Sheridan and the members of the Maryland State Police please accept our sincere appreciation for the support the Maryland State Firemen's Association has provided our agency. The long awaited approval to purchase new State Police helicopters would not have occurred without strong MSFA leadership and support.

The following updates are provided to the Executive Committee on activities within the Aviation Command.

New Helicopter's: On October 20, 2010 the Board of Public Works unanimously approved the initial purchase of six (6) Agusta Westland AW-139's. Following the approval, Governor Martin O'Malley held a press conference to affirm commitment to Maryland's world renowned EMS system. [www.governor.maryland.gov/pressreleases/1020.asp](http://www.governor.maryland.gov/pressreleases/1020.asp)

The Maryland Department of Transportation led the procurement with the assistance of a diverse technical team comprised of subject matter experts to include Mr. Danny Davis, MSFA. The AW139 Helicopter meets **all** of the State's requirements contained within the **RFP**.

The AW139 provides the following:

- The utilitarian nature of the AW139 Helicopter makes it an ideal platform to perform the Multi-Mission requirements of the MSPAC
- The AW139 can readily accommodate mission expansion and growth should that be required over the next 20 years
- The increased speed and overall capabilities of the Helicopter will allow for a faster response time to and from an accident or incident scenes.

#### Contract Summary

- Six (6) Helicopters will be purchased initially at a price of \$11,741,545
- Training for sixty (60) pilots, twenty-eight (28) maintenance technicians and four (4) avionics technicians at no extra cost.
- Special tools required to maintain the new helicopters (5373,465)
- The State will have the option to purchase up to six (6) additional Helicopters between July 1, 2011 and July 31, 2013 at the original price of 511,741,545 each, with a price adjustment based on CPI NTE 3%.
- Medical Interior training device (\$1,341,587)
  - Key safety and maintenance enhancements:
    - Meets or Exceeds 2010 NTSB/FAA. Equipment recommendations
    - Meets or exceeds FAA Crash worthiness Specifications
    - HUMS – measures key component usage and vibration
    - Glass Cockpit – Honeywell Primus (2 5x7 LED displays
    - Four Axis Auto Pilot – Hover and Search Grids “hands-off”
    - Upgraded Camera/FLIR – Westcam 15i
    - Upgraded Street Level Mapping System – EuroNav
    - Camera Operator Console in HAS
    - Night Vision Compatible Cockpit and Exterior Lighting
    - Cockpit Lipstick Video Cameras/Recording – Cockpit/Hoist
    - IR Capable Searchlight – Spectro Lab SX-16
    - Upgraded Flight Following System – Satellite Capable
  - Operational Considerations
    - Remote Landing Zone size will remain 100 X 100.
    - Training of field providers will begin prior to the AW-139's arrival.
    - All Trauma Centers in Maryland can accommodate the AW-139.

- Net Steps:
  - Production team will work with Agusta Westland to discuss process, schedule and approval points at critical stages of manufacture. (meeting 11/17/1)
  - Finalize the Basing Assessment Study with recommendations to the House EMS Workgroup. (December 2010)
  - Begin analysis of the best approach to maintain the new fleet and make a recommendation to the House EMS Workgroup. (February 2011)
  - Award contract to consultants for FAA Part 135 transition (January 2011)
  - Work with the House EMS Workgroup to support our funding request for the balance of the fleet.
  - Work with legislature to identify funding to comply with recommendations from the 2009 House EMS Work Group  
[www.mlis.state.md.us/2009rs/misc/EMSWorkgroupReport.pdf](http://www.mlis.state.md.us/2009rs/misc/EMSWorkgroupReport.pdf)
    - CAMTS Accreditation requiring second medical provider
    - Co-Pilots
  - Work with Agusta Westland on the best approach for developing a recurrent training program for pilots.
- MIEMSS and MSPAC continue to work on protocol for Pre-Arrival Dispatch of aircraft.
- Southern MD hangar has officially moved into a newly constructed (leased) hangar.
- Landing Zone Safety: Thanks to the assistance of Executive Committee member, Deputy Chief Fire Marshal Mark Bilger for assisting with distribution of Landing Zone DVD's.
- Polar Bear Plunge January 29, 2011

Bill Bernard was instrumental in developing the helicopter and very anxious to pilot. He went over the above information. Will be able to take 2 patients and 4 providers. He shared additional information on the new helicopters. He thanked Danny Davis for his input. He went on to explain many of the things involved in this project and the training they would receive. Because of the business done in Maryland and the ties the company had in Maryland any major repairs can be made in Hagerstown and Philadelphia sites of this company.

Captain Gibbons went over some of the general information, as well as some protocols. Again, thanks to Danny Davis for all his time put into this project – we greatly appreciate his time that it took for this project. Last, but not least, don't forget the Polar Bear Plunge – there are three of them throughout the state.

Are there any questions? None

Chair Stevens said that unfortunately he was unavailable for the plunge – any of them!

### **Maryland Department of Resources – Monty Mitchell**

Thank you Mr. Chair. Good morning to all and glad to be here. You should have my electronic report.

Wildfire activity saw a spike in September with the drought conditions that existed over much of the state. A tropical system brought much needed rainfall the end of September that eased the high fire indices. So far in 2010, the Forest Service has responded to 159 wildfires burning 1,482 acres. The four regions reported the following statistics as of the end of October:

<b>Region</b>	<b># of Fires</b>	<b>Acres Burned</b>
Western	50	124.9
Southern	26	32.5
Central	19	29.4
Eastern	64	1295.4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>1482.2</b>

The graph shown in the electronic report depicts the number of wildfire starts per month that the Forest Service responded to in 2010 (please see the electronic report to view the chart).

### **2010 Wildfire Starts**

January – 5	May 13	September 42
February – 0	June 15	October 10
March – 15	July 30	November 0
April – 21	August 8	December 0

### **Personnel/Budget**

The FY11 State Budget that began this past July included the elimination of 500+ state positions. The Department of Natural Resources was allocated a cut of 12 positions. This cut included one vacant Forest Ranger position in the Forest Service Southern Region.

The Forest Service was approved by DBM to fill two classified positions. One Forester position on Chesapeake Forest Lands in Worcester County was filled with conversion of Contractual employee to Classified. One Forester position in Southern Region was also authorized as a new hire. The candidate is expected to start November 22 and will work in the Charles/St. Mary's project.

Federal funds were also used to hire a Contractual Forester position through Maryland Environmental Service (MES) to work in the Southern Region in the Calvert/Prince George's/Anne Arundel project.

An exception to hire request was also approved by DBM for the vacant Contractual Firewise position using federal funds in the Eastern Region. The job announcement should appear shortly on the DNR website and applications will be accepted until sometime in December.

### **Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA)**

The 2010 Grant funds were awarded to 50 volunteer fire departments in 15 counties for \$104,615 in matching funds with a total project cost of \$226,774. Payment has been processed for six fire departments for \$10,034 as of the end of October. The remaining fire departments awarded grants will need to submit receipts and copies of checks for the items purchased per their application and a VFA invoice by November 30 to receive their grant reimbursement payment. Payments will be 50% of the receipts submitted up to the amount of the actual grant award.

## Training

The Fall Basic Wildland Fire Courses were held in October at Camp Greentop, Catoctin Mountain Park near Thurmont. The Class includes the NWCG training courses S-130 – Wildland Firefighter; S-190 – Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior; L-180 – Human Factors on the Fireline and I-100 – Introduction to ICS. The class included 38 students from DNR and the Fire Service.

The next Basic Wildland class will be in the spring of 2011. Information is also available on training on the website at: [www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/fire/wildfiretraining.asp](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/fire/wildfiretraining.asp)

## Firewise Maryland

Three additional Community Wildfire Protection plans (CWPP) have been completed for Potomac Valley Farms in Washington County, the Loch Glade Sanctuary in Garrett County, and the Wolfsville Fire Department in Garrett County. Four additional plans are currently in progress with Solomon's Fire Department, Waldorf Fire Department, Elk Neck State Forest and Camp Fretterd for the Maryland Army National Guard.

## FEPP

The FEPP program has recently been successful in property acquisition. Two dump trucks, two 25 ton tilt trailers, one utility trailer, and one semi-trailer tanker have been acquired for Forest Service use. Also acquired and now on loan to Fire Departments are 100 KW Generator at Lakes and Straits VFD in Dorchester, 100 KW Generator at Grasonville VFC in Queen Anne County, and a semi-trailer tanker for Lloyds VFC in Dorchester.

The Forest Service is also currently doing the required inventory certification of all FEPP property on loan to Fire Departments and will be inspecting each piece of equipment assigned.

Any questions? Thank you.

**Chairman Stevens:** The MEMA report will be tomorrow. We will move on to Constitution and By-Laws – are you ready?

Constitution and By-Laws Chair Dennis Skinner. I have submitted by report electronically, so you should have a copy. There are three items to cover.

First, the Committee did not meet as scheduled in October due to schedule conflicts. We will be meeting on Saturday, January 8, 2011 at North Beach Volunteer Fire Department starting at 10:00 a.m.

Secondly, the committee requests that any member company of the Association or group within the Association that is planning to submit an amendment to please submit them to the Association Secretary prior to January 1, 2011 so the committee can process them and present them to the Executive Committee at their February meeting.

Last, the Secretary transmitted electronically the three amendments currently under consideration for the June Convention and Conference. After the transmittal it was discovered that the wording regarding terms of the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund were incorrect if the amendment is passed. After a discussion with the Secretary and Presidents, I mailed a Certified Letter to Western

Enterprise Fire Company identifying the problem and suggesting a solution. If the company agrees, a revised amendment will be distributed electronically as well as by mail as the Constitution currently requires.

Any questions? None.

**Chair Stevens** asked Rusty Leftwich if he wants to do the Presidential Vehicle Report in the absence of the Chair of that Committee. We are a little out of order here.

**Rusty Leftwich:** Good morning. You do not have a copy of our report because the Chair and I both forgot it. We have made copies of flyers of the Presidents' car for sale. They are back with all the other hand outs and so forth. Everyone, please grab one and take it. We should do pretty good on that this year, mileage is lower and it is a new car and it is in good shape.

The replacement car that Steve Cox was talking about, he (Rusty) found it was dated 07/09 and was sent to Steve, the Presidents and Executive Committee. Please review it and make any changes and he will get the corrected version back to all before the next Executive Committee meeting in February. They were going to come today and present the cost for the car this year, however, the only cost we have is for the one we bought which was \$22,721.00. We hope to have the cost within the next few days and as soon as we get it, we will forward it to Dan and then you can do an email poll or whatever so we can move on. We know this is the last year for the Crown Vic and knowing Ford they may want to cut production early. So the sooner we can get it in, the better. Then they will sit down and review the three models for the next one and which will offer the best amenities for us. He has all the other forms, if you need anything else, let him know.

**Chair Stevens:** He will do an email poll when he get the cost from the Committee and forward that information. Any questions? None.

**Chair Stevens:** EMS Committee.

### **EMS Committee – Bill Dousa**

The Committee met on October 16, 2010 at 1 p.m. at the Kensington Volunteer Fire Company who he thanked for hosting the meeting and lunch.

Chair Dousa reported the safety subcommittee (no red lights and siren) has met several times and is moving forward. There is a presentation that is being worked on for the Ambulance Safety Committee later this month. A draft standard is being worked on for dispatch and transport to a facility. This will be a guideline and the plan will be for each jurisdiction to have a county protocol/standard in place. There was a question of responding to a scene non-emergency and on arrival there is a priority patient. Most incidents occur during lights and siren while transporting (several are catastrophic). It will be a re-education for providers and the community alike.

Linda Dousa passed around an attendance roster for input and corrections. She will keep this updated for each meeting. If any has a change in email or phone number, please let her know.

Vice President Dave Lewis thanked everyone for their continued work. There are several goals that we will be working on: the new EMT-B curriculum, the EMS safety task force along with MIEMSS. MSFA has been working with all the partners in looking at the MEMSOF funds. There is a meeting in the next couple of weeks to set a plan before talking to the Governor. According to the news, the state is on the verge of signing the contract for the new helicopters. This should go to the Board of Public Works next week for approval. There will be a formal press release afterward.

### *ALS Sub Committee:*

Marianne Warehime has been in touch with MFRI to talk about the MICRB certification. Cross jurisdiction training is still being worked on. At this time, the volunteer entities are in favor; the large career jurisdictions are going to their own thing. The plan is to get the plan and send it to Medical Directors and the senior EMS officers for their approval. It has been a slow process but is moving forward.

### *BLS Sub Committee:*

Joan Williams stated they had nothing to report.

### *MIEMSS*

Dr. Alcorta gave an up-date on protocol changes for 2011:

- New medication will be Dexamethzone (Decadron) for moderate to severe asthmatics. The route of administration will be IV for adults, oral for pediatric patients.
- Protocol for Go Team activation. There will be indications for activation.
- Bucking protocol (intubated patients who are trying to pull the tube) will be moved into standard ALS care. Versed will be the drug of choice.
- All transport units by 2012 must have pulse oximetry onboard.
- Capnography (wave form) must be available on all ALS transport unit by 2015 for all intubated patients.
- Pain Management – MIEMSS has been working with NHTSA and National Children's Center is looking at helicopter and pain protocols. Based on national standards, pain management in Maryland has been under treated. The new protocol for morphine will be .1 mg/kg. There will be strong education and this will be looked at closely over the next year. Documentation will be crucial prior to and after medication use.
- EMS DNR the current protocol is EMS DMR-A/DML. There were many physicians who questioned if the old DRN-A form (intubation allowed) would be accepted. After discussion with the End of Life committee, the old form will be reinstated. After discussion with the End of Life committee, the old form will be reinstated. They will now have 3 options available.
- Other protocol changes are verbiage changes.
- Cardiac Intervention Centers – 17 out of 23 centers have sent in applications for approval. The standards have been approved. The other facilities should be sending applications in by next spring for approval. Each region has a STEMI committee that will be setting up guidelines for transport to a center. Medication shortages are being address. Pre-loaded syringes should be up to normal supply. Hospira is back up to supply and are presently filling back orders. Succinocholine is in short supply; there is a reasonable supply in the field right now. Cardizem is also in short supply. Please let Dr. Alcorta know if your jurisdiction is having an issue with shortages. Learning management system the program is moving forward with minimal issues. MIEMSS will soon be shooting the new protocol updates which will be placed online in January. Providers will be required to complete them by June 1 so that jurisdictions can be notified of those not compliant prior to the July 1 new protocol implementation. A question was raised if MIEMSS can do something about providers who still have not taken a protocol update. Dr. Alcorta stated MIEMSS licenses the providers but has no say in whether the provider can ride the company unit. Another question was raised about providers who do a re-cert after the fact, can their cards be held until after they complete a protocol update? Motion by Charlie Simpson, second by Susan Mott to have MIEMSS hold recertification cards for



those providers who have not completed protocol reviews. Learning management system the program is moving forward with minimal issues. MIEMSS will soon be shooting the new protocol updates which will be placed online in January.

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***Discussion Charlie Wills stated the computer/cookie issues need to be addressed so providers who have completed the update receive credit. Charlie Simpson stated doing this as a motion will lend credibility to the committee and this will also work on cleaning up the process of credentialing and making sure the providers are up to date. Motion carried. A formal letter will be sent to Dr. Alcorta. Several online training programs have been linked to the management system.***

Somerset County SWOT has been completed; St. Mary County's SWOT will begin soon.

BDLS course on November 30 will be held at North West. It is posted on the MFRI website.

ePCR - Image Trend software is being worked on. They are making sure the data set will work with minimal issues. The protocols will be available for review while doing the report. Medication dosages will be available for pop up if needed. This should improve documentation and will be a learning experience. The new ePCR will be tested in Harford, Cecil and Queen Anne Counties beginning in November. The testing will last 30 days. MIEMSS will be doing train the trainer sessions to make training easier for each jurisdiction. Joe Davis will be the lead trainer. There will be a sub committee to look at the short form to be left at the hospitals; they will also be looking at "cheat sheets" for units. Wayne Tome is interested in participating in this subcommittee.

HLD every helicopter request is looked at by the Medical Director and QA officer from each jurisdiction. There are 3 questions that are answered also. Right now the helicopter requests are 90% compliant with protocol; 79% saving time; 78% benefit for the patient.

Vigilant Guard is an exercise that will be happening in the Baltimore area in November.

**Charlie Simpson** questioned if a study has been done on the effectiveness of succinocholine. Dr. Alcorta receives quarterly reports from the jurisdictions who do RS I to see if things need to be adjusted.

*MFRI*

ALS -Steve Frye stated September and October are busy due to many classes. Only one class has been canceled due to low enrollment.

BLS - Les Hawthorne stated the new guidelines for AHA are coming out: Jan -Mar Healthcare and Friends and Family; April-June Heartsaver classes; July-Sept ACLS; Oct-Dec PALS. The new Emergency Care 12<sup>th</sup> edition from Brady is scheduled to come out in April. This may delay the pilot programs until the fall sessions. Instructor roll out will be 6 hours and should happen in April or May.

There was a question of the new students getting full protocol books while in class vs. the pocket protocols. Brady is working on a bridge book.

*MSP Aviation - not present.*

*RAC Shock Trauma not present.*

*New Business*

**Chris St. John** stated Kensington has been working on a tool kit with a vendor In Colorado. He handed out documentation for review and feedback.

*Old Business*

Good of the committee

Wayne has 3 XL large shirts left at \$19.00 each if interested.

Next meeting Saturday January 15, 2011 at Hurlock. Lunch at 12 noon, meeting at 1 pm.

**Marcine Goodloe.** President of the Montgomery Volunteer Fire Rescue Association gave an update on the ambulance fee proposal. In the county, they have a tire tax which is supposed to cover fire companies. If they do EMS billing, those funds will not be placed in the fire companies; it will go in the general coffers. They have won the battle and have gotten the question on the ballot for November.

**Chair Bill Dousa:** Dr. Bass covered most of what is in my report but I am going to go over several items.

All the members on our EMS Committee are active on Dr. Bass' Red Light Safety Committee. They have created a briefing as well as a draft document which is a standard operating guideline to be used by jurisdiction which will be presented at his meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> at MIEMSS. He believes the Officers of the MSFA are going to be there.

Also we have been active in supporting the implementation of the new EPR System. Which is now going to be called EMEDS. It should be a very significant improvement over the EMAS system. We should reduce provider workload significantly and also and provide better documentation quality and also allow jurisdictions individual access and control over their providers and information. So we feel this is going to be a dramatic improvement. The pilot program is going to start next month. They are in training right now and three counties are going to be involved in that pilot program for 30 days.

The EMS Committee met on October 16, at Kensington. The two highlights from that were discussion on monitoring completion of the yearly on-line Maryland Medical Protocols and trying to figure out what providers had completed those protocols. Initially we were going to prepare a letter to MIEMSS requesting that they withhold licensure and certification of providers who had not completed that training. However we have had some issues creating that letter so we are going to delay that until the next EMS Committee Meeting and then we will bring it back to the Executive Committee Meeting next quarter.

The other thing is Dr. Bass did not cover is the fact that MIEMSS is looking at all the counties' ability to meet the COMAR regulation. The primary things they are looking at are medical director agreements and their QA process. Dr. Alcorta reported that now we have medical director agreements in all but 2 counties and the QA process has improved rather dramatically at this point.

The next EMS Committee meeting will be January 15<sup>th</sup> at Hurlock. Any questions?

**Chair Stevens** asked that that included the ALS and BLS reports. EMS Chair Dousa confirmed that it did.

### ***MFRI Board of Advisors***

**Chair Stevens** said he did not believe they had met since the last meeting and the representative is not here.

### ***MFRETC***

**Chair Stevens** reported he sent a letter to the President. He asked if anyone have a MFRETC report. Lynn Gilroy made a report the last time. The letter on the Amos Fund was drafted and the President sent that to the Governor and also to the Higher Education Commission so it will be part of the packet.

The other thing that came out of the MFRETC meeting was they had a report on the Fire & Rescue Apparatus Collisions in Maryland. Chairman Stevens had a notebook that he will pass to the Safety Committee tomorrow when they do their report. It was requested that we pass that on. They covered six counties and they tried to information from others. The young man that did it is a firefighter in Montgomery County and he did an excellent job. It is too bad the other counties did not participate. It is a very difficult to do.

Any questions or anything else on MFRETC? Richard Yinger asked about the Charlie Riley Fund letter. Chairman Stevens reported they are requesting from other agencies that have a dog in a fight, basically asking the Governor to restore the funding in that and work more to a permanent solution as we get further along. We are trying to solve the problem this year so there will be 100% reimbursement this year.

### ***Ways & Means***

**Mitch Vocke.** Good morning. I am giving the report for Chairman Jonske who is in Georgia. The Committee has been busy selling tickets since the August Executive Committee Meeting. We sold \$6,816 worth of chances at Sunfest in Ocean City, \$616 at the Maryland BBQ Bash, and the Darlington Apple Festival brought in \$2,482 and we did that in 8 hours. So far in 2010, the raffle has produced \$12,062.

The committee attended the LAMSFA Fall Conference where we distributed over 20,000 tickets to the company auxiliaries. We are handing out over 80,000 tickets to the member companies today. Everyone should remember that proceeds from the raffle helps support your organization in many ways. If anyone needs additional tickets, please contact me or Lou. They make great Christmas Stocking Stuffers.

The next large event that the Committee will attend is Springfest in Ocean City from Thursday, May 5 thru Sunday, May 8, 2011. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated. That is Lou and Anna's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary and they will not be there so they can use any and all help. Buddy (Schweers) will be leading the group until Mitch gets there. It is very hard to replace Lou and his "salesmanship". He has tickets for each company today and any left will go home with the Executive Committee to distribute to the companies in their region.

**Chairman Stevens:** Any questions? I have a note here saying the Miss Fire Preventions will be selling raffle tickets as well for Margaret's raffle.

One other special request for their report is Training Committee.

### ***Training Committee***

**Chairman Johnny Roth** thanked Executive Committee Chair Stevens for moving their report up. They have been quite busy since the Convention in June. They have met four times all throughout the state. Their charge was to go through all the regions and find out any training issues they might have as well as any suggestions or comments they might have to help in up-dating the Ten Year Training Plan. The disheartening part was we did not have a large turn-out as we went through the state. But we did have at least a credible amount of people. There was not a lot except from our partners through to add to the Ten Year Plan.

Our next meeting will be January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Upper Eastern Shore Training Center. We have handed out a draft of the Ten Year Plan. He would like to thank Mark Bilger for all the hard work he has done on this plan. We have been working tirelessly going through the program. We handed out copies to all the members who have attended committee meetings to this point. We still have copies available for any other members of the Training Committee either see me or Mark Bilger. You have copies of both our committee reports for September 19<sup>th</sup> and November 7<sup>th</sup> that were posted on line. If you have any questions about them let him know.

Just a couple of PRs for some of the things: He would like to thank Steve Edwards and MFRI for hosting GM classes on their new electric vehicle Chevy Volt. It basically was a Train-the-Trainer. A two day class with five sessions.

Checking on availability of a MSFA website for the program so that departments can do an in house training. They will also make it available to MEIMSS and MEMA if they would like to have a copy. He thanked Phil Hurlock for a couple of articles in reference to the new car as well.

Maryland Fire Chief's Seminar is going to be on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the University of Maryland, Shady Grove in Montgomery County, Maryland. They don't believe it is in conflict with any other meeting at this time. We would like to add a little more cohesion with the Maryland Fire Chiefs Training Committee which he is also a member. They are trying not to duplicate some of their efforts on; will work with MFRI and others in an attempt to secure the demo at the MSFA Conference and Convention in June 2011 Encouraged committee members to review the draft of the plan in preparation for discussion and approval at the January meeting and present to the Executive Committee at their February meeting.

Any questions?

**Mark Bilger:** It is not a question for the committee. At the last Training Committee meeting it was brought up about a telephone number for the MSFA and the Chairman was sort of goaded into giving his number; but at sometime recently the MSFA had a 1-800 number that went into the Secretary's Office. Is that number still in existence? The answer was yes. He would like that number to add to the Ten Year Plan instead of the Chairman's number on it.

**President Cox** stated is the 1-800-fireline.

Mark stated there was another one that you had to enter a pass code. Leonard had it.

President Cox stated that one was no longer there. Only one we now have is the 1-800-fireline.

Chair Roth again thanked Mark for his hard work involved on this project. He also thanked the other partners involved in this, especially MFRI. Whenever they have had any questions and comments for the field, they have been very helpful. They (MFRI) have been inundated with questions in reference to the up-dated EMT course with the additional 30 hours.

Any other questions? Thank you.

**Chairman Stevens:** Awards Committee is there anyone here to give the report?

**Pres. Cox:** The Chairman of the Awards Committee is not here. However last week the Awards Committee did meet and Danny Carpenter has her report and in that is also recommendation for the Awards Committee.

**Danny Carpenter:** You all have a copy of her report. She was at the last Executive Committee meeting when I brought to the attention that the Marbery F. Gates and the Hall of Fame wanted to change award to receive the below recommendation. And the below was approved by the Awards Committee on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Mark Bilger made the motion to change the award to**

***Each individual nominated will receive a MSFA Plaque [the first year nominated and any sequential years a certificate] recognizing them for their Continued and Faithful Service. Each individual would also receive a Governor's Citation. Effective date November, 2010***

**Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ben Kurtz. Discussion.**

That the Hall of Fame Committee, who handles the Marbery Gates Award, found out was that over the years some of those nominated were being nominated more than one year in succession and the expense to the Hall of Fame Committee. They still want to honor that person, but with a certificate which they felt was appropriate.

**President Cox** stated this has been going on for a number of years. It not meant in any way to take any honor or disrespect from the nominees. Even when he was Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee, they went, in some cases up to 8 or 10 times. It is an honor to be nominated for this award because it recognizes the individual and a certificate gives them the recognition. A lot of people do not display them; they just go into a drawer or whatever.

**Danny** stated it would be a very nice certificate with the MSFA seal on it signed by the President. They will still get the Governor's Citation every year.

**Call for the question – Motion carried unanimously.**

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On 11/07/2010 at 12:00 the following members were present at this meeting: Pres. Doyle Cox, Danny Carpenter, John Gatton, Bobby Balta, Robert Collins and I (Evelyn Graf – Chair).

Topics discussed were: Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award. It was the recommendation to change the wording in the award to read:

***Each individual nominated will receive a MSFA Plaque [the first year nominated and any sequential years a certificate] recognizing them for their Continued and Faithful Service. Each individual would also receive a Governor's Citation. Effective date November, 2010.***

We would hope that the Executive Committee would approve our recommendations.

The only other thing that was discussed was the award rules would be printed on different color paper and separated out of the Convention Packet but mailed together.

I have attached a copy of the present Marbery Gates Service Cup Award rules and the recognized change.

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**Danny Carpenter** requested if the Hall of Fame Committee could go now.

**Chairman Stevens** had him give the report.

The report he gave for the Awards Committee was part of his report also. (See report below)  
The only other thing is we are accepting nominations for the Hall of Fame until April 15, 2011. As the Presidents travel around if you would encourage people to put in for the Hall of Fame and the Marbery F. Gates Award, they would appreciate that.

Nominations should be sent to:

C. Daniel Carpenter, III  
1106 Cornwall Drive  
LaPlata, MD 20646-3544

The balance of his written report was on the change in the Marbery F. Gates Award.

Any questions? None

**Chairman Stevens:** Are we ready to eat? Lunch will be served shortly. Mr. President.

**President Cox:** Yes, just a couple of things and then I think we will be ready to eat. Just a follow-up with the Hall of Fame – I think the Chairman of the Convention Committee indicated this morning that the package will be ready to go out either this week or next week. In the packet there will be a special section just on all the awards. It will be a different color paper, so you may want to keep your eyes out for that. It will have the rules and regulations for ALL the awards.

**Mr. Chairman,** before we break for lunch, we have a special guest with us this morning. We have an individual that has 70 years of service with the Harford Cecil Firemen's Association. He has 60 years of service in this department (Aberdeen Fire Department, Inc.). He is a former Chief, Life Member, and a Past President. I will ask Chief Hinch if he would come forward and give us some additional information on Mr. D. B. Smith.

**Chief Hinch:** Thank you. I am proud to say that every since I joined the department in 1982, D.B. was one of our mentors. He is still a mentor to a lot of our newer people. He has shown everyone what the volunteer fire service is about and up until 2008, he was very active and was one of our top ten responders for every year for at least the past 28 years that I have in. So we are glad that D.B. could make it here today and if he has some kind words, we would appreciate it. (Applause and standing ovation)

**Chief D.B. Smith:** I was active in the State Association for quite a while. He served as Executive Committee (1968-69). Unfortunately there are not many faces I recognize here today. I was looking for Oscar Baker – is he here? He and I have worked together on several committees. He is just proud to have been a volunteer fireman. He was a paid man all his life (career). To me it is the largest fraternity in the United States and we all look out for one another. One thing that he would like to say is that he is very proud that he has four generations of his family that are now firefighters (D.B., his two sons, three grandsons, and three great-grandsons. He is very proud of them and proud they took up firefighting as a career. Thank you for recognizing me here today. (Applause)

**Chairman Stevens:** Thank you sir and congratulations. Rabbi Block (BAVFC Chaplain) will do the blessing.

**Chaplain Block:** Please rise for a moment of silence. I am going to speak and you are going to be silent. He then did the blessing for lunch.

**Chairman Stevens:** John Bender will give us instructions for lunch.

**John Bender:** You are going to line up over where Judy is and Judy will collect the donation of \$6.00 for lunch today. Form two lines after giving Judy your money. Hot drinks are in the corner and cold drinks including ice tea and soda are in this corner. The dessert table will be next to the coffee table. After you are finished eating, if you would be so kind as to bring your dishes up to the first window, the ladies will take your dirty dishes. Enjoy your lunch.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

**Chairman Stevens:** If everyone would please take a seat so we can get rolling. First up is the Convention Committee. They have a Power Point Presentation.

**Convention Committee Ron Siarnicki Chair:** Thank you. The other co-chairs are going to join me here shortly. Up-date on the Convention Committee. As you can well image our plans for 2011 are well on their way. There are a lot of things we are trying to pull together related to some of our experiences last year and some of the changes going on in Ocean City.

I want to tell you one of the things that has been very successful is that we joined the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce as a participating active member. We are attending the monthly meetings and that has given us a better idea what is going on business-wise in Ocean City. It is also truly raising the awareness of the MSFA with the business community there.

Also we have joined the Ocean City Hotel/Motel & Restaurant Association and they are having their first meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup> and we will be attendance for that meeting. One of the pieces that bring us a great deal of support is being a part of that Association which helps with the hotel/motel rates. We are going to release, on Monday, the initial package that is sent out to all the companies. We have a draft of that and it has been distributed to the Steering Committee and to different other functional committees – Awards, Miss Fire Prevention, etc. The package is a little bit different format this year – they have split the package into two sections. The first section will be all about the convention and the second section is all about the awards that are given away. There was concern that Awards info had been in the back of the package and we were not seeing the information on awards. So we are going to have them copied onto a different color paper and the two sections will go out in the same mailing to the departments. It is our intent to have our Secretary, Jackie Olson to go out Monday. We are hoping to get any last minutes changes by tomorrow night and then get that out before the Holidays. It is a lot earlier this year but because of all the changes, we are really pushing to get all the information out.

We are also pushing people to use the hotel who are supporting us. For example, one of the hotels does supply a rebate back to the Convention for those people who used the facilities. Last year it brought in \$2,100.00 of donation money to support the convention. So that information will be out and have the webmaster put it on the web site this week.

The Steering Committee has met. They did a road trip to Ocean City as well and we are happy to report that the Convention Center is going to work with us as well. We have renewed their arrangement with Jolly Roger Park for Monday night. We have also met with the Mayor about things like the Movie on the Beach and some of the other activities. He has pledged his full support to the Steering Committee.

I know that Fred (Cross) had mentioned that dues reminders were also in the packet and it will be going out along with the credentials. We do have a draft and I will repeat, a DRAFT, of the program put together. There are even some of the presenters plugged in. It is going to be a little different because we are not planning on doing a Monday Night Event. The event held behind the convention center will be at Jolly Roger and we are not going to do anything Tuesday night at Ocean Pines Beach Club because that did not work-out. The movie on the beach will be moved elsewhere on the beach. The movie on the beach will be on Tuesday night, after installation. The Miss Fire Prevention Contest will be on Sunday.

**Lee Sachs on Exhibits:** We little to say. First mailing early January. No price changes and we are going ahead with the same schedules we had. That's it.

**Tom Mattingly, Co-Chair:** The Program Book. They will be sending out the mailer to the business folks, probably within the next 10 days. Then they will be sending the ones to all the member companies sometime right after the first of the year by the end of January. Rates did not change and they are pretty well on track. Hopefully with becoming a member the Chamber of Commerce, they will have some point, hopefully, have access to that mailing list.

**Fred Cross, Golf Tournament:** The golf tournament will be held the last Friday of convention. He is looking for hole sponsors, donations, and if anyone has a banquet and you have 160 items left over, bring them down to me and we will throw them in the bag. For the first time last year, the Mayor was there with a group from Ocean City and they will be back again this year. It gives us a little bit of prestige to have the Mayor show up for our events.

**Ron:** I think everyone knows we have gone through some changes with the Convention Center and changes with the Committee Structure. We reorganized several years ago. I want to thank everyone who serves on the Steering Committee and the Convention Committee as a whole – it has made a difference. Lee kind of keeps us straight with some of the numbers and for the last two years the Convention has turned a profit. In 2009, the net profit was \$46,999.00 and in 2010 it was \$54,874.00. So the work that is being done all year as a team makes it so we are making money and not losing money as a convention. It allows us to do Jolley Roger at a very discounted price as well as some other things. So he wants to thank the Committee for all they do all year long. There will be a full Convention Committee meeting sometime between now and the holiday season. Not sure, just waiting when the Presidential schedules come out and he pool everyone to see what is the best time to get together to go over the piece that has been driving that bus is the construction at the Convention Center.

When they were down at Ocean City they met with the Mayor and the new Director of the Convention Center, Rick Hamilton. When we were there just three weeks ago, nothing had changed. But it is underway and by next convention, the construction project will be progressing fairly well. So what I



am going to do is run through the Power Point Program showing the changes being made to the Convention Center. They hope to have it completed by 2012 but we all know how construction goes. But anybody who does construction today knows it probably isn't going to happen. So this is going to affect us for at least two years. So for this year, 2011, we are working on some seating diagrams for some of the events. Some will change and some will stay the same. He show more picture showing the different areas and where we would be holding certain events. The main hall will change. We are going to set-up a stage which is moved out from the old stage with a temporary wall between them. The temporary stage will be about three or four feet off the ground. We looked at a couple of options. The nice thing is we have negotiated it with the Town of Ocean City. The Mayor admitted that the stage, the lighting and the sound system, which will all have to be brought in new for us, is the responsibility of the City. They are going to pay for that. We worked that out early on in our negotiations. There will be approximately seating for 2,030 people for the Memorial Service and Opening Ceremonies. The room will then be split like we have been doing. When the hall is split it will have seating for the men's meeting for about 700.

They have met with the Ladies Auxiliary to determine where they will meet. It will be the four break-out rooms where there has been classroom session. The will move to the east side of the building. The nice thing is they will set it up on Sunday and the ladies can do their business all day without interruptions. So they will not have to wait for us to take a recess to bring in the temporary wall. Their hall will be ready for them the whole week.

The difficult part of this is that we are going to suffer in the amount of classroom space we will have. They haven't developed a final plan. So they are going to get with Program Committee and see how many classes they can have. It may be less – we don't know yet. But it is something we are going to have to deal with. It may mean we hold the Executive Committee Meetings in here on Sunday and Thursday. There are a number of options; they are going to decide what is best for everyone involved.

We have a tentative program; we just have to work through everything to see what is best for everyone. We are asking everyone to bear with us. There are a lot of changes with the construction and everyone needs to bear with the committee so that we can get through the construction and 2013 where we will have stability for the convention.

Discussion about the wall of windows on and how they will keep the sun from coming in too strong. They will probably look into some type of shades. This will be addressed when they are ready to meet there. This area will become the main meeting area and Ocean City is aware of this and we will keep on them to address this issue.

More discussion followed on a number of issues that will need to be addressed. Once the floor plan is finalized issues with the audio-visual issues will be addressed. Ron continued to answer further questions on different issues pertaining to all of issues mentioned above.

**Chairman Stevens:** Any questions?

**Ben Kurtz** – He was talking with Lee about possibility moving the educational classes on Sunday to Monday and Tuesday?

**Ron** states there is a potential. Ben said there seems to be smaller and smaller in size on Sunday. 680 people took advantage last year. The committee will continue to work on all these issues.

### ***Fire Prevention – Bobby Collins:***

Good afternoon. Hope you all got my report. You heard from the Fire Marshal this morning with regard to the grants. They hope to do it again next Spring and the committee will be working on that.

Also the six computers with the Fire & Life Safety Kits are ready and they are located at each of the Fire Marshal's Office so that any company can check it out. The information on this computer programs cover a wide variety of issues and ages.

Emmons Horner gave his report on the visual smoke alarms program for mid and lower eastern shore. Delmarva Power & Light Company, Lowe's Home Improvement Company and Harris Communications of Minnesota gave away 2,000 regular smoke alarms and 70 visual smoke alarms. You can contact Emmons or Peggy Webb for the visual alarms.

On December 3, 2010, Winfield VFD will hold a Longaberger Basket Bingo with all proceeds to be used to purchase visual smoke alarms.

**Tom Collins** reported we have billboards in Cumberland on Route 68 and Route 40 and in Pittsville on Route 50, and Berlin Route 50 with the "Warm Up to Safety" theme. Displays will be on home heating, residential sprinklers and kitchen fires.

**Sherry Soper** reported on buses in Frederick County has 24 buses and we are allowed to put safety messages inside the bus up near the ceiling for display. Sherry will be getting two signs for each bus, total of 48 signs. These signs can be displayed for free, not cost. She has gone to one of the schools that make signs for \$15.00 for all the signs total.

Kristi Reppe will report on Miss Fire Prevention.

We are also working with the Fire Marshal's Office on seminars and guest speakers for the Spring Conference held at MFRI on March 19, 2011.

When we did that Grant put-out, there were a lot companies that had problems logging on. Not only was that good because of the different access to several programs.

### ***Kristi Reppe – Miss Fire Prevention***

For the MSFA Junior Miss Fire Prevention, applications have been out since October 1 and they are due to their regional coordinators by December 31. Contests will be held throughout the month of February. At the Secretary's table is a flyer on the Junior Miss Fire Prevention.

As Ron, mentioned in the Convention Report. There are going to be changes as to how and when the Miss Fire Prevention Contest will be held at Ocean City. They will not be able to hold the traditional seminar for the Miss Fire Prevention providing them various information they might need to help them during the reign as Miss Fire Prevention. They are rescheduling it in May with the date, location and time to be announced at the February Executive Committee Meeting.

Other changes include the Interviews will be held on Sunday morning from 9 am to 11:30 a.m. and the contest will be held at 2:00 pm.

There are a few rule changes:

Question #8

Preliminary judging will be held on ~~Monday morning~~ **the morning of the contest**. ~~The stage portion of the contest will be held on Monday afternoon at approximately 3:45 p.m. during the annual MSFA Convention.~~ **The contest will be during the MSFA Annual Convention in Ocean City. Information regarding the date and time of the contest will be provided as it is finalized.**

Question #11

Application ~~deadline is~~ **must be received by** May 1. If your county contest occurs after this deadline then your current Miss Fire Prevention is eligible. **All applications must be sent to contest chairperson certified mail, return receipt requested. APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ANY OTHER WAY. Any applications that are received other than certified mail; return receipt requested will be deemed ineligible and will be returned to the contestant.**

Make sure you apply early. Most are received the last week of April, if there are any problems there may not be enough time to fix the problems.

There were some concerns about the habits/actions by some of the Queens and what appropriate behavior is. With this in mind on the MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Expectations under conduct the following change was added:

Any conduct unbecoming of MSFA Miss Fire Prevention or the first Runner-up will result in the termination of your reign. **This includes consuming alcohol and/or smoking while presenting yourself as MSFA Miss Fire Prevention even if you are legally old enough to do so.** The President of the MSFA may suspend you from your position. The President will make a full report at the next MSFA Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee will then make the final decision. Remember to conduct yourself at all times in a professional manner.

***Motion made by Mark Bilger to accept changes as recommended. Ben Kurtz seconds the motion. Discussion: Stuart Carter: Why the insistence on the certified mail? Kristi: There are always the applications was received by May 1. This alleviates any question about when the regional coordinator received them. More discussion followed on this issue. Call for the questions. Motion passed unanimously.***

***Risk Watch –Cyndy Wright-Johnson***

**Report for the November 2010 - MSFA Executive Committee from Risk Watch & Fire and Injury Prevention & Life Safety Committee**

Good afternoon, I have a real quick up-date. She represent a third of the Risk Watch Team. Marie Warner Crosson was with you last time and she has put together a proposal for Falls Prevention which is already in progress. The materials are all free. They are from the Federal Government. We have an up-dated set on Pediatrics.

We had a presentation at our Life Safety Committee of some new resources that are available through a local Maryland Fire and those materials are out front. May report follow below.

Teresa can give you some more up-dates what has actually happened in Prince Georges County with the special needs community. If you have questions about our report I'd be happy to answer them.

There are two action items for us:

1. is to be very patient and wait and until we hear from the Convention Committee what we can do and what the space will allow us to do for both teaching children and adults. We plan to wait until February to put that together. We are working very close with Bruce in the Office of the State Fire Marshal to put together the best resources and will have displays ready to go after the first of the year that it will compliment everything that is on those laptops.

2. We are head into what is *Click it or Ticket*. This is related to occupant protection. It is not something that you traditionally hear us talk about. It is one of the Risk Watch modules and you will be getting a letter very soon. As soon as I can get with the two people who need to sign it; and that would be our President and Dr. Bass to sign it. It will be a message asking you to once again put out on any of your signs or marquees that "Seatbelts Save Lives". Again, that is a joint partnership with the Highway Traffic Administration. They give us all their signs twice a year, as our fire marshal talked about this morning to say "Change Your Batteries." We would like to support them in this two week push around Thanksgiving and then again in May for the Click It or Ticket to protect everyone and have them buckle up correctly.

I will be happy to answer any of your questions. And we do have those posters for buckle up for the ambulance safety project out front.

**Risk Watch / Life Safety traveling displays** have been distributed to Miss Fire Prevention and First Runner-UP with both materials for children (Safe Kids, Home Safety Council and NFPA Risk Watch) to be used school events, community training and parent education messages as well as CDC Falls Prevention materials for senior adult communities and educational programs. Additional displays are going to be ordered and co -located with the Office of State Fire Marshal media kits that will include DVD's of prevention and life safety training materials.

**Displays have been developed on:** Risk Watch -Injury Prevention; Risk Watch -Natural Disaster Preparedness; Home Safety for Children; Child Passenger Safety: Raising Safe Kids -One Stage at a Time; Rail Road Safety from Safe Kids, and Fall prevention for Senior Adults.

**Risk Watch events have been held at the special education centers in Prince George's County reaching over 1,000 children and families.**

Maryland EMSC Program held a Burn & Scald Prevention Forum on September 1<sup>s</sup> \ 2010 with the Partnership for a Safer Maryland. Presentations were from three burn centers at Johns Hopkins Bayview, Johns Hopkins Children Center and Children's National Medical Center. Next year's forum is already scheduled for September of 2011.

**Prevention materials will be available on the Home Safety website and all companies are encouraged to register as part of the Expert Network at [www.HomeSafetyCouncil.org](http://www.HomeSafetyCouncil.org).**

**Maryland Safe Kids coalition** September meeting included new interactive displays created for coalitions across the country by a Maryland based company - **Innovative Concepts**. Sample products and teaching tools were shared with the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee at their October meeting. [www.anyconcept.org](http://www.anyconcept.org).

**Curriculum and Risky Business Boxes** are available to new communities as new coalitions are developed. The **teacher training kit for new communities** remains available through the MIEMSS EMS for Children and Region V office partnership.

**Risk Watch Communities** currently active in schools, after school and community events include:

- **Carroll County:** Has expanded to a new school: Winfield & Linton Springs Elementary Schools
- **Montgomery County Fire & Rescue:** continues to work with public, private and home schools; they are distributing the education standards document to new teachers and programs.
- **Prince George's Special Education Center Program** has expanded to Tanglewood Center providing the school with teacher and classroom activities. Fall Safety events will be scheduled with the new year.
- **Risk Watch Communities** currently active in schools, after school and community events include:
  - **Cecil County**
  - **Frederick County**
  - **Johns Hopkins Children's Center in Baltimore City**
  - **Prince George's County Association & Fire & EMS Department with After School Programs**
  - **Rock Hall in Kent County**
  - **St. Leonard in Calvert County**
  - **Tilghman Island in Talbot County**

#### **Teresa Crisman – Risk Watch:**

As was stated that on March 19, at MFRI in College Park, we will have the Life Safety Educator Day. We are trying to take a little different avenue on this. It is not all just about prevention aspects, it is actually about knowing your community. We have had several meeting and the next Tuesday at MFRI. We are actually getting with the Prince Georges County Police Department and their Gang Awareness Task Force. We feel that knowing your community is how you are going teach your community and we are just looking at other areas to bring that the Life Safety Educators of the State.

On the Special Needs Class, they did three schools. About 1,250 students were taught the Special Needs Risk Watch Program. Our next school will be Tanglewood in Clint in April. They have not given us a date yet.

We had very good partnerships with the US Park, the County to go over the eight areas of jury prevention. That is three days that are very worthwhile. Right now the county is the only one in the state that is actually doing it. Across the country there any not many people who really want to teach the special needs aspect of it. These are the hidden people that they don't think about. Following along with that, they are also going to support the fire marshal with the aspect of the lighter education. Hopefully that will make a big difference here. We are always here to serve when we can.

**Bobby Collins** – again we would like to thank Bruce in the Fire Marshal's Office. He has been doing an outstanding job working with the committee on all these projects and also John Spiker who is here today with us. He has placemats, provided by the Ladies Auxiliary of the MSFA. He has about four cases available if any company needs any.

**Chairman Stevens:** Any questions for any of these folks? Thank you very much. You are doing some good work. I believe we have the report of the Fire Prevention Queens.

## **MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up 2010-2011 Report**

**Katie Norman MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-UP 2010-2011**

Good afternoon. I submitted my report electronically. It is a summary of the events I have been to. I'll keep it short and sweet. We have the Polar Bear Plunge coming up soon. I have been able to get about six people from my area to join the team. I want to encourage everyone out there with their departments to get some younger members to join and if you don't feel like joining, you can always support us financially. It goes toward a great cause – the Maryland State Police and the Special Olympics. It has been a very successful Fire Prevention Week this year. A lot of open houses in the Frederick County and throughout the state. Kids are really adamant about learning fire prevention, especially the adults. I have been pushing the fall prevention that Cyndy and Marie gave me. The state really seems to like that. Washington County actually CRS took some of the pamphlets and are going to put on their units to do some self-education and public education while they are out running calls for the fall patients.

If I can be of assistance to you guys this year, please let me know. I have my business cards with me.

Since the MSFA Executive Meeting in August, I have been keeping very busy. This is turning out to be a fantastic year. It has been a lot of fun getting to know everyone and seeing what the MSFA is all about. Fire prevention is a very important part of my life.

September and October have been full of meetings for me. I have attended Harford-Cecil meetings and Cecil County meetings. I also attended the Cedi County Miss Fire Prevention Contest and the Harford-Cecil Buffet Breakfast. The buffet breakfast was the annual Harford-Cecil Firemen's Association Fundraiser. October was very exciting because it was fire prevention month. I attended different schools and had the chance to teach what I know about fire prevention to many different students. I also went to Perryville and Cecil County's fire prevention days. Although I was not as busy as planned on being for fire prevention month, I still had a lot of fun. In October, I also went to the MSFA Ladies Meeting.

I will continue traveling around the state for the next few months, and if anyone needs anything please feel free to contact me. I really enjoy being a part of fire prevention, and getting the chance to meet such wonderful people. Thank you.

### **Activities Report**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Miles</u>
June 13-17, 2010	MSFA Convention Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ocean City, MD</li><li>• Queen Workshop</li><li>• Memorial Service</li><li>• Queen Contest</li><li>• Basket Bingo</li><li>• Jolly Roger</li><li>• Fire Prevention Awards</li><li>• Buffet Lunch</li></ul>	450

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Miles</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Watch</li> <li>• Joint Installation of Officers</li> <li>• Prayer Breakfast</li> <li>• \$10,000 Raffle</li> <li>• Parade</li> <li>• Parade Awards</li> <li>• Executive Committee Meeting</li> </ul>	
June 27, 2010	Charlestown Fire Department Open House	15
July 5	Miss Manchester Contest	56
July 11	Cecil County Fire Prevention Meeting	2
July 19	Cecil County Firemen's Association Meeting	10
July 21	Day Care Tour (Singerly Fire Co.)	2
July 25	Kid Night at Chic-Fila	5
July 25	MSFA Fire Prevention Meeting	70
Aug. 14	Hacks Point Parade and Fair	25
Aug. 16	Cecil County Firemen's Association Meeting	10
Aug. 22	County Fire Prevention Committee Meeting	10
	<b>Total Miles – 655</b>	
	<b>Total Events – 24</b>	
Aug. 28, 2010	MSFA Executive Committee Meeting	120
Sept. 8	County Ladies Meeting	15
Sept. 10	Harford Cecil Meeting	25
Sept. 12	Harford Cecil Breakfast Buffet	10
Sept. 18	Fire Combat Challenge	5
Sept. 20	County Fire Association Meeting	10
Oct. 2	Perryville Fire Prevention Day	35
Oct. 4	School Fire Prevention Day	10
Oct. 6	School Fire Prevention Day	8
Oct. 8	Cecil County Fire Prevention Competition	15
Oct. 9	MSFA Ladies Meeting	15
Oct. 10	County Fire Prevention Day	10
Oct. 12	School Fire Prevention Day	10
Oct. 18	County Fire Prevention Day	15
Nov. 13	MSFA Executive Committee	40
	<b>Total Miles – 343</b>	
	<b>Total Events – 15</b>	

### **Miss Fire Prevention – Katie Norman**

I think Elyssa pretty much covered everything. The Polar Bear Plunge is coming up. I was not as active I had planned to be but I did get to attend a couple of schools and teach what I know about Fire Prevention. Also attended a couple meeting around the county, Harford Cecil Meetings, the Firemen's Association Meetings and the MSFA Ladies Meeting.

If anyone has any questions. I have my business cards with me. Thank you.

**Margaret**, I want to have Katie draw the ticket for the dog.

**President Cox:** Mr. Chairman we have a guest with us today. The individual is a great friend of the fire service. Senator Barry Glassman, who represents Harford and Cecil Counties. (Applause)

**Senator Glassman:** I don't have part of Cecil County but that's alright. They are going to re-district so I have in 90 days. It is a pleasure to be here and welcome you to Aberdeen in Harford County. It is great to have you in Harford County, Maryland.

It's been a tough election year. I know I was in good shape a couple of weeks ago, when one of the farmers up north went to vote, he knew I was in good shape, he saw 20 people and 10 sheep in line to vote for me. So we did alright up in the northern end, he had the largest number of votes even though he was unopposed. It was a good year for us in Harford County. It is good to see the Mayor of Laurel here (Craig Moe). I am glad he is here, I know Prince George's County yesterday (laughter) but I am glad to know the Mayor is here and not somewhere else. Just to give you a brief update and a lot of you already know this. We go into the next session – and we're still looking at a 1.6 billion dollar debt that keeps following us each year, so this never end budget struggle that we have to deal with until we come to grips with spending and figure out what we are going to have to do with some of the debt. We just have to deal with it each time.

There have been some changes in the Senate. Not a whole lot in either body. Maryland did not feel the impact of what we saw nationally in the Congressional level and some of the other states where the Tea Party movement and the Conservative moved through. I think it is pretty fair to say that within Maryland withstood that. It is pretty much the status-quo. We did lose some good Senators in democratic primaries and republican primaries so there are some changes coming to that body. Each of the committees will be reassigned. With that said, I look forward to working with you. Danny does a great job in Annapolis and keeps us informed. We will be keeping an eye on the budget as things unfold. Please to be here and to welcome you to Harford County. (Applause)

**Chairman Stevens:** Thank you Mr. Senator. Danny do you want to do your report now?

**Danny Davis**, Legislative Committee: Danny was joined by his Vice Chairman, Richard Yinger. Thank you Mr. Chair for getting me on early. Since we have Senator Glassman here, I would like to thank him personally. He kind of put his career in jeopardy a couple of times years ago when he took on members of the Finance Committee to really fight for the helicopters. We would like to thank him for all his hard work, not only as a Senator but as a Delegate. (Applause).

You have gotten a copy of my report. It is very short with the way the elections were running and as of yesterday we did not know who some of the people were going to be in Annapolis. We have not been able to do a lot. We have been working with Senator Dyson's office to reserve a room for our annual Legislative reception; tentative date is February 8, 2011. Letters will be sent to the Governor. Legislators and others in mid December. We usually work with Debbie in Senator Haines office but Senator Haines retired this year.

Working on President's Cox Legislative agenda tri-fold, currently at the printers. Major items are: Maintain MSFA Funding, Ban on "Novelty" Lighters, Legislation to keep MESOF solvent, and an increase in the Widows and Orphans fund. The tri-fold is at the printers and should be ready in a week or two.

We have up comings meetings with Governor, Shock Trauma and MSP Aviation.



It should be an interesting year; we did lose two of our big battlers on the Finance Committee. Now that I heard who we have coming on the Finance Committee, we should be in pretty good shape. The 2011 Maryland Legislative session will start on January 12, 2011 and conclude on April 1 L 2011. We will be sending a welcome letter and information about the MSFA to the Legislators. There will be several new members in both chambers. Any questions?

**Chairman Stevens:** Mr. Bilger do you want to do your Fire Laws?

**Mark Bilger – Chair of Fire Laws**

**Frank Hawley, Chairman:**

Thank you Mr. Chairman. The MSFA Honor Guard Committee held a meeting at the Harford County Volunteer Fire & EMS Association's Office on Saturday, October 9, 2010, with Chairman Hawley, Vice Chairman Kurtz and Committee Member Bill Lippincott present. We discussed what effects the construction at the Convention Center may have on our activities, as well as the events of the 2010 Convention and Conference, as they applied to our committee and what we needed to plan for the Convention in 2011.

An order to purchase 850 copies of the 2010 Edition of the Fire Laws of Maryland was placed with

LexisNexis Mathew Bender, Inc. The total cost for producing the books will be \$35,700.00.

I am currently working on up-dating various pieces of information that will be added to the 2010 Edition. Hope to have the books in time for the Legislative Session and MSFA Officers and Committee Chairs.

Question?

Are we doing books or CD's? Mark stated we were doing books. The way things were going with the CD, you needed a computer at the same time in order to view the document. On more than one occasion the Legislative Team said that was not available to them. Where the book, you can mark for easy access to certain information. With the book it would allow you to open the book and show the information right then what it says.

**Chairman Stevens:** I appreciated Mark's quick attention to this matter. It involved an email poll to approve.

Our plan is to build upon this past year's workshop that was geared more towards the departments/ companies that did not have Honor Guards. The 2011 workshop will be on performing a "Casket Watch". Once again we plan to have MSFA Honor Guard Vice Chair, Tom Miller and Committee Member, Bill Lippincott serving as the instructors. A letter will be sent to Chief Bowers from Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Services, to request both Tom and Bill be detailed to assist with the workshop, Joint Memorial Services and Opening Ceremonies.

Contact was made via e-mail, with Convention Committee Chair, Ron Siarnicki, to request the change to Monday afternoon. Ron advised that the change was okay and scheduled the workshop for Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 1400 hours to 1600 hours in Halls 2 & 3. We will post an announcement on the MSFA Web-site just after the first of the year. Hopefully, this will get the word out better and we will have better attendance in 2011.

For the normal Honor Guard Details for the Convention and Conference, we request the following assignments:

Saturday evening – President’s Dinner: Southern Maryland Honor Guard.

Sunday evening – Joint Memorial Service: Color Guard – Combined\*

- Commander for the Combined Color Guard – Southern Maryland – Mike Quade

Escorts for families receiving Special Presentations.\*

- Harford County Volunteer Fire & EMS Honor Guard & MSFA Honor Guard Committee
- Sea of Blue Line up: Vice Chairman Tom Miller

Monday morning – Opening Ceremonies: Color Guard – Combined\*

- Commander for the Combined Color Guard – Chairman Hawley

Tuesday Evening – Joint Installation of Officers: Color Guard/Honor Guard\*

- Personnel should be requested from Anne Arundel County Fire Department Honor Guard.
- All business will be conducted via e-mail or telephone calls.

**Chairman Stevens:** Any questions?

**Mark Bilger:** Not a question as much as comment. Has your committee ever considered taking and working with MIEMMS and develop a video for the Casket Watch. It is a thing you request for the local departments to use since this where you feel the need for training. I know a number of years ago we got together and did a thing with the Chaplains and it is a CD that is in each department that walks you through how to do a line of duty.

Frank will look into this and see what they can work out.

**Bill Hildebrand:** The NFF have a handbook that has a lot of the stuff as well.

**Ben Kurtz:** Mark said that or something else that may have been done more recently.

**Chairman Stevens** – Any other comments or questions? MEMA Fire Service Personnel Committee.

**Chair Dennis Beard:** - I apologize for no written report. If I’d put a written report together, besides myself, there would be a lot of unhappy people here. The Fire Desk, It is there, but the problems I will talk about have not gone away and I’m not sure they will go away. When you look at the 3 – 4 groups that are suppose to provide personnel, when it comes to activation. We got to thank MFRI for bailing us out two exercises ago because I was unavailable. MFRI came through with two people and the desk was unstaffed for a large period of time. We had an activation a week ago Friday and I went over and stayed for a while. I’m retired and I don’t mind volunteering but you have to draw a line somewhere. I’m not sure what the answer is, I’ve already put the incoming President on notice that I will be stepping down from this committee in June. Normally I don’t throw the towel in that easily. Somebody made a commitment a long time ago and I don’t think they realize what they said they wanted to do. Something could happen somewhere in the state now and the fire desk gets activated,

I can go over for four to six hours but like last weekend's drill, they wanted coverage from 7PM Friday night to Sunday evening. As you can see I have other priorities in my life with six grandkids. That's the Fire Desk.

**Chairman Stevens** – We head about this last meeting so I think, I don't have the answer but we have a problem that needs to be addressed. Anybody have any comments.

**Chair Dennis Beard** – The Maryland Fire Chief's are suppose to help. Their leadership is like the leadership here, it changes. When something happens, it involves career the same as volunteer. In this day and age, a career chief isn't going to send his people to MEMA; he needs them on his equipment to role somewhere in the state of Maryland.

**Craig Moe** – I've kept quiet about this. There were a certain few that pushed it and they'll push it. It takes a commitment. It's not just sitting there, it's making sure you get there. If you want a truck from Prince Georges, you do not have authority to dispatch it. It's going to take partners that were here this morning. Most of us will be at our own departments taking care of business at home and local issues. As you are finding out, it is a big, big commitment. It's nice to say we and the Chief's are there, but frankly we're not there. We're kidding ourselves, we won't be there so we need to partner with them and ask for help. State Police, MIEMS is there, DNR.

**Chairman Beard** – DNR is there, they are responsible for F 4.

**Craig Moe** - We need to partner with those and if a truck is needed, work with the secretary or that department to provide assistance.

**Chairman Stevens** – Other comments? I'm looking for direction here, anybody have any comments?

**Craig Moe** – I would propose, *without a motion*, we work with the appropriate agency to see if we can work out an agreement. The Director will be here tomorrow. If we're going to make that commitment, we need to be there all the time, not just one time.

**Chairman Stevens** – I see the President shaking his head in an affirmative way. We'll go in that direction.

**Chairman Beard** – Mr. President, I guess we'll discuss that Tuesday as well. I'll get the word out as quickly as I can.

**Chairman Stevens** – Thank you. Grants Committee. No one here. Let's go with Planning Committee.

**Chairman John Dulina** – Good afternoon. We met on October 28 in Baltimore Co and met with Dave Lewis and John Denver. We looked at the document and the emphasis on this year and decided to work with the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents on the goals for the coming year instead of what we can implement this year. We decided to lay out a plan in conjunction with them as to where they want to see the organization going. The plan is a living document, not to be put on the shelf. We looked at the plan with regard to content and style. It's mind boggling. There is good information in it. It's difficult to read. We talked about style and looked at past retreats and notice repetition with items coming up each three years with only parts of it implemented. V P Lewis asked us to review the sixteen Life Safety initiatives. Hope to establish five Core Goals of: Communication, Safety of our Personnel, Recruitment & Retention, Life Safety and Financial Aspect. The committee feels we need a strong plan with objectives for implementation. We review the committees and want to divide

them in groupings and then look at the core goals and determine the committee that would be best to implement them. The next meeting is on November 30 in Jarrettsville.

**Chairman Stevens** – Any questions. Hearing none. Chip Historical & Archives and you can do Risk Management as well.

**Chairman Jewell**- Historical & Archives don't have written report. There's been progress. We have one or two items. The Vice Chairman has a question.

**Frank Underwood** – Pictures. The past presidents plaque in the volunteer room. I need a picture of Paul Sterling and Roger Steger. I got one of myself. I've been there and dusted off stuff. I'm finding that the PIO and the Archives job are hand and hand. I find people calling in for past chairman of committees for meetings for LOSAP. If you are a past chairman of a committee, it proves you were active that year and entitled to points that year, so I send that information.

On the PIO side, People call and want information on people. It's been quiet but when I get back it might stir up a little bit.

**Chairman Jewell** – We did have the museum open in Emmitsburg and had sixty to eighty people. We will have a formal grand opening the first weekend of April.

**President Cox** – Earlier I asked you to do some history of the association. Has that been posted?

**Chairman Jewell** – That's done and ready to go.

**Risk Management** – We've has a few claims. We've reviewed our auto insurance and we have a \$250 deductible and I would like to recommend we consider a \$500 deductible which is standard in the industry. We're getting a lot of small claims. Recently one for \$600. Sure the \$350 in the bank is good but sooner or later it will catch up with us. Don't have to take action today but something to consider.

**Chairman Stevens** – Any thoughts on that, Ben.

**Ben Kurtz** – *Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion we go with the recommendation of the committee to increase to the \$500 deductible.*

**Stuart Carter** – I'll second that.

**Chairman Stevens** – We have a motion and a second to increase the deductible to \$500 on the vehicles. Will this decrease the insurance premium?

**Chairman Jewell** – It will decrease the premium. We won't see a difference for a couple years but the concern was the frequency of incidents.

**Roger Powell** – That is for first party claims, not liability.

**Chairman Jewell** – There is no deductible for liability. It is for collision only.

**Chairman Stevens** - *Call for the question. All in favor say aye. Opposed say Nay. None Motion passes.*

**Chairman Jewell** – On Risk Management we have not received any report from IWIF on Workers Compensation Safety and suggest a meeting with IWIF and our committee to review the first year results and take any proactive measures to continue to maintain a competitive worker's compensation program.

**President Cox** – They were to be here today to make a presentation. There should be a check in the amount of \$5,000 plus.

**Chairman Jewell** – SIEC - Mayor Bennett is a member of the committee. He represents MSP electronics division. This week action will probably be taken by the Board of Public Works on the state wide contract for the 700 MHz program. The program will provide interoperability between all jurisdictions and most state agencies.

I have been the local representative on the Computer Aided Dispatch Program. I've served on that committee because there needs to be modules the locals can use. Four vendors have submitted and all vendors are in Maryland. That will go to Public Works for action. Once approved locals can get the program for use. There is an additional module for aviation, medical aviation that will assist MSP.

**Chairman Stevens** – Ok thank you. PIO

**Chairman Underwood** – We have been contacted by politicians asking about event locations. We continue to build our list. We have added the list from the ladies and use other counties. I did a TV and news article in Washington County. I have monitored the actions in Montgomery County on ambulance billing. It was defeated in Montgomery County.

**Chairman Stevens** – Ok thank you. Memorial Committee.

**Chairman Worthington** – Good afternoon. We want to thank our Gala committee for another outstanding event. Thanks to the MSFA for sponsoring a table. We had a great program, good music and a profitable silent auction. We will be returning to Turf Valley again next September. Many thanks to the Certification Board for their donation of \$ 10,000 to go toward our annual budget expenses. Our new display is in the foyer for you to view.

Unfortunately we had some damage at the site. A motorist lost control of his car and ran into the sign at the point of the property totally damaging it. He also hit the tree and destroyed it requiring replacement. All the shrubbery, lighting and irrigation were damaged totaling about \$ 7,000. The horror of all of this is the person left the scene without any notification. The police found him four hours later.

We want to remind everyone we are still selling memorial replicas, bricks, pictures and DVD's. We a budget to meet. Our next meeting is January 5. All are welcome.

**Chairman Stevens** – Very nice Gala. My wife and I enjoyed it. Next up, Federal Legislative Oversight.

**Chairman Robison** – Mr. Chairman and members. The public safety benefit is now \$311,810 and includes a 24 hour heard attack and stroke provision in the line of duty death. The State of Maryland benefit is \$128,000 with a \$ 10,000 funeral benefit.

The USFA reports 90 deaths from 33 states with Pennsylvania experiencing the highest number of fatalities (8). Ten members died in training. The Federal Grant we normally apply for in March is tied up in Congress. The house passed theirs and they come back Monday so we hope they pass it.

**Chairman Stevens** - Any questions for Joe, Thank you. Marketing Committee. Is there anyone that needs to report today? Sandy.

**President Lutz** – I do want to report on the Bessie Marshal. There is no report submitted. Elaine is occupied with Bill. The committee has issued 11 cases since the last Executive Committee meeting bringing out total to 19 since June. On behalf of Elaine Huttenloch and the LAMSFA I want to thank the MSFA for helping families around the state. Thank you.

**Chairman Stevens** – Thank you. Barry, did you have a report for Statistical Committee?

**Chairman Johnson** – We are going to try next year to get the report on line by using survey monkey so it will be easier to do and submit. The request for you is that if there is any information needed, please let me know so I can get it included. We hope to have the report available by the first of the year so people can begin submissions. I will have a report completed by January so the Legislative committee can show how much we support the citizens. I'd like to thank PG, AA and Baltimore Co's for all companies completing the report. Any suggestions on how I can encourage people to submit reports?

**Jason Bair** – Questioned County numbers, why Washington Co is number 1?

**Chairman Johnson** - We're all first in our own mind but Washington's not number 1, nor is Worcester.

**Richard Smith** – There is a lot of duplicate information between our report and the Fire Marshal's report. Can they be combined?

**Chairman Johnson** – I haven't discussed that with them. I will talk to the Fire Marshal's Office about that. There is information we need that is not on the Fire Marshal's report.

**Bill Hildebrand** - I have a suggestion. We have County representatives. The ones in my area haven't been contacted in 3 years. That's one way to get it out. Some Companies have submitted on line. There are issues on the submissions.

**Chairman Johnson** - There have been issues on submissions. We're working with the data committee to correct those issues. People cannot hand write them.

**Stuart Carter** - You sent me a print out for Baltimore Co. with numbers. Can we get the latest Excel spread sheet?

**Chairman Johnson** – I have those and will send them out. The summary is on the submitted report.

**President Cox** - Just a follow up on this. Utilize your committee members and it will get you into another area. Redesign with the computer technology to have the form on line with the old form available so they can fill it out.

**Chairman Johnson** – I've tried to do that a couple different ways. I get inconsistent information from the stations. There has to be consistency on the name number etc.

**Jason Bair** – One thing that creates a problem is the ability to be accurate. It asks for membership, if the person fills it out there could be 175 members because a member may be in more than one category. I have not been notified of any meetings and I serve on the committee.

**Ben Kurtz** – The Planning Committee discussed this issue. Each department submits to the Fire Marshal's Office each month and we should take that information. If we need additional information we should have a short report to capture that.

**Chairman Johnson** – I will reach out to the Fire Marshal's Office for that information. The report we are using is the same as previous years. We would like to be able to tell how much money we have raised to by equipment and be able to report to the legislature we raised that amount of money. We need to show the number of people volunteering and what their commitment is. Discussion followed.

**President Cox** – Barry, Set a meeting of your committee and invite the Executive committee members and officers and let's come up with a direction to go.

**Chairman Stevens** - The President has spoken, that's the direction we will go. One last committee, Marketing.

**Chairman Schweers** – The marketing committee met in West Annapolis on November 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss numerous ideas on marketing the MSFA while discussing marketing basics and strategy. Ideas include: Contacting businesses to help raise funds for the MSFA, Hosting MSFA sponsored sporting events, Communicating MSFA business, functions and benefits to our members, and establishing a web page as a way reach out to a variety of age groups; such as youth page, on line college courses, fire fighter exam preparation, monthly postings of career opportunities, business library, and health & fitness life styles.

Other committees are addressing these ideas and we will work with them. Our goals include: to promote the functions of the Association, inform associations of the MSFA, provide information to longtime members, reach out to younger members, educate the public, and seek female interest in membership.

We intend to meet with each association and explain the marketing committee and explain the website.

**Chairman Stevens** – We are adjourned at this point. Mr. President do you have comments?

**President Cox** – Always have comments. I would like to invite you to the Holiday Inn room 503 at 4 PM until whatever. As you leave, pick up tickets from Mitch. Breakfast tomorrow here and you can leave items in the room.

**Rabbi Block** - Concluded the meeting with the benediction.

## **Executive Committee 11/14/2010 (Day 2)**

**Chairman Stevens:** If everyone will please take your seats, we will get started. We like to welcome you all this morning. If Rabbi Block will go the Invocation.

**Invocation by Rabbi Block.** If everyone would please take your seats. I don't know of a preacher that is asked to do the opening that would not do some scripture. Remember those who are ill before giving the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

**Chairman Stevens:** Once again welcome. Went over information on exits, restrooms, etc. They honored Keith Fairfax last night at Bay District.

**President Cox:** I would like to thank the members of Harford Cecil Association for the Open House yesterday. It was a wonderful time for all and I thank them again.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Denver** introduces the guests present at the meeting.

**President Cox:** Thanks Aberdeen Fire Department for the 1<sup>st</sup> time hosting the Executive Meeting. Requested that everyone here stay after the meeting for the lunch Aberdeen has prepared.

**Miss Fire Prevention Harford County** welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Miss Fire Prevention 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up from Carroll County – Stacy Jarrett.** Good morning everyone. It was a nice long drive to be here even though it was a nice long drive. The Winfield Fire Company is having a basket bingo to raise money for smoke alarms. See her further information.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Present Denver:** Introduced the guests present.

### **Secretary's Report Jacqueline Olson:**

Good morning all. You do have my report. If anyone has a question, please let her know. I would just like to say thank you to Nancy. She has been a great help this week-end. While Joe is recovering and also attending his home banquet. I also want to thank Kristi and Ron. Again, if there is anything we can do for you, don't hesitate to ask. I am asking for any changes to the Directory, please let her know. Please email the changes to her. They have also been working with the Convention Committee to get the first draft of the Convention Information out to you. Wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Holiday Season from the entire Secretary's Staff. See you at the Christmas Party.

The MSFA Secretaries Office would like to extend Thanksgiving Blessing and wishes to all, this is the season to give thanks for all we have and all we receive and we all have a lot to be thankful for in our lives. The Secretaries office is a team, working together for the betterment of our Association as Secretary Emeritus, Leonard King always reported. We are here to assist the Officers and Committee Chairs in anyway just contact myself or one of the members of the team, Secretary Emeritus Leonard King, Assistant Secretaries Joe Cooper, Ron Watkins, Kristi Gable or Richard Snader.

Since our last Executive Committee Meetings the Secretary's Office has transcribed the minutes of the August Executive Committee Meetings and distributed to the MSFA Executive Committee Members for approval.



The duties and responsibilities of each Assistant Secretary are as follows:

- Joseph Cooper is responsible for the transcribing of the minutes for each meeting; and researching any information in regards to motions and previous meetings
- Ron Watkins will be the Logistics support for each Executive Committee meeting.
- Kristi Gable will be maintaining up to date information on the officers and committee members of the MSFA and will distributed updates on a quarterly basis in regards to the MSFA directory.
- Richard Snader will focus on getting the information out to everyone via the website and keeping our membership up to date on the affairs of the Association and the well being of the emergency services family.

The member organizations listing to include address, phone number and website information for each fire department/company as well as Associate and Sustaining members has been updated and will be forwarded to the data systems committee to post on the website. If any Officer or Committee needs a set of mailing labels, please contact us and they will be supplied to you.

We are also working with the Convention and Conference committee to help finalize the early convention information packet so that it may be distributed to all member companies earlier than January and be posted on our website. The 2010 Credentials list has been updated and submitted to the Proceeding Book committee for publication.

I would like to thank Nancy Cox in advance for helping us out this weekend and taking the minutes of our executive Committee meetings, in Joe's absence. Joe was unable to attend this weekend due to a prior commitment to his company, his company's Installation and Awards Banquet is being held this weekend.

If I or my office can be of any assistance to you or your committee please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

**Chairman Stevens:** Thank you Jackie. We will, when Director Muth gets here, break for his report. Out of State Coordinator – Gene Worthington, did you have anything? No report. Next National Volunteer Fire Council. Lee do you have anything on that?

**NVFC Chair Lee Sachs:**

Just some highlights of the meeting are listed below. Both Jimmy and I attended the meetings in Minnesota in September. There is a host of information on our website and NVFC website that we hope our member companies will take advantage of.

As has been the case for the last six years, the NVFC continues to be involved more and more in a large number of projects that will provide support and other benefits to the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS service. Our most important activity in the last three months was our attendance at the Annual Fall Meeting of the Board of Directors. Among the highlights were:

- Representation by Delegates and/or Alternates from 42 States.

- Kickoff of EMS-R Section, a sub-entity of NVFC organized for the specific purpose of offering a voice and guidance to volunteer EMS and Rescue Company providers in the national environment where II.JVFC is already recognized as THE voice of the volunteer firefighter.
- Updates on the Heart-Healthy, Junior Firefighter and Fire Corps programs, each of which continues to grow.
- Discussed new programs that are coming on board, including a Stop Smoking component as well as several other Health and Safety initiatives.
- Discussed and re-prioritized out lobbying efforts with regard to more than a dozen Bills pending in Congress.

Some other recently announced NVFC undertakings:

- The release of Funeral Procedures for Firefighters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
- A new Fire and Emergency Services Grant Writing Guide
- A Guide for Guide Green in the Fire Service
- An updated Guide to Communicating with Elected Officials

Availability to manage the 1-800-Fireline program, for the NVFC national office, for any State that wishes to take advantage of that potential; there is a modest administrative fee associated with this program. So far they've got several states enrolled. The CapWiz legislative program has been implemented for NVFC and for us in Maryland in our own separate program, as approved by the Executive Committee in August. The cost to us was \$2,500, a reduction of about 16% from the original quote because other states have also "bought in". The Legislative Chairs and NVFC delegates will collaborate during this meeting and over the next several weeks to have the program in use, if possible, by the start of our Legislative Session in January. Jimmy and I continue to represent Maryland vigorously and we believe that much of the progress has been made to help NVFC strengthen its position as the volunteer emergency services leader in this country.

### **National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Report – Ron Siarnicki, Director**

The 2010 event at Emmittsburg was a huge success. We had a total of 105 names added to the Memorial. What is significant is that the line of duty deaths for the year 2009 was 80. That is the lowest that has been recorded in a long time. That is a significant effort as a result of everyone pushing the safety efforts across the country. In addition of that 105 names overall that were added, there were 14 names from previous years. What that means is that sometimes it takes a while to get someone classified as a line of duty death. An example is the recruit from Baltimore City; Rachael Wilson finally got approved after a couple years that it is an official line of duty death for her dying in a training activity.

We also added 11 military names to the memorial in Emmittsburg. If you haven't followed that, basically when the criteria was created in 1997, active duty military firefighters were not included for being added to the Memorial. A request from Bill Killen to the Board of Directors, another Maryland

Fire Service professional and a series of meetings with the Dept of Defense worked out that we could add active military fire fighters who died fighting fires anywhere in the world, including the areas of Iraq and Afghanistan.

We have over 1,000 family members of fallen fighters attend the weekend. We had 200+ returning survivors, these are families of previous year's honorees who attend the memorial service, 750 honor guard participants and over 200 pipes and drum participants. The total attendance for Sunday was just over 5,000. That is a huge number of people coming to Maryland to attend the National Memorial Service. It shows that people want to be involved with the activities but also the Maryland Fire Service stepping up to the plate to welcome everyone coming from all over the country to our state to participate.

We had 1.2 M web hits in five days of people watching the activities over the internet and 27 different countries which tripled our web cast from last year. The foundation is putting a lot of effort in the use of the web, twitter and you will see move on those activities.

The Memorial Weekend budget is over \$1M and that comes from fund raising, grants and why I spend so much time on the road. Family members do not have to pay for lodging or food to come to Emmitsburg, we cover all that for them. Plans are underway for 2011. We are working on hotel contracts for lodging, audio visual and all those pieces including the Maryland State Firemen's Association, Maryland Fire Chiefs Association, the State Fire marshal's Office and MFRI for all the work they do in making things happen throughout the course of the year and all they do in the planning to make the Memorial a success using an incident management system. The state of Maryland helps and I want to thank everyone for that.

There's a couple new things on the horizon. We have developed a relationship with NASCAR and we have the event at Dover. We will be at Dover in September. I am happy to announce we are going to be at the Daytona 500 in February. We are going to be at Nashville in July and Auto Club in California in March. So we now have four tracks that will be doing a Firefighter Appreciation Event around the country. Our goal is to get to six total, adding two more sites. If you haven't been there, it is a pretty good deal. For one ticket price a participant gets a race ticket, six hours of hospitality, and you can imagine that to be food and beverage, and I won't go into any more detail than that, and a visit by a driver or a race team owner, trackside tours, all the amenities and a portion of that goes to the Fallen Firefighters Foundation. The Dover race that we did in October netted \$93,000 in one day for the Foundation. And we are hoping that the other tracks are going to be somewhere in that same vicinity.

We have added a new fund raiser endeavor across the country. They are called 9-11 Stair Climbs. You may have seen a little bit about that. We understand that Prince George's County is interested in maybe hosting one of them. We welcome them to the efforts. How that works is pretty simple. You find a building that has a number of stairs that is equivalent to 110 stories, which is the number of stories in the World Trade Center. And then firefighters climb the stairs in an effort to remember the 343 firefighters who died on 9-11.

Now the program has four parts. It's got a remembrance piece, because of remembering the fallen firefighters. It has a physical fitness endurance piece, because the members are going to climb 110 stories. Now you may only use a fifty story building and climb it twice but they are going to do that.

It has a training program because we run the evolution like a high-rise effort. With incident command, accountability and rehab on certain floors. So people get high-rise training and ultimately the application fee to run or do the marathon is a fund raiser for the Fallen Fighters Foundation.

So it has all those components built into one event for one day. So we did four of them this year and we hoping to take them across the country, especially with the tenth anniversary next year. We think we are going to see some additional movement with that.

We did 37 golf events across the country. And we are looking to do more of them. We understand that the Maryland Fire Chief's are going to host one for us next year and we are excited about that opportunity.

For those of you who have been to our Crofton Office on Priest Bridge, we were sharing space with the International Association of Arson Investigators, they have relocated to new space and the Foundation will be moving down the block to some additional office space. So unfortunately that will change the business address which will affect change the mailing address for a lot of the activities of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, since my Executive Assistant, Barbara King, kind of handles some of that business stuff and our mailing address for all the bills and checks go through there. So, probably sometime between February and March, we will be changing the address on everything to the new office location.

Since the last meeting, we have done some reorganizing of the Foundation. We brought on retired Deputy Fire Chief from Prince George's County, Victor Stagnaro to run all our fire programs. Victor is reaching out to everyone to tell them about "Everyone Goes Home" and our fire service outreach. We have made offers to add some of those programs to the training and educational components – for example – the Convention. But there is a lot of availability for training programs and materials funded through the Fire Act Grant for departments if they are interested in getting any of that. Please reach out to Victor and he will take care of that for you.

In addition to the National Seatbelt Pledge, is going to move from the United States Fire Administration to the National Fallen Firefighters foundation. Dr. Cortez Lawrence who works for the Fire Administration will be the liaison with us and that will fall under the "Everyone Goes Home" Program.

And the last piece is that the Department of Justice just issued three grants to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to increase awareness of public safety officer benefits across the country. To track state and local benefits available to firefighters and emergency medical service providers who die in our country. And thirdly to create a firefighter notification system that encompasses all the different notifications that are out there today into one site on the web that will let people know that a firefighter has died today. Not just line of duty but that a firefighter has died today.

So we have a lot of things going on. A lot of activity underway and we appreciate all the support we get in doing that. Are there any questions?

**Craig Moe**, Executive Committee Member: Ron can you explain to me why it takes so long for some cases for those killed in the line of duty – with some being up to five years. What is the hold-up?

**Ron:** Actually there are a series of things that could potentially cause a hold-up. The way the Foundation handles a line of duty, is if it is obvious that it is going to get approved by PSOV, then we often times go ahead and put them on the wall. But our criteria is actually says they have to have PSOV approval. So when you get into the circumstances, part of the problem with PSOV approval is that issues related to next of kin have to be determined. That becomes a big issue if there are multiple spouses or significant others in their life and then all of a sudden the family is fighting over who the next of kin is. There are issues related to, especially with Hometown Heroes, because there are certain elements in the law that says certain medical conditions could exclude them from getting that benefit. So then you are going to need autopsy reports and previous medical documentation and it becomes pretty cumbersome in some situations. That was the reason that the last teams, which Maryland has a very successful last team was created. To get in there and help the departments start the federal process early and also sometimes it is better to put the facts in there. Because sometimes if you put too much in there, it raises too many questions and so we are trying to get the last teams to go in and help the departments with that initial statement of circumstance and some of that initial paper work to eliminate some of the landmines that are created through the Department of Justice and their Office of General Council. There is still an effort underway, and a battle underway, by the Office of General Council within the Department of Justice to deny claims. The Rachel Wilson case is a prime example. Each time that staff made recommendations to approve that, the Office of General Council in D.C., denied it. This becomes this whole rig-a-ma-roll related to what is and is not line of duty and what entitles the benefits. So the majority of cases do percolate well. But there are some that just get stuck. One of the Charleston ones for example, was just approved about six months ago because there was another spouse and other kids in another part of the Country and there was a legal battle as to who was going to receive the benefits. So that sometimes delays it. If we are pretty convinced that it was a line of duty, isn't doesn't matter to us who the beneficiary is. So there are names that are put on the wall prior to PSOV approval. And I will be candid, a couple of times we have gotten caught that they end up not getting it and then we go back and try and help fight that. But generally speaking, with having done this, the Foundation has been doing it since 1992, the same staff, they get a pretty good idea as to who should be on the walls. So we move forward with that. But there are some that are too much in the gray area that it could go either way and unfortunately wait.

The questions was asked if the County has classified it as line of duty death and it is held up elsewhere? How does that work?

**Ron:** That unfortunately happens a lot. There are several – several in Prince George's County themselves – that were line of duty with Prince George's County Government, the volunteer fire department and even MFSA – but they do not meet the national criteria. One of my dearest friends, Charlie Burton, was not a national line of duty based on the criteria. So what we have to follow is what was established by the Congressional Mandate, which the criteria was first established there

and then in 1997, the meeting of the leadership of the major fire service organizations fine tuned it. And that's what we have to follow. There are discussions now about potential changes. Hometown Heroes is a prime example. The Foundation always did heart attacks. PSOV has just finally caught up with us to add the heart attack component to the Federal death benefit payment.

**Craig Moe:** I can only say if there is a way we can help you through that process let us know.

**Ron:** We appreciate that and as we go through that process we will keep the MSFA involved.

**Pres. Cox:** Mr. Chairman, Ron. Could you explain pre-1981.

**Ron:** The Foundation has been working for the last five or six years to address the firefighters who died prior to the Memorial Site in Emmitsburg being built. It was built in 1981 and the first names were placed on the bronze plaque in 1982 recognizing the firefighters from 1981. There is nowhere in the United States that recognizes a firefighter on a national level prior to that. So we have been working to build a section in the National Park in Emmitsburg to do the pre-81 section. So we have started a data-base and we are out soliciting information that anyone has information about a line of duty, it's probably going to be accepted based upon what is submitted by the department. And we are looking at something in maybe the Walk of Honor or maybe even a Memorial Garden or Park, somewhere up at Emmitsburg to be able to address that. One of the pieces is that is a brick and mortar project and I'll be candid, it is tough right now to find money for brick and mortar projects out there on a donation basis. We are working hard just to keep the programs funded with the way the economy is. And contrary to what you hear in the media, the recession is over – I can tell you I am out there every day looking for money and it is still tough to get money out there today. So we are working through that. Once we get a donor we will go from there.

**Chair Stevens:** Public Address System, Harry Hetz.

**Harry Hetz:** The new system is up and working, it is a wireless system. Like any new system we are working and learning just like you. As far as Bill goes, I was in to see him last Tuesday. He was sitting up in a chair and was talking and communicating and was cognizant. I was kidding with him that we needed to get him out and get him back to the firehouse and get him on fire trucks. He said no, he's not going back on fire trucks. I think he has some appreciation for his health situation. He was in pretty good spirits and glad to see everybody. It is a long road. He was ready to get released and go to a step-down unit and they found out the step-down unit could not support the ELVAS. The people who had been trained moved on. So now they have to find new people and train and them before they can relocate him to a rehab facility. So that is kind of where I understand where things are for Bill and them. Continue to keep him in your prayers and we continue to pray for God's blessings for him. Thank you.

**Chair Stevens:** Any questions on Public Address System or Meeting Logistics? Ok, thank you sir. Incentives Program Committee. I think Joe is going to give Joanne's report.

**Joe Robison:** Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Executive Committee. I am sorry to say that Joanne is not with us today. She got up and got dressed and said she was feeling bad. So I told her to go back to bed and I would take care of it so unfortunately I'm here.

The Elective Service Award there is no change in that but that is quite metric that is used for a lot of people that has a program and want to improve it or doesn't have a program and want to get in – so that is used quite a bit.

**(This is the report Joanne submitted that Joe reported for her.)**

### **Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP)**

The Incentives Programs Committee continues to monitor the counties for any changes in their respective programs. No changes have been received since our last meeting. A copy of the latest LOSAP Summary Chart summarizing the current LOSAP information by County is attached. All information was taken from the latest information furnished this committee.

### **TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TIP)**

Sarah C. Dufresne, Esq., Tax Consultant – Legal, Comptroller of Maryland, Revenue Administration Division, requested a copy of the 2008 qualifying members, as well as the 2009 members that I had completed. The 2009 list was nearly complete – lacking some Social Security Numbers. Joe hand-delivered these to her the same day. As soon as the information was received, a finalized copy was sent to her.

Letters will be going out to the County Coordinators in December to remind their companies we are nearing the end of Tax Year 2010. It is important the records of member's participation in the volunteer activities are current and accurate. As you go about your various association meetings, please stress that each company should send its list of qualifying members to its county coordinator as soon after February 15 as possible.

No changes have been made to the program. Until Administrative Release No. 29, Revised September 30, 2009 has been revised, we will continue to follow it and the guidelines established in 1995. That is, to qualify for the subtraction modification, volunteers with less than 25 years of service must have been active in the tax year and have at least 36 month of qualifying service tax year; however, the member must still qualify with at least 36 months of qualifying service in the last 10 years. Qualifying service is a minimum of 50 points and those points must be earned in at least two categories. The length of service to qualify is still 36 months and the amount of the subtraction remains \$3,500.

If you or any of your companies have any questions or wish additional information, we are available to meet with any company or attend any association meeting.

A copy of a chart showing the qualifying members by county since the program started is also attached. Tax Year 2010 blank – not there yet.

Any questions?

**Stuart Carter**, Executive Committee member: Has there been any consider to try to raise the \$3,500 say to \$4,000?

**Joe Robison**: Yes we have the last couple of years. We have talked to the Legislative Committee and Joanne has even gone down and supplied numbers for them as to how much it would cost to the money. It is a bad time to go down but we'll try.

**Pres. Cox**: Stu, also in the last couple of years, each year going in with budget requests, that this be raised. And again, this year, when I sent the letter to the Governor, and of course when we meet with him, we'll put the same request in to increase it up to \$5,000 but we're not going to be hoggish about it and we take it in \$500 increments to get it up to the \$5,000. I know Roger had put in for that last year. So I think that is going to be an on-going request until one day we get there.

**Joe**: Thank you.

**Chair Stevens**: Any other questions. I see Richard is here. We'll give him a minute before we call on Data Systems Committee for their report. Gene, you want to do Volunteer Company Assistance? Your on.



**INCOME TAX -- SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, OR EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL  
Tax Years 1996 through 2009 Qualifying Members by County .**

<b>MONTHS TO QUALIFY</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>COUNTY\YEAR</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
ALLEGANY	371	369	406	413	423	472	495	519	552	548	544	551	568	559	
ANNE ARUNDEL	269	268	271	290	300	329	418	468	479	482	484	472	478	478	
BALTIMORE	842	846	889	932	938	1014	1247	1369	1382	1396	1395	1429	1428	1400	
CALVERT	178	195	202	204	208	247	278	277	302	313	336	469	378	400	
CAROLINE	201	190	195	152	183	215	201	206	221	216	211	216	201	201	
CARROLL	489	520	522	530	552	621	672	709	699	728	709	712	713	788	
CECIL	200	206	209	219	228	271	302	347	356	375	382	392	402	396	
CHARLES	415	435	482	541	530	692	838	979	1063	1115	1187	1246	1314	1356	
DORCHESTER	129	128	136	137	136	179	189	197	222	153	253	221	252	254	
FREDERICK	628	627	673	671	660	742	820	943	954	879	709	827	864	859	
GARRETT	197	219	211	207	216	237	274	287	300	302	278	312	319	295	
HARFORD	550	597	585	605	642	686	886	1332	836	887	930	957	896	953	
HOWARD	120	131	134	141	156	192	202	224	235	240	253	267	266	270	
KENT	188	140	159	163	154	144	184	205	205	205	218	205	205	216	
MONTGOMERY	285	334	338	347	351	432	479	582	645	619	657	651	665	685	
PRINCE GEORGES	895	922	940	939	958	999	1063	1204	1194	1203	1170	1165	1137	1176	
QUEEN ANNES	166	171	193	193	203	181	231	261	272	288	289	256	324	295	
ST. MARYS	363	371	380	387	416	506	552	652	655	704	710	706	724	736	
SOMERSET	155	167	153	176	162	156	171	190	192	191	208	202	190	192	
TALBOT	151	163	168	171	173	194	200	212	219	235	238	239	232	249	
WASHINGTON	482	443	467	483	478	535	592	654	655	650	730	658	674	681	
WICOMICO	330	318	318	317	319	346	391	393	402	404	445	449	460	462	
WORCESTER	246	283	218	230	227	303	358	380	386	375	373	366	284	408	
<b>TOTAL QUALIFYING</b>	<b>7850</b>	<b>8043</b>	<b>8249</b>	<b>8448</b>	<b>8613</b>	<b>9693</b>	<b>11043</b>	<b>12590</b>	<b>12426</b>	<b>12508</b>	<b>12709</b>	<b>12968</b>	<b>12974</b>	<b>13309</b>	

## **Gene Curfman: VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND**

You'll have to excuse my nasally but I am fighting off a cold.

The Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board met on Sunday October 24, 2010 at 1:10 p.m. at the Friendsville VFRD. Board members present were: Eugene Curfman, Chairman Joe Antoszewski David McQuay, Jason Baer, Vice Chairman John Gatton, Sr., Joe Robison, Pat Bowser, Secretary, Craig Harman , MSFA Representatives present were: President Doyle Cox.

Prior to the hearing of two applications, the Board once again reviewed the VCAF guidelines to finalize any changes, then and have Lee Sachs review them prior to presenting them to the MSFA Executive Committee.

There were several questions regards to appraised value for used apparatus. It was thought that this would be on a case by case basis, but it really depends on the lifespan of the apparatus in question. Also, not sure what the STATE, DMIL, or the BPW timeline would be. It was felt this Board needs to look at and approach the STATE without putting ourselves in a box — there should be some lead way.

It was felt by some that three bids should not be required for a loan as it is not a requirement for loans from a banking institution, if it's for a grant request, then yes, it makes the bids more competitive. There was also a question on financing Rehab projects, and limiting these requests for no more than five (5) years vs. new; and which would be more economical for the company.

Anticipated lifespan of rehabbed apparatus is up to 15 years and if so, would it be re-titled and therefore operate under the category of "new". Also discussed was the appeal process, as it now stands.

Discussion held regards to a company's inability to repay the entire cost of the apparatus or project. Also if the maximum allotted for grants each year (\$250,000) would be disbursed, what about another occurring emergency, would the Board be locked in or if additional grant monies were necessary, could the Executive Committee be consulted to extend the limit on grants.

Companies are to have the newly required policies in place; the whistle blower policy; the conflict resolution policy; and the document retention policy.

There was a question if a timeline could not be in place for loan closings, such as after receipt of apparatus and revocation of a loan if not closed within 90 days following receipt of equipment or completion of a new facility. With the handout of the Pre-Closing and Closing Checklist with each application, this should help speed up the process.

There was question of the Manufacturer's performance bond when ordering apparatus. The secretary was to finalize the guidelines and forward them to the Board members and to Lee for review and possible approval by the Executive Committee in November.

Two applications were heard, with the stipulation that the guidelines be approved by the Executive Committee prior to presentation of the applications to the Executive committee.

### **01:2011 Williamsport VF & EMS, Washington County**

Representing the company were Jay Grimes, President and John Raitt, Treasurer.

There original project was for a Rescue-Pumper, however they did not have three bids; they needed two more bids according to the new guidelines. Mr. Grimes also presented their desire for a new

building and addition, for separate restrooms/bunk rooms at an estimated cost of \$708,500.00. In this request, they asked for a \$244,500 loan, and a \$250,000 grant with matching funds of \$214,000 from the company, which does not include the cost for the addition. It was noted that we can only fund 50% of the project cost for new facilities or additions to current facilities which would be \$354,250.00. The application did not have updated financials for the two previous two years or two more bids for the project. They were told to bring back the additional information before the application can be acted upon.

### **01:2011 Mardela Springs VFC, Wicomico County**

Representing the company were David Bender, Treasurer and David Whiteneck. The application was in request for a new Engine-Tanker at a project cost of \$593,416.64. The loan request was for \$430,000.00. After some discussions, John Gatton, Sr. moved to approve the application pending approval of the new guidelines. David McQuay seconded and the motion carried by voice vote. Mr. Bender and Mr. Whiteneck were asked to attend the Executive Committee meeting in Aberdeen on Sunday November 14th in case there were any questions on the application.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 30th at Arbutus VFD in Baltimore County where Joe Antoszewski will be our host. A luncheon will be held at 12 noon with the meeting to follow at 1:00 p.m.

There was discussion that followed whether the money could be approved for Mardela before the new guidelines were approved by the Board. As long as the VCAF Board says that is OK and it does not violate the current guidelines, they should be able to approve the loan.

Gene stated their application met all the requirement of the current guidelines. They reviewed the applications as if they were using the new guidelines. The only thing they found missing was the whistle-blower and the conflict of interest documents. And I told them that today and told them I would see that they got that information so that they could submit to our Board.

**Wiley Donaldson**, Executive Committee: Just how far along are those companies on their purchases?

**Gene**: Mardela Springs has bids. That's the extent where they are at this point. The other company, Williamsport Fire & EMS. They had originally requested a combination loan/grant on an engine. Well they only had one bid and the President of the Company, who happens to be a salesman for the company that they had gotten a bid from. I was very specific with him that I thought that would not meet the standards to the Department of Military at this stage. They would have to have three bids in order to do that. At the meeting they then came in with in effect, another application to add to their building that they might consider substituting for the original application. Well they still did not have their latest financial information with them. What they had was two or three years old and we told them that was not acceptable, that they had to have more up-to-date financial information.

**Wylie**: What I was trying to determine what the urgency of their actions or our actions.

**Gene**: Mardela Springs has not, to my knowledge signed a contract. I don't know how soon they engine. I know they are replacing two vehicle with one.

**Ben Kurtz**, Executive Committee: Gene I have a question. I know when we applied, I took my application to Bill and let him review it. Aren't there representatives, not you guys, the whole Board look at it and say it is incomplete. Shouldn't the representative that area tell them what is missing. Tell them - hey look, your short of this or this is not acceptable, before going to the full Board for that application.

**Gene:** The big question with them, in my mind, was the potential conflict. Two year old financial information, you might have been able to let it slide through. But since they had the problem with the conflict of interest, I told them to up-date the financial information you are sending to us.

**Ben:** Well, they didn't have three bids also.

**Gene:** That is in the new guidelines for a loan. It was in the old guidelines for a grant. We are now saying for either, you need three bids. We looked at these applications against, not only the old guidelines but against the new guidelines also.

**Ben:** I was just thinking that possibly to save you all time and energy if the local rep assisted before it went to the Board.

**Gene:** We have put together a checklist that went off the guidelines and each of the area representatives will have a copy of that checklist, as well as, once we get everything approved, we are going to have it on the MSFA website. So a company can pull all that off including the checklist. So they can go down the checklist themselves before they even submit an application and check it off and say this has everything. Hopefully, our Board members will just be, ok, everything should be there at that point.

**Mark Bilger, Executive Committee:** I probably should know this, but how often does the Public Works meet that you have to take it back to them? Is it monthly?

**Lee Sachs:** The meet twice a month but usually you can't get on the agenda until the 2<sup>nd</sup> month due to their agenda being filled a month in advance.

**Mark:** So December is already booked. So the soonest you can probably get back to them is January?

**Lee:** I don't think we have to wait to get loan approval as long as it meets the current guidelines. The new ones are more stringent and nobody is going to object to that.

**Pres. Cox:** Am I understanding, in reference to Mardela Springs, that the loan application, the ones they submitted to you in Friendsville, they meet all of the guidelines with the exception of the whistleblower and the conflict of interest. So I guess the question is, if they meet all the guidelines that are in place now, why can't we approve that loan request?

**Gene:** Well, that's really up to you all. The VCAF Board approved it that day, subject to the adoption of the final guidelines.

**Pres. Cox:** Can that be presented to the Executive Committee today? (there was conversation that the tape did not pick up) I leave with the chairman.

**Chairman Stevens:** What is the pleasure of the Board?

**Wylie:** Gene do you think you need to take it back to your Board before we take action? Or are you saying your Board has approved it and are waiting for our approval?

**Gene:** My Board approved it at the meeting subject to those two final documents. We thought the guidelines had to be approved before we approved the application request. He is saying if they meet the old guidelines and now even meet the new guidelines that is should pass.

**Motion by Wylie Donaldson: Made the motion that we accept the recommendation of the VCAF to approve the Mardela Springs loan.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Hildebrand.**

**Craig Moe:** You said wait for the approval of the Board. That is already done.

**Lee:** Conversations followed on reviewing what has been done by the committee subject by approval of the VCAF Board which he can do by email tomorrow.

**Chair Stevens:** I would feel uncomfortable approving that with the fact the VCAF Board had a condition on it.

**Gene:** I can go back to my Committee members and it was felt that because they met the old guidelines and they meet the new guidelines, that we didn't have to wait for approval of the new guidelines and get confirmation from them that that is alright with them, that you all approved it subject to that.

**Chair Stevens:** Wylie if you will amend your motion to include that and we have a second to that. Any other discussion on this or have we pretty much discussed out.

**Vice Pres. Lewis:** I was just kind of listening here because we need to remember what we are here for. We are trying to get this process to work right and I know Lee has worked hard to get the military side right and I know what Gene is trying to do is to get our side right. And we need to remember what we are here for and this is to support our membership. I have been involved with this one in Mardela Springs and the guys travelled all the way out to Friendsville. They were initially told VCAF was not going to hear their application that day after driving all the way out there and then they did and put the contingencies on it. They drove here this morning because they were told to be here this morning and then sent home this morning. So we are here to support our membership and I would encourage us take appropriate action and stay within the guidelines of the law and Lee will keep us straight there but support our membership.

**Chair Stevens:** I agree but I don't want to step on the toes of VCAF either.

**Gene:** I don't think my Board would have a problem with the fact that the Executive Committee approves it. We'll get that subject to corrected and will then send that information to the Secretary so that it is official.

**Chair Stevens:** Again, if you would let me know and I will alert the Executive Committee know.

**Gene:** I will make sure you get the email.

**Chair Stevens:** Any other discussion before we have the vote on this.

**Gene:** He will take care of notifying Mardela Springs.

**Roger Powell, Executive Committee:** I understand that Mardela Springs was missing a couple of things in the application. That will be supplied?

**Gene:** Yes.

**Roger:** So then, assuming that those documents are going to be supplied. The approval of the loan is contingent upon the documents being supplied.

**Lee:** Unfortunately what happened is the VCAF Board made the condition subject to approval of the guidelines. That's not ready so, he need to go back and say to them the interpretation is you don't need the guidelines approval to get this loan through because it meets the existing guidelines which is currently what the law is.

**Roger:** In which case they don't need the two documents?

**Lee:** No. But they want them. They will get those two. It won't delay them. Those papers are ready, all they have to do is fill in the blanks.

**Gene:** I understand they are on the website, so all they have to do is go to the MSFA website and pull them off and fill them in and sign them and fax him a copy.

**Lee:** So that is the condition they are concerned about.

**Roger:** Thank you.

**Chair Stevens:** We just want to make sure the Board is okay with removing their conditions so to speak.

**Lee:** And you need to know the reason in asking for this is because on the last one or the one before, when they read the minutes which we have to send them from the VCAF Board, there was something in there that they didn't do.

**Gene:** I did a voice vote by telephone.

**Lee:** And they questioned that. Gene supplied the information. They didn't get the guidelines and that was the reason there was a problem. We are trying to stay out of the hair.

**Roger:** I understand and I agree with the intent of the fund and I have been involved since the beginning of the original documents. But we do not want to embarrass ourselves or the company by trying to rush ahead and then have the Board of Public Works say or the Department of the Military well we have a problem here. I don't want to create that situation. As long as you are recommending that that is not going to be a problem for us when we review either the application or the guidelines then. I am just hearing some lose ends is all.

**Lee:** I don't think it will be a problem. That is the answer to Mr. Powell's concern.

**Craig Moe:** I just want to state, when they listen to the tape. We are not doing anything wrong here. We are approving something that we are required under the law for us to do. The Board has reviewed it, we are saying we are accepting their recommendation per their review again. If they are satisfied, I am satisfied that helps the company. We are not doing anything wrong here. It is a bureaucrat that constantly read certain things. If that are that worried, then they should start coming to our meetings as well. We need to move on. We are supposed to be helping companies and that is what that money is for and you need to remind them of that as well.

**Motion by Wylie Donaldson: Made the motion that we accept the recommendation of the VCAF to approve the Mardela Springs loan once the needed 2 forms (Whistle Blower and Conflict of Interest Forms) are supplied.**

**Chair Stevens:** I take that and call for the vote on this thing. All in favor say aye. All opposed – none. Motion carries unanimously. Thank you. Anything else?

**Gene:** Nope.

**Chair Stevens:** Data Systems. Richard are you ready?

**DATA SYSTEMS - Chair Richard Snader:** My report this time around was going to be no report Mr. Chairman. Did want to comment quickly, we apologize for the mail server last Sunday and Monday I think. It appears that some work was being done at the data center at MIEMSS and either a switch went bad or else somebody kicked the plug out. They're not real sure yet but it is back up and we appreciate them hosting that mail server. That's it. Any questions and or anything we can do, just holler!

**Chair Stevens:** Any questions? Ok, thank you sir. Volunteer Trumpet Committee, anything here on the trumpet? Nope. OK

#### **VOLUNTEER TRUMPET - No report**

**Chair Stevens:** Richard, Hazardous Materials, Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction. All sort of bad stuff there.

#### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/TERRORISM/WMD COMMITTEE**

**Chair Richard Brooks:** Good morning everyone. It is a pleasure to be with you once again, I invited our Harford County Miss Fire Prevention to join me at the table, not because she is in hazardous materials or terrorism or any of the like. But I met this nice lady last week at the contest in Harford County and she could do very well for any of us. She made a statement that she needed to catch up on her knowledge of the fire services and today would be the day for her to do that. So I thought I'd get her up-close to you all and see how that is done. Her Mom and Dad are here too and they'll get to see it as well. One of the things that I really enjoyed about her bio was that she played JV Football and instead of continuing on with football, she now plugs Rugby for Bel Air High School. My line of thought is I'll keep her right here with Hazardous Materials and Terrorism. OK? You all get my point now? And if not, I think I can get her firefighter training and put her on a truck company and we can do really well. So – it is nice to have you with us.

Let me just cover a couple of things for you. You heard from Director Edwards yesterday about the 472 Standard and the change in the training for HazMat Ops and I am sure that is all sinking in with you. I had a conversation with Skip Mahan, the co-chair of the Training Committee for them to take a look at that. Make sure it is addressing the needs as they see it. I've have gotten some phone calls and some emails specifically one from Baltimore County and they had some concerns about the requirement – the prerequisite. One of the things that I would ask you to appreciate is the NFPA 472 Standard when it changed, it changed specifically for a reason and that' s because Hazardous Material Responder were not just firefighters. They are not just firefighters. The case in point is post 2001, everyone got into the hazardous materials business. There is now hazmat teams in every alphabet soup branch of the government. None of which are firefighters. So NFPA 472 core competency requirements was meant so that those people could level of the standard that was most appropriate for their agency. Obviously for firefighters, as the Director put it, having the PEAFF

prerequisite, met the firefighters need because that is what we see them as. However, across this state we have stand alone rescue and EMS companies. And they are not firefighters, so we in training need to take a look at that and see what is most applicable for them. The Director, he and I, had a conversation, also realized and identified that the OSHA 1910-120 Standard is still out there and still works for Hazardous Operations for those who are non-firefighters. That is on the shelf at MFRI and he is going to take a look at that as well. So I would not say that is put to bed. I think it is something we need to look at and make sure it meets all of our members needs, certainly the firefighter but others as well. So if there are any questions on that we can talk about that as you think about it.

Last week we closed out the EPA Conference in Baltimore. We did have a substantial turnout from the Metropolitan Baltimore area fire departments. I did see a number of our volunteer members there in a career capacity. A lot of people from Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Annapolis City were there and many of those are volunteer members and go a tremendous amount of information out of the conference. Baltimore City, I've got to give Kudos where Kudos belong, this conference we have had for many many years, as long as I can remember and I have been on the host committee for over a dozen years, but we almost lost the conference this year because of federal bureaucracy. The EPA could not put the mechanism in place to hire the contractor who puts on the conference – does the leg work. They just could not make it happen. So it was strictly a bureaucracy issue. Baltimore City LEPC, Bob Maloney, stepped to the plate, as we use to do in the old days, and opened a checking account and put on the Conference. They get 100% of the credit and did absolutely an outstanding job and kudos to them for doing that. We reaped many of the benefits.

Baltimore City also, completely exposed themselves on the John Hopkins shooting that you all will remember. Commissioner Beafeld came forward in the Opening Session and gave the highlights of the operations of the shooting and very openly said – we failed and we failed because we did not embrace ICS, Bill Hildebrand was with me and hear it as well. The fire service was on the scene, my staff could not function, they did not understand why the fire department was there, the fire department had it in hand because they used the NIMS Standard in ICS and we didn't and that is going to change. They did about four different programs, including the Keynote address by Commissioner Beafeld, four different programs, looking at it in four different ways. It was absolutely outstanding. At one point they realized that there was such a flaw, that one of their Tactical Command Post, was literally a block away, straight down the block looking where the shooter was.

One of the concerns they had was whether, John Hopkins remain open for business. That is debatable. People trying to get into John Hopkins could not and employees could not get back into the hospital, visitors could not get back in the hospital but life-saving surgery and treatments continued within the hospital. So it is debatable what reference you use for that. All in all, obviously a successful outcome. The shooter was isolated and he took his own life in the end and in very short order as you look at the whole incident.

Another program that was important to us was, and we have discussed it here before, was improvised explosive devices done by Glen Rudner, who we all know from the state of Virginia. He has done a lot of work on the Israeli side with IED, gave a program on that. That continues to be a focal point, we see that as we saw, and I will comment on that in a couple of minutes, with the attempts out of Yeoman with the attempts on the air freight systems with cell phones packed in freight. It is believed that nobody knew they were going to go on freight airliners – it is believed they were targeted for passenger airlines – that did not happen and they failed as well. So he gave that highlight.

We look forward to the IAFC HazMat Conference on May 18-22 that again will be held in Baltimore downtown at the Marriott Waterfront.



And I did participate in the Pennsylvania HazMat Conference on October 9<sup>th</sup> in Harrisburg at the Harrisburg Area College. They had about 400 people in attendance from across the state of Pennsylvania. One of the things that came through loud and clear was the suicide gassings in vehicles. The two companies that had them up there actually created three different calls because they had to go to the gentleman's residence and realized when they got there they had a second site with some of the products there they had to deal with. That continues to be a concern and well publicized on the internet. I think the safety briefings put out in the fire service certainly addresses the concerns for the fire service and something people are going to have to maintain vigilance on when they come up and see a sign in a car window with potentially a person inside and how that is going to be handled. If you have any questions on any of those things and we will continue to follow this NFPA 472 issue.

**Chair Stevens:** Any questions? Thank you Richard. I am going to interject a couple of things that have come up that we need to address. One of them the Chaplain brought to my attention. A motion that was made and the discussion by the Honor Guard Committee back at the April Meeting and it has to do with these chin straps again. With your indulgence, I will read the last paragraph of the report from the minutes.

He ask for ok to pursue a fundraiser for selling the 911 Commemorative Chin Straps. He said MSFA would be the only Association in Maryland to sell the straps. They will sell for \$12 each and the MSFA will receive \$5 of that. When the departments in Maryland sell at least a 100 chin straps for \$12 each Lighthouse Uniforms will send a check for \$500 to MSFA. The following motion was made by Buddy Schweers and 2d by Bill Hildebrand to approve the Honor Guard following up on this 911 chin strap program as presented and pending the approval of our attorney. After discussion the motion was approved with 5 yes and 4 no. And that is from the April 17<sup>th</sup> minutes. John brought that to my attention yesterday. I just bring it to your attention and because I think many of us thought the motion failed. So I am opening this up for discussion here.

**Stuart Carter, Executive Committee:** I stand corrected Mr. Chairman, I thought it had failed but from what you are reading there, it obviously passed.

**Chair Stevens:** The thing that was pending at that time was the approval of the attorney and I am not sure that the attorney ever got back to us on that. So what's the desire of the Board, so should we follow up with the attorney now?

**Mark Bilger:** It was the Honor Guard Committee that was supposed to follow-up with the attorney, correct?

**Chair Stevens:** I would just go back to the Committee and have them follow up with the attorney. That was the motion and I just read it right out of the April minutes. We will follow up with the Honor Guard Committee.

Ok, Director Muth is here. Go ahead sir with your report. Your on.

**MEMA Report - Richard Muth:** Thank you and good morning. I did not mean to interrupt your schedule but I appreciate you taking me since I had a last minute change in plans yesterday. There are a couple of things in the formal report I want to point out. We have hired a new SEOC Manager Joseph Brocato. I don't know if anyone knows Joe, he just retired from Baltimore City Fire Department. He was the Chief in charge of the Academy and oversaw their Technical Rescue Team and that sort of thing.

We are continuing to deploy radios to the different to the different radio station for the emergency alert system. And they are IP radio based. I don't know how many people know how poor our emergency alert system really is in the state of Maryland. It needs a lot of help and this is due to broadcasters because they own all the radio stations. But I think we have made a lot of progress in that regard. But we are still working on that very diligently.

Last week-end we completed a vigilant guard exercise, which was a five day exercise with the National Guard. They had 100s of troops in from all over the region and that was very successful.

Another thing I wanted to cover, there has been a lot of rumor, and I was able to verify this, about the State Police going to plain language, I have had a number of emergency management people come to me about that. That is actually going to happen. I talked to the Colonel for the State Police on Friday. What is going on there is with the new interoperability communication system, the first part will be online the first of next year. That will go all the way from the Washington, DC to Cecil County. Basically along 95 and that area. Because of them going in and out of different departments, police departments along the way, and you know they all use the 10 codes and each one is a little different from the other. They decided to go to a plain language which is, from the fire service perspective is great. We have been doing it for years. It is also required by NIMS to have universal plain language. So it won't happen for about a year and it will be in a narrow part of the state and then as the interoperability expands, they'll expand that. Where I am hearing issues with some of the local emergency managers, is some of the Sheriff's in the town don't want to go that route and that's ok it is not going to be mandated right now. More information from MSP will be going out on that as time goes on.

One of the other things you would have experienced last year and maybe not from a direct oversee perspective, with the National Guard coming out like we did during the winter for the blizzards, we learned a lot of lessons from both of those storms. One of the things was there was really no coordination between the National Guard and the local jurisdictions. Some did better than others. So what they have come out with is a "cold training" it is called County Liaison Team and they will have a National Guard representative in each of the emergency operations center that has National Guard resources. This was actually our request and it makes sense. And then they can have the local agency speak right to them to find out what they need and what can happen from that point. We had a lot concern about individual fire or police releasing National Guard assets when they weren't supposed to be released from an overall state's perspective. So I think that is a great program. They will be going around in a couple of weeks to the different emergency manager and teaching that and then there will be a booklet coming out and will make sure it is available to the fire service that really explains all this and has a really good listing of all the equipment the National Guard has to offer. And probably more importantly, what that equipment can be used for. I think there was a little confusion sometime about what is asked for and whether they are trained for that or may not have the equipment available. They are not trained to go into swift water but they can provide transportation up to that point, where the fire departments swift water teams can be deployed from there. So a lot of that conversation is going on and you'll be hearing more about that in the next couple of weeks.

The last thing I have, if anybody is interested, there has been a request put out from FEMA but is actually connected with Ball State University in Indiana, they are looking for folks to teach an Advanced Crisis Communications course throughout the country. So I thought this might be of interest to your group because you have a lot of people involved in this. Basically deals looking for training in the 911 centers on PSAP operators in the different communication strategies that will be done nationwide. I just have one flyer here and I will leave it with you, it has the requirements and what you need to become an instructor for them and it is a paid positions. That's all I have right now sir.

**Chair Stevens:** Any questions for Director Muth? Ok. Thank you.

MEMA Administrative Directorate:

### **Grants Management**

- Distribution of FY 10 UASI/SHSP funding to local sub-grantees was completed in October
- Guidance on application procedures for FY 10 HSP awards expected in December 2010

### **Information Technology**

- Progress continues on the development of EMMA (NG); an enhanced Flex-Viewer, for our GIS mapping solution both "Private" and "Public" facing with the integration of WebEOC for Incident mapping and Maryland's iMap effort. Ongoing WebEOC improvements for data exchange and interoperability with Local, State, and Federal partners continue to include the potential implementation of WebFusion. New SHELTER board to be brought online on or about 01 December 2010 (awaiting final State and Local agencies review).
- Deployment of Internet based (IP) emergency radios continues bringing EMNET/EAS to those currently not receiving this information during off-peak, non-manned hours.
- Communication Interoperability continues to be enhanced. Most recently with the implementation of WAG IN (Washington/Allegany/Garrett Interoperability Network).

### **MEMA Administration**

- SB73 passed making the MEMA Executive Director a direct appointment by the Governor
- Operations Director (Acting) - Paul Hajek
- MJOC Manager - Gary Zamerski
- SEOC Manager - Joe Brocato
- Preparedness Manager - recruiting
- Mitigation Planner - conducting interviews

**MEMA Planning Directorate:**

### **Special Projects and Planning**

- There is a rejuvenation of planning efforts with ESF 8, 12, 13
- Maryland has taken on leadership for East Coast Tsunami planning effort.
- MEMA will be participating in DMIL Vigilant Guard exercise Nov. 3-9
- Crafting of Winter Storm Incident Checklist (available in near future)
- Efforts are underway for our traditional Severe Storms Awareness Conference in the Spring
- Continued involvement with Regional Catastrophic Planning Program
- Category III Hurricane Planning continues
- MEMA hopes to have introduced 2011 legislation for use of school buses in an emergency.

## **MEMA Operations Directorate:**

### **Operations**

#### **Exercise and Training:**

**“Vigilant Guard”** – From November 5<sup>th</sup> 2010, **MEMA supported (as an active** participant) a Maryland National Guard-hosted exercise that tested the National Guard as the **first military responder** in support of the governor and the state emergency management agency. “Vigilant Guard” reinforces that all incidents are local. The exercise demonstrated the capabilities of the Maryland National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, the Joint Task Force-Maryland, and the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) – the process where Governors reach out to other governors for more assistance. Specific National Guard homeland defense capabilities included the National Guard Reaction Forces, Joint Reception Staging and Onward Integration, Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package teams.

- Further, the exercise will seek to improve command and control and operational relationships with internal military and external civilian and military partners against homeland security threats, in addition to performing communication capability and interoperability testing and improving MDNG ability to successfully integrate with civilian agencies. This is a premier National Guard event, and one of only 4 such exercises conducted annually by the National Guard and will include our FEMA Region III partners.

#### **SEOC Activations:**

During late August and mid-September of 2010 MEMA activated to a level 3 on two occasions in preparation and in response to Hurricane Earl and TD 16 (aka Tropical Storm Nicole). While both storms had potential, neither caused any serious issues and only minor damage was reported from most jurisdictions.

**Intell Homeland Security** – **MEMA** continues to attending all relevant intelligence briefs to stay abreast of DHS and FBI reporting of uptick in chatter regarding threats against the homeland. Primary Election/Early **Voting**: MEMA served as the lead coordination agency in support of the Maryland Board of Elections for early voting on Oct 22-28 and for the general election on Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>. Included in this preparation were recurring conference calls/briefings with state and local agencies. MEMA worked behind the scenes to help coordinate the flow of information and resources that were needed should a catastrophic event occurred.

NWS: Is in early discussions with Chris Strong at the NWS regarding the development of NWS Slides and/ or power point to be used as visual support and reference during weather briefings. Pittsburgh successfully utilized this last winter.

#### **Regional Administrator Program**

Presently, all MEMA Regions have Administrators in place. The latest version of the Regional Administrator Map with contact information can be found on the MEMA website. Regional Administrators are available for presentations, attendance at events and support for items such as exercise/training and information & referral services. RAs recently spent a day with Civil Air Patrol to enhance their knowledge of resources available for incidents/events.

- ESF9/SAR update- ESF9 was up for the last 2 SEOC Activations; Hurricane Earl and TD-1 6. Fire Desk was staffed and participated in ESF9 activities as did other partner agencies. The MSFA SME

was contacted-as well as MSFA President kept informed- during both activations; thanks for your input and assistance!

• If anyone has questions or would like additional information about the Regional Administrator program or ESF 9/SAR, please contact Erica Mowbray at [emowbray@mema.state.md.us](mailto:emowbray@mema.state.md.us).

## **Exercise and Training**

MEMA continues to coordinate Emergency Management Training throughout Maryland for both State partners and local jurisdictions. A full listing of our Exercise and Training calendar, including on line registration can be found at

<http://www.mema.statemd.us/calendar/index.asp>. Selected upcoming offerings are listed below:

### **• ICS 300 & 400 Intermediate and Advanced ICS Training**

11/01/2010-11/05/2010

Salisbury,MD

• Soft Target Awareness Course (STAC)

11/02/2010 . 11/04/2010

Baltimore, MD

• ICS 300 .Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

11/02/2010 . 11/18/2010

Middletown, MD

• Hazard Mitigation Planning Workshop (G-318)

11/03/2010 . 11/05/2010

Sykesville, MD

• MGT 318 Public Information in a WMDITerrorism Incident 11/03/2010 . 11/04/2010

Sykesville, MD

• ICS-300, Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

11/06/2010 . 11/07/2010

Ocean City, MD

• ICS-300, Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

11/08/2010 . 11/10/2010

City of Alexandria, VA

• ICS 300/400

11/08/2010 . 11/12/2010

Westover, MD

• ICS 300/400

11/08/2010-11/12/2010

Westover, MD

• MGT 337 Food Vulnerability

11/09/2010-11/10/2010

Frederick, MD

• MGT 341 Disaster Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations Course 11/30/2010

Sykesville, MD

• MGT 318 Public Information in a WMDITerrorism Incident 12/01/2010 . 12/02/2010

Reisterstown, MD

• ICS-400

12/04/2010 . 12/05/2010

Ocean City, MD

MEMA continues to Chair the Exercise and Training Integration Committee (ETIC). This forum provides opportunities for local jurisdiction and state agency collaboration in Exercises and Training. Through the MSFA Training Sub-committee, MSFA has been offered a seat on this panel.

MEMA Acting Director of Operations, Paul Hajek, is the chair of the Exercise and Training Operations Panel (ETOP) for the National Capital Region.

MEMA continues to meet your NIMS/ICS needs by offering numerous ICS and related courses.

### **Mitigation and Recovery**

- MEMA hazard mitigation staff has completed the process of soliciting notices of interest for the estimated \$9 million that the state will receive under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program as the result of the two winter snowstorms. Approximately \$26 million in Notices of Interest have been submitted to the State for planning and project applications. The Mitigation Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet November 17, 2010 to review these Notices of Interest, and determine which ones will move forward to project development
- The 2010 Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grant Application awards have been announced by FEMA. Eight mitigation planning applications for approximately \$370,000 have been awarded. MEMA Mitigation Staff is in the process of conducting sub-grantee briefings for all planning grant recipients.
- Two Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation grants have been earmarked for the State of Maryland. These include a \$650,000 grant to retrofit a police station in Rockville, and \$1 million for an alert and warning system. MEMA Staff has worked with the City of Rockville to develop and submit an application to FEMA. This project was deemed ineligible by FEMA due to benefit cost issues. MEMA is working with the City to develop an alternate project application. MEMA staff is currently working to develop an application for the alert and warning system application for submittal to FEMA.

### **Public Assistance and Individual Assistance:**

#### **Individual Assistance**

The Individual Assistance (IA) Program and the Other Needs Assistance (ONA) Coordinating Officer from the Department of Human Resources are currently working on updating the State Administrative Plan, Individuals and Households Program, Other Needs Assistance Plan (Section 408 of the Stafford Act Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance 83.560 to include the following functional elements to successfully implement the ONA mission:

- o *Disbursing Awards* – Standard procedure for inspecting and verifying individually reported disaster-related damages, which will be used to determine the level of Federal disaster assistance;
- o *Staffing* – Includes the responsibility for having adequate space and an appropriate number of trained personnel; also includes the responsibility for having appropriate equipment necessary to process assistance (i.e. computers, telephones and facsimile machines);
- o *Recovery of Funds* – An arranged procedure for collecting erroneously awarded funds;
- o *Case Processing* – Standardized system to process applications and respond to applicant inquiries;
- o *Appeals* – Official protocol for evaluating an applicant's request to have a program decision reviewed;

o *Preparation of Closeout Material* – Involves the preparation of the narrative and statistical documents that comprise a model closeout package. Duties of this function include ensuring that there are no cases pending and that all funds are reconciled for grants and reimbursement of State expense

• The Individual Assistance (IA) Program is working collaboratively with MEMA Plans Section to engage recovery stakeholders to create a comprehensive State coordinating structure that will enhance our ability to work together and effectively deliver long-term recovery assistance, in cooperation with the following emergency management partnering agencies:

o Maryland Department of Human Resources

o Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

o Maryland VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) – Key long-term recovery member agencies

o Citizens Corp

o CART, CERT

## **Public Assistance**

**MEMA** Public Assistance continues to process Project Worksheets and reimbursements for the December Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-DR-1 875-MD. This disaster was declared on February 19, 2010 for Public Assistance Category A – Debris Removal and Category B – Emergency Protective Measures for 12 Maryland jurisdictions and subdivisions. MEMA received 334 Requests for Public Assistance for this declaration. 369 Project Worksheets have been completed with a total of 370 total Project Worksheets projected for the disaster. Corresponding reimbursements for these Project Worksheets are being processed by MEMA and disbursed to applicants. Joint Field Office (JFO) operations for FEMA-DR-1 875-MD were transitioned to the FEMA, Region III, Office in Philadelphia for completion as of August 13, 2010. Total obligated Federal Share of Public Assistance funding for this declaration is \$24,360,052 for eligible applicants. This disaster is 99% complete.

Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-DR-1 910-MD was declared May 6, 2010 for the February Severe Winter Weather. All categories of Public Assistance Category A – Debris Removal and Category B – Emergency Protective Measures in addition to Categories C-G of the Permanent Work Categories were included in this Declaration. 56 local jurisdictions and subdivisions of the State were deemed eligible. Five jurisdictions were eligible for an additional 24 hours of snow assistance for a total of 72 hours of snow removal activities. 647 Requests for Public Assistance were received for the February Disaster Declaration. 900 Project Worksheets have been completed with a total of 1,132 Project Worksheets being projected for this disaster declaration. Corresponding reimbursements for these Project Worksheets are being processed by MEMA and being disbursed to applicants. Total obligated Federal Share of Public Assistance Funding for this declaration is currently \$58,070,607 for eligible applicants. The total federal share obligated is expected to increase as the total projected project worksheets are completed. All Joint Field Office operations for this disaster will transition to the FEMA, Region III, Office in Philadelphia on or about November 19, 2010. The majority of all FEMA staff demobilized November 4, 2010 with only two staff members staying in place in Maryland for close out. This Disaster is approximately 80% complete. Applicants have 18 months to from the date of the declaration to complete all Permanent Work Category construction projects under this declaration.

• Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-DR-1 652-MD .The floods of June 2006 has been closed. Federal Public Assistance Funds totaling \$8,321,077 were disbursed to State and local applicants in the Maryland jurisdictions of Caroline, Dorchester and Montgomery for this disaster.

## **Maryland Joint Operations Center (MJOC)**

- The MJOC provides dispatch and communications services to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Maryland Department of Environment, and the Maryland Department of Agriculture to facilitate twenty-four hour emergency response operations. Additionally, the MJOC now serves as the Maryland Occupational Safety & Health's (MOSH) call center for after hours notifications. The MJOC has started 24/7 coverage for MOSH cal ls.
- Will be working with the NWS regarding a program called the Cooperative Observer Program (COOP). The program is similar to the Skywarn spotter program, but the COOP program is occurring all the time, not just when severe weather strikes. Each weather office tries to have one station in each of its counties. There are four counties in Maryland that do not have such a site –one of which is Baltimore Co. There is no equipment to purchase or maintain by MEMA –that is all done by the NWS. Training is also provided by the NWS.
- As of November 1, MJOC has changed alerting procedures and moved away from “all or nothing” alerting to “incident specific”.

## **News Events**

**Visit MEMA's website at [www.mema.state.md.us](http://www.mema.state.md.us)** for all the latest highlights, events and local profiles. A link to MEMA's most recent newsletter, “The Coordinator” can be found on the home page under “Quick Links”.

**Chair Stevens:** The Budget and Review Committee has requested some time, so Steve you're on.

**Chair Steve Cox, Budget & Review Committee:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday in the Financial Team, the Budget Committee discussed about the President's vehicle and the policy on the President's vehicle and Rusty Leftwich was able to provide the draft that they had and it lists eleven items. The Budget Committee did an informal poling of all members and unanimously, every member on the Budget Committee feels the same way, the document that was submitted yesterday does not cover some of the definitions that the Budget Committee is looking for as to when the vehicle is to be purchased based on mileage or mechanical condition, overall appearance, whether the vehicle was in an accident or not, those types of factors. Number 11 on that, talks about if budgetary issues exist, the vehicle will change as listed with the exception of the new vehicle issued and selling of the old vehicle. It very clearly talks about how the vehicles will rotate from the President to the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, etc. but does cover any of those others. What really got our attention yesterday was the comment about the vehicle that is to be sold, is in excellent condition. If it is in excellent condition and is only 3 or 4 years old, it may be worthy, rather than spending \$25,000 for another vehicle, that be part of that program, we keep that vehicle and we don't just arbitrarily spend that \$25,000 or whatever it comes up to. The car committee has \$25,000 in their budget. We would ask that you support us in getting a more definitive policy and we believe that the Car Committee should be the proper agent to come up with that policy and we would like that guidance so that we budget appropriately.

**Chair Stevens:** Rusty did send me the policy and I printed it out last night and I was going to get it to the rest of the Executive Committee electronically but I guess when I read it and I thought it was a bit weak myself. How would you suggest we proceed with this? Do the Budget Committee work with the Vehicle Committee or should be just kick it back to them with your suggestion?



**Steve:** We are willing to work however the Executive Committee would like. I can certainly call Rusty and let him know that this is our feeling and that we did convey it to you because we feel strongly, we have been flying by the seat of our pants, and if we come up with something definitive, we don't do knee jerk reactions, and I know one of the discussions yesterday was this is the last year for the Crown Vic. Whoopee, it is the last year for the Crown Vic. If we don't have a Crown Vic this year, we certainly aren't going to have one next year. So let's look physical responsible manner as to the way we are doing business rather than this is what we would like to have.

**Stuart Carter:** How many miles are on the car in question? \$122,000

**John Denver, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.:** Ok 122,000 is estimated as to where it will be in June. I was asked to provide an estimate as to where it would be in June. At this point, there is 99,000+.

**Chair Stevens:** I don't think we want to get tied down to the details of this car because what we are looking at is a policy to take us into the future, so I think that is what we need to look at here and the Budget Committee is telling us this policy doesn't have some of the stuff in it that it needs. The Executive Committee makes the decision but I suggestion is we go back to the Vehicle Committee and tell them that the Budget Committee has some suggestions and to work together. Now I am open to suggestions.

**MOTION: Wylie made the motion to give it to the Car Committee and for them to get with the Budget Committee and come up with a policy to present to the Executive Committee (this motion could not be heard on the tape). Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Craig Moe.**

**Chair Stevens:** Any questions?

**Mark Bilger:** Some of us talked yesterday about issues when vehicles are involved in an accident and who is notified and what the procedures are. Is there currently something is place or is this something we need to address?

**Chair Stevens: Mark, let's take care of this motion and then we'll discuss your concerns. Is there any other discussion on the motion? If not we will call for the question. All those in favor say aye, those opposed, hearing none the motion passes unanimously.**

**Chair Stevens:** Anything else sir?

**Steve:** Thank you and I apologize with the make-up of the Budget Committee and knowing that we will probably break after lunch that I had to interfere with two of your members but I wanted to make sure the entire Budget Committee was knowledgeable before it came here, especially when the two members also sit on the Executive Committee as well as the Budget Committee.

**Chair Stevens:** I would say we didn't miss them but I don't think that would be appropriate for me to say that would it!?

**President Cox:** Mr. Chairman to answer Mark's question and I can go from this year. When there is a mishap or anything, all three presidents are notified. I am notified and then I notified the other two presidents. What I have done is to instruct the individual, especially with the last mishap with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, to contact the Chairman of the Car Committee and also the Chip Jewel, the insurance company, so that is the procedure. And I think somewhere or another, this may be written. I know it was discussed several years ago.

**Chair Stevens:** So it is documented somewhere. Is the Executive Committee happy with that or do we want to look at us (Executive Committee) being notified as well.

**Mark:** The question I got yesterday was that one of the reasons why Chip was looking at going from \$250 to \$500 was that we were having multiple mishaps and I got the impression he was concerned we might lose our insurance coverage. So my question to some of the other Executive Committee members was how many mishaps have we actually had and is it an issue that needs to be addressed or looked at more closely?

**President Cox:** I'll address that. To my knowledge there has only been, and I maybe wrong on this, there has only been the one mishap this year. Could be more but that is the only one I am aware of. I think where Chip was coming from was that the deductible is so low. That is where he was concerned but if it was raised up some, I don't believe there would be reason for concern of the insurance company.

**Chair Stevens:** Maybe we should ask Chip for an update on how many mishaps there has actually been. He mentioned something about windshields too. I don't think we need to be notified every time there is a stone chip and a windshield has to be replaced.

**President Cox:** And there have been some windshields replaced.

**Chair Stevens:** We get a report from Chip and make sure there are no other problems. OK Recruitment and Retention. Viki Cunningham.

**RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION COMMITTEE: Viki Cunningham** - No report at this time.

**Chair Stevens: Rural Water Supply** – Don't see Doug for that but there are electronic reports for it and Residential Sprinklers. Anybody have anything on either Rural Water Supply or Residential Sprinklers?

Report of the Rural Water Supply Committee of the Maryland State Firemen's Association November 13, 2010  
The Rural Water Supply Committee has had a very busy fall. We have participated in two very successful, very different water supply drills. Our committee has had a chance to meet one another and participate together, thus we will be better able to expand our drill capabilities. Most of our members attended one or both of the drills this fall, which made for great support.

Our first fall drill was hosted by the Lewistown VFD in Frederick County on September 26. This was the last day of an extended drought period in that area. Our water sources, two creeks, were running very slow and shallow, however, we decided to hold the drill and deal with the real world scenario. This drill was attended by 88 personnel and 23 pieces of apparatus. Our average flow was approximately 690 gallons per minute for the two hour exercise. Our maximum flow during the drill was over 800 gallons per minute for nearly 40 minutes late in the drill. Our fill site units and personnel went to extraordinary measures to maximize the flow capabilities at their sites as well as adapt to the limited amount of water available. Temporary dams were set up using tarps, ladders, pinch bars, and other items from the apparatus. Low level strainers normally used in drop tanks were utilized in the creeks after sinking an air bag pad from a rescue engine to rest the strainer on. These are just a sampling of the methods used to accomplish the goals and maximize the sources. Units from 7 counties and two states participated. A ladder pipe was utilized to dispense the water into a creek bed that went back into one of the creeks we used. Committee members Greg Dods and Buddy Sutton coordinated this drill with the Lewistown VFD.

Our second fall drill was hosted by the Denton VFD in Caroline County on October 10. Water was no issue for this drill as the Choptank River was running well and all of our water was taken from there through 3 fill sites. This drill was attended by 60 personnel and 12 pieces of apparatus. Our average flow in this drill was

approximately 750 gallons per minute with the maximum flow of 1000 gallons per minute at several times during the drill. A 1400' hose relay was also part of this drill at the target hazard which added some additional challenges. This was also the first time our committee has been able to participate in a drill where large tractor trailer tankers and a vacuum tanker were utilized and no drop tanks were deployed. This was a great experience for everyone to work with these resources and learn their capabilities, advantages and shortcomings. Units from 6 counties attended this exercise. Committee members Robert Small and Paul Quigley coordinated this drill with the Denton VFD.

We offer our thanks to both of the host companies for their outstanding efforts and cooperation in conducting these drills. Our committee members met briefly at each of these drills and we discussed some improvements we can make to have our drills become even more educational and practical for the participants. We have some new ideas for the spring drills including an LDH relay drill and a draft site seminar in addition to our usual shuttle drill. Any company interested in hosting a drill should contact the committee as soon as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Doug Alexander, Chair  
Rural Water Supply Committee

## **REPORT of the RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER COMMITTEE**

**Richard Brooks:** Just quickly on the Sprinkler Issues. We received email contact, in Cecil County, from one of our Commissioners who is seeking appeal the Residential Sprinkler Component of the New Building Code. The fire service in Cecil County is getting geared up for that. I have already made contact with the State Fire Marshal and Faron Taylor as well. I think the fire service will take on a very aggressive posture to oppose that attempt. It is too early to predict which way it is going to go because we are all getting a feel for the new commissioners and getting them in place and we are going to do some education with them and hopefully (the removing of the Residential Sprinkler from the new building code) that will not be successful. I would anticipate however, the call will go out for big guns to come in and assist with that process. That's huge and we are very happy with Cecil County and the fact that we adopted the building code in its entirety. And we are not happy that there is now an attempt, after the elections and after the Commissioners changed, that this one portion will try to be excluded. So that's in the Residential Sprinkler front, more to follow.

**Executive Chair Stevens:** I think that is a problem with more than with just Cecil, a lot of counties, and John (Bender) back me up on this, if they adopt a new code, what they can do is write the sprinkler portion of it out and even though they have sprinklers now, if they adopt the new residential code, they opt out of the sprinkler portion and then we don't have sprinklers anymore. We are seeing that happen in just more than Cecil County. St. Mary's County brought it up last night at their banquet, so it is something we need to watch and vigilant in our own counties that we don't get into the same trick bag as some of the others have. It is extremely important.

**Bill Hildebrand, Executive Committee:** Kent County is the same way. Their vote is this Tuesday. They are adopting the Building Code but they are voting whether or not to keep residential sprinklers in. So that county is pending too.

**Richard Brooks:** I think the concern is we had it and had it in its entirety. And now, because complexion changes, there is an attempt to go back and repeal one portion. I think there is a difference when they begin that way than where we are. I am sorry they began that way excluding it and I am not supportive of that at all. But I am very concerned that it would be used in this way once it is in place. That's a terrible precedence to begin and if it is case then we can do that with other things. Why not? There are a lot of things that are less palatable to others that took place ten years ago, that could potentially be changed today. I think that is the key issue and something that we will jump on pretty hard.

**John Guntow, Executive Committee:** I have heard conversations at several venues. I know Worcester did not take action so it was going to become automatic. And the other night there were several conversations with people it's no big problem, we can go back and change it afterwards. So the thoughts are definitely out there.

**Chair Stevens:** I think those of us who fought and got sprinklers in our counties, I don't think we can drop the guard cause the builders for some reason, I am not sure why, but they are still trying to get the residential sprinklers taken out. It is mostly builders and a couple of environmentalists and others and I feel like I am the lone wolf in there to tell the truth. Well they're they wolves, I guess I am the lone sheep. John (Bender) would you like to comment on this.

**John Bender:** I think it is probably worthwhile to understand the state law on this and the distinction between the building code and the state fire code. The state fire prevention code, under state statutes, is a minimum state-wide requirement, local jurisdictions cannot adopt requirements that are less stringent than the regulations adopted by the state Fire Prevention Commission. The building code is different. When that law was passed, there was such a concern by local jurisdictions that were charter government that they did not want the state dictating requirements that would interfere with their ability to amend the building code. And so, when that law was passed, local jurisdictions were given the authority to amend the state recommended model building code either more or less stringent. For example at the time, Ocean City was very concerned about the state adoptions of the BOCA Building Code because they like the requirements of hurricane protection that were in the southern standard building code at that time. Now all those codes are under the International Code Council. So that is one reason why the state law was written the way it was. So the way it is now location jurisdictions can amend the state recommended model building code regulations through location amendment to adopt requirements that are more or less stringent than the state the recommended building code. So that is why you have local jurisdictions considering amending out the sprinkler requirement. So that is the situation we are facing and this is why we are doing fight literally jurisdiction by jurisdiction.

**Chair Doug Alexander:** The Residential Sprinkler Committee met on October 6, 2010 at the Anne Arundel County Fire and EMS Headquarters in Millersville. The meeting was well attended by the members as well as Vice Presidents Lewis and Denver. The interest and attention from all is appreciated.

Our contacts list was updated and corrected. It was noted that we have a few members that have not participated or acknowledged any communications for a year or more. Rather than deal with this at this time, we will carry them until next convention when the officers change and then update and refresh the committee under a new administration.

SFM Barnard did an in depth explanation of the State Attorney General's ruling on the Maryland Building Performance Standard and the ability of jurisdictions to amend portions of it in or out for use. This has an adverse effect to say the least on our efforts to keep the 2009 IRC intact during adoption processes.

We learned that there is much new technology coming forth in the residential sprinkler arena. Constant yield well pumps and high yield wells with appropriate pumps installed may eliminate the need for a storage tank and separate fire pump for the sprinkler system. Mist type systems are being tested and may soon become an alternative. We are also finding that the prices are holding steady for residential sprinkler installations.

We have learned that the City of Hagerstown has removed the sprinkler requirement from the 2009 IRC in their adoption process. This was done by a Mayoral veto of the acceptance of the sprinkler

requirement after a 3-2 vote in favor by the Council. There were not votes enough to overturn the veto. We had personnel from our committee and Vice President Lewis attending the public hearing in Kent County on October 26. A good turnout by the locals, reinforced by others, provided much factual information that the commissioners did not have, and may have made a significant impact on the outcome of this decision. We will know soon. There are hearings coming up soon in St. Mary's County and the Town of Trappe.

We will continue to support the efforts of the local fire service from around the state as communities adopt the 2009 IRC. We will encourage all areas to leave the sprinkler requirements intact and not weaken the model code. Currently we have 12 counties with requirements in place or soon to take effect. We have 86 of 157 municipalities with requirements in place or soon to take effect. Please let a committee member know if you learn of a public hearing or meeting involving the adoption of the 2009 IRC in your community and you wish for us to assist in any way.

**Chair Stevens:** Safety Committee. I don't see Bobby here. Anybody from the Safety Committee here? Mr. President.

**President Cox:** I cannot answer where he is coming or not. However there is a lengthy report that he has submitted electronically (see below). And I think you need to address the issues he brings up about surveys and some assistance on that it would be helpful. Because he is working with Dr. Bass and them on the ambulance task force and needs some guidance. Members of the Executive Committee may want to address some of those things now or back at their own departments or companies.

**Chair Stevens:** You are right there is a fairly length report that Bobby submitted. Did he ask for any action other than assist with the survey – I think that is what he asked for wasn't it? So go back and read it and take it back to your jurisdictions.

## **NOVEMBER SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **Chair Bobby Balta (submitted electronically – not present)**

The MSFA Safety Committee met on Sunday, October 17, 2010 at Glenn Dale. See below for member attendance. Also in attendance: Committee Chair, Bobbi Stevens, High School Career Tech Program. Jimmy Rose sent a report on progress he is making with the presentation on seat belt usage. He is still looking for information from other companies throughout the state concerning accidents where members were injured and were or were not wearing seat belts. Chairman Balta is striving for the presentation to be ready by January or February of 2011.

Chairman Balta stated that at the Ambulance Safety Meeting held at MFRT resulted in his sending out a survey to Vice Chair Wayne Higdon and Jimmy Rose to forward to the members within their respective groups. See below for the questions. Wayne Higdon reported that he sent the surveys to committee members concerning driver training requirements within the individual companies. He reported that he has not received responses from his email. Chairman Balta has received several responses but is far short of 100%.

The committee members going to continue to push the signing of the seat belt pledge to the MSFA membership. Chairman Balta reminded everyone that they should continue to stress getting members to sign the pledge and should contact Company Chiefs about requiring everyone on apparatus to wear seat belts. Only 19 companies in the state have 100% participation. Several members of the committee have passed out the seat belt pledges at their association meetings. Chairman Balta

suggested that the committee members send emails to the companies and chief's in order to promote the use of seat belts.

Again Chairman Balta reminded everyone that there is a topic on the MSFA discussion forum concerning Ambulance safety. There are a couple of responses however he expects more input from the committee. The ideas that are gathered from this dialog will help greatly with his attendance at the Ambulance Safety Taskforce meetings. Safety is not a once a month meeting that we attend, it is ongoing and participation is expected by the committee members. Committee members should not wait to come to a meeting to express themselves. When an idea to improve our chances of getting the safety message out we can send an email to Chairman Balta or post it on the discussion forum.

The next meeting will be January 16, 2011 at Cordova Caroline County at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Paul R. "Bobby" Balta Jr. PP.

Chairman, MSFA Safety Committee

**Survey questions:**

1 - Does your county have requirements/standards in order to operate an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

2 - Does your county require a training program prior to operating in an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

3 - Is there an age requirement in your county for the operation of an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

4 - Do the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) have requirements/standards in order to operate an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

5 - Do the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) require a training program prior to operating an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

6 - Do the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) have an age requirement for the operation of an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren).

7 — Do the insurance providers for the companies/departments (within your jurisdiction) have any age restrictions or training requirements for the operation of an ambulance in emergency status (lights and siren)

Aaron, Barbara	18-Jul-10 Fallston P	15-Aug-10 Waldorf P	17-Oct-10 Glen Dale P	16-Jan-11 Cordova	20-Mar-11 Ridge	15-May-11 Bowling Green
Aaron, Gene	P	P	P			
Balta, Jr. PP., Paul R, "Bobby"	P	P	P			

Britton, Jr., Alfred W. "Butch"	P	P	P			
Callison, Larry	E	A	A			
Campbell, Jr. W. R. "Buddy"	A	A	A			
Carr, Mary	P	E	A			
Corrado, Jill	A	A	A			
Corrado, Gunter	A	P	P			
Cunningham, Victoria	P	P	P			
Decker, Jr., James F. "Jim"	A	E	E			
Diem, Thomas	P	A	E			
Fisher, Janet	P	P	P			
Fisher, John	P	P	E			
Fretterd, Sr., Wayne	A	A	A			
Garnice, David	P	E	P			
Hahn, Robert W.	P	E	P			
Higdon, Wayne	P	P	P			
Howel, Hobart "Hoby"	P	E	E			
Huttenloch, William	E	E	L			
Kline, David	P	P	E			
Lott, Peter	E	E	E			
Mautz, Dan	A	E	A			
McGann, Gerard	E	P	P			
McGinnis, Gary	E	P	P			
Musgrove, Sr., Thomas W.	A	P	A			
Owens, Hugh	P	A	P			
Ridgell, Timmy	P	P	P			

Rose, Jimmy	F	P	E			
Shelton, James "Benny"	P	P	A			
Steiner, Barbara	P	P	P			
Stevens, Dan	P	P	P			
Stevens Sr., Raymond F.	P	E	P			
Struntz, Donna	P	F	E			
Wathen, John	P	P	P			
Wisner, Stephen J.	P	P	A			
Wolford, John	P	A	A			

**Chair Stevens:** Next is the Scholarship Committee report.

**Dale Fishack, Chair:** Good morning Mr. Chairman and members, greetings from Washington County. I submitted by report electronically but I will go over the highlights and then there are some items I am asking for some action from the Committee.

First, we splint the Scholarship into two groups this year and made it into two work groups. One was a mentoring group. We toyed with that last year and brought it on board late in the year and had good results with it but realized we should have been making our contacts earlier as there were some issues that arose with housing and people struggling. So that group worked very diligently in the beginning and as a result assistant our students quite well. We had one housing issue and we helped resolved that. And the other are just the others that they have when they are off to school. Especially those student who are new to the school whether they are freshmen just entering college or whether they've transferred from a community college and are now at a four year university and there are all kinds of struggles that they face. Most of us on the committee have been there so we are able to help them along the way and have those discussions with them. Also a good reminder to them is that school is their priority and while everybody is eager to ride the fire truck, you need to learn how to balance that. And personally, one the person's I was mentoring that was a lengthy with him. He happened to be from my home company and he was the guy who ran every call but when hit the college environment, he needed to learn that the books were important too. That has worked well and I have attached that summary of our first contact in the comments the students made should be attached to your report that is under the mentoring summary report. I would encourage you to read their comments because some of them are very touching is how they have been assisted with funding they have received.

The other group we have split off into, is it was time-+ to take a look at the application and also update our guidelines. And I asked them to work on that process and I am happy to report they executed that right quickly. We do have an updated application that we need to have approved and also up-dated guidelines. The application is pretty straight forward, it is just an up-date to the application, asking basically the same information that is out there. We have it hit on some of the



highlights that we need as far as a letter of support from the company president and their transcript of grades whether it be college or high school so that we can review those. The guidelines are probably where some of the changes have really been affected and working the past couple of years the committee realized it was time to make those changes based on what we were seeing. I guess the most drastic change we are proposing, is that we are going to give our emphasis not to support freshman students. We have not had great success in their turn-around as far as grades or continuing with the program. And we feel it is better spent money on anybody above the freshmen level. Now we are saying that we won't look freshmen, we are saying we will give our priority to sophomores, juniors and seniors. If money is left, we will look at the freshmen. So that would be the greatest change to the guidelines. That is different from what we have had in the past. But we have had several that have dropped and several that just washed out academically, they could not get back into the program and as you know in the Engineering Program you have to maintain a certain grade-point average at the college level and we have had those washout there.

I would say those are the highlights I presented all to you electronically for review, so I guess I am looking to you for support and comments or any questions?

**Stuart Carter:** I was just going to say unfortunately I downloaded all your applications and changes and could not open them because it was in some kind of AOL format that would not open.

**Dale:** I brought one copy with me and I can have the secretary make more copies. If you want to take a break from my report and then take a look at them or however you want to handle them.

**Stuart:** Does anyone else have and could read them?

**Dale:** I apologize. I didn't realize you guys were having difficulty with that. How do you wish to handle.

**Chair Stevens:** What is the Board's feelings on that?

**Dale:** Let me say that I would like to get this moving along at this meeting level because the next step is we want to up-date our information on the website and get that corrected so that the correct information is out there. Because we do have to have our applications back by April 15, so we do have to have the information out quickly so that students that are looking for support have the info to them.

**Chair Stevens:** And the whole committee is on board with this?

**Dale:** Yes. We sent out for comments and got comments back and we all agreed to the changes and that is what was presented by the committee.

**Stuart Carter: Mr. President I make the motion we accept the committee's changes. (Second was undetermined because nothing was on the tape in reference to the motion)**

**Dale:** I can electronically resend them and you can have that copy to make sure you have a correct copy in there as well.

**Chair Stevens: Ok we have a motion and a second on approving these documents. Is there any discussion? Questions? We'll call for the question. All those in favor say aye, all opposed nay. Motion carried.** I think some of the Executive Committee would like a copy if you would re-send them

**Dale:** I will resend them electronically but it won't be before Tuesday. I am away tomorrow for work and won't have the opportunity until Tuesday. But I will take care of it.

**Stuart:** Mr. Chairman, just one thing if I could mention to you, I would appreciate at the Convention, if you would read off the names of the recipients and the company and county they are from. Cause you did not do that at the last Convention, you just read out their names and we did not know who they were.

**Dale:** We can take care of that it is not a problem. I will make note of that and do that for this convention.

**Chair Stevens:** Any other questions for Dale? Ok. Thank you, sir.

### **REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE Chair Dale Fishack.**

The Scholarship Committee has been busy these past several months working on two project. As I have mentioned in my previous reports, I have split the committee into two work groups. Those being the mentoring group and the work group assigned the task of rewriting of the application and updating the scholarship guidelines. I am happy to report that both groups have achieved great progress. I have attached a portion of the report from the mentoring group. This shows the comments from the first contact we made with our supported students. All very positive and I am happy to report that this effort appears to be paying off. While we haven't seen grades yet I believe that these mentoring efforts have helped our supported students. We have assisted with a housing issue and have also been a sounding board for those who have struggled like so many of us have in the adjustments to college life.

The rewrite work group has continued their hard work as well, and as such, have completed their work on the rewrites. Attached for your review and approval is the new revised applications and guidelines. The applications will now be able to be filled out online and emailed in an effort to reduce paperwork and the amount of copies that are generated for distribution to committee members. The updated guidelines come from discussion of the committee over the past several years and some unwritten changes that we have been using in our selection process. There are several new items and I will be discussing those with you in person.

With the approval of the application and guidelines or next task at hand is to update the web site with our new info. I hope to have this accomplished by the end of January so that we are ready for April when we begin receiving applications.

As always it is a pleasure to serve and I am happy to answer any question you may have. You may contact me at [Chiefringsold@aol.com](mailto:Chiefringsold@aol.com) or by phone at 301-992-1763.

Dale Fishack  
Chairman Scholarship Comm.

### **Maryland State Firemen's Association Scholarship Guidelines for Applicants: Programs: Applicants may apply for scholarship assistance in the following areas:**

- a) Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland.
- b) Emergency Health Services at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). Current approved curricula are the Management and Paramedic tracks, which lead to a Bachelor's Degree.

- c) Any Maryland Community College, in a curriculum that leads to a Bachelor's degree in Fire Protection Engineering.
- d) Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Fire Sciences or Emergency Medical Services leading to a Bachelor's Degree.
- e) Any Maryland University, in a curriculum leading to a Bachelor's Degree in Fire or EMS related fields.
- f) Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Emergency Medical Services leading to an Associate's Degree.
- g) This scholarship is paid directly to the educational institution for the purpose of tuition and fees. At no time will this scholarship be awarded directly to the student or third party for cash or payment.

The committee has assigned the following priorities to control scholarship grants:

- a) Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland. (Junior's in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
- b) Fire Science at the University of Maryland University College. (UMUC). (Junior's in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program.)
- c) Emergency Health Service Majors at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). (Junior's in good standing or higher standing or higher, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
- d) Community College in Fire or EMS related programs leading to a Bachelor's Degree.

#### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

Application must be submitted by **April 15** to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support. Applications are available via download from the MSFA Web Site.

#### **Minimum requirements:**

All applicants must enter full time or part-time status as a student in his/her respective College/University to be eligible for the scholarship. Verified acceptance by the respective College/University with confirmation of approved program acceptance will be a prerequisite for receipt of a scholarship..

The awarded scholarship will be made available to the finance office of the College/University specified in the application at the beginning of the academic school year or designated semesters. At no time will the scholarship be awarded as cash funds to the individual recipient. Unused funds are to be returned by the academic institution at the end of the academic year.

Applicants are required to advise the committee of any other grants or scholarships that have been awarded or for which the applicant is eligible at the time of application. The respective campus finance office will be asked to review each application for scholarship assistance. All applicants must be Maryland State High School Graduates or hold a GED. Verification of five

years of active volunteer service in a Maryland fire or EMS company/department may be substituted for this requirement.

The applicant for any approved degree program shall be required to submit a letter of commendation from his/her volunteer Fire /Rescue or EMS Company. This letter must be signed by the President of the applicants member company and accompany the application for scholarship.

Applicant's must have completed one year of study at a college/ university earning no less than 12 credit hours per semester and have been accepted to participate in an approved degree program. Currently supported college level students will be required to maintain an acceptable Grade Point Average (GPA) 3.0 to be eligible for scholarship support for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported college level students who have not maintained an acceptable GPA of 3.0 but have a GPA above 2.5 or greater will be placed on academic probation and required to bring their GPA back to the accepted standard with in one academic year to remain eligible for the scholarship.

New sophomore applicants are required to have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for the program. All students that have been awarded a scholarship are required to submit their transcript with at the completion of each semester while receiving the scholarship. Failure to present current grades at the completion of each semester to the scholarship committee may result in future funds being with held and ineligibility for future academic years.

Students must maintain full time status and carry no less than 12 credit hours per semester to be eligible for the scholarship. Students dropping below the required credit hours per semester will forfeit their scholarship and be required to reimburse the Maryland State Fireman's Association the full amount of the scholarship.

Students changing to a major not supported by the program or dropping out of school may be required to reimburse the Maryland State Fireman's Association the awarded scholarship or a portion there of.

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the selection committee. It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

In an effort to conserve funds and to give our younger persons the opportunity for a college experience, committee policy is to deny scholarship support to those applicants currently holding a Bachelor or equivalent degree.

For more information, please contact:  
Glenn Dale Fishack, Jr.  
Maryland State Firemen's Association  
Scholarship Committee  
14545 Barkdoll Road  
Hagerstown, MD 21742  
EMAIL: [chiefrincjgold@aol.com](mailto:chiefrincjgold@aol.com)

*Maryland State Firemen s Association*  
Scholarship Renewal Application  
(Please Type or Use Dark Ink)

Page 1 of 2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_ / \_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address:

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #'s: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address:

Name of Volunteer Fire Department/Auxiliary:

Address:

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

President of Department:

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Joined: Years of Membership:

Name of Educational Institution that you are attending:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Major:

Name of Faculty Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Status: FULL TIME / PART TIME Credits per Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

Credits Completed towards Major: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle Level for academic year that you are seeking scholarship:

Sophomore / Junior / Senior

\*\*\*\*\*ATTACH A COPY of TRANSCRIPT with APPLICATION\*\*\*\*\*

Scholastic & Athletic Honors Receive in College:

\*\*\*\*\*ATTACH DOCUMENTATION\*\*\*\*\*

List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a Member or Participated in college. (Include any Office Held):

List any other financial assistance opportunities for which you have applied or will be receiving:

***Maryland State Firemen 's Association***

**List any other financial assistance that you have been awarded:**

**List scholarships or awards previously received:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Employer:**

**Address:**

**City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Full Time! Part Time Hours per week:**

**Do you plan to continue to work while in school: YES / NO Full Time! Part Time**

**Before submitting this application be sure the following items are enclosed:**

**Application Letter from President of Fire Department! Auxiliary College Transcript Copies of Awards and Certifications**

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the selection committee. It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

I hereby declare that all of the above information is complete and correct to the best of my ability.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** // \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed application with all accompanying documentation to the chairman, at the address indicated below, no later than **April 15th** to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support.

**CHAIRMAN:**

Glenn Dale Fishack, Jr.  
Maryland State Firemen's Association  
Scholarship Committee  
14545 Barkdoll Road  
Hagerstown, MD 21742  
EMAIL: [chiefringgoldaol.com](mailto:chiefringgoldaol.com)

**Chair Stevens:** Now we will have the High School Career Tech Committee Report.

That's mine and this is a very large committee of two. Our logistics is very difficult because my wife and I are the committee. We took part in the second meeting of the state meeting between MFRI in College Park with the Director and Larry Preston and whoever else they decide to bring, the State Board of Education usually has two or three people there and then the whole MSFA Committee attends those. We are working on several issues but basically to try to improve and address some of the issues that we have with the cadet programs state-wide. Generally what we are looking at is class size, because fields operations, if they are going to teach these things free, they need 15 to start and Director Edwards has been very lenient on that, and we have started with 11, 12 or 13 in some counties. We are looking at that and also if the number drops below 10, field programs policy is to stop if it drops below 10. You send everybody home. I don't want to speak at this, but I think we have reached a compromise on that and I believe it is more than fair what MFRI has proposed. But I am going to make sure we are on board before I mention that. What their proposal is. There will be some shared costs there but it won't be an end to the program and it won't be you have to pay for the whole thing.

The other issue we have had is what do you do with the student that fails. There are very strong opinions on both sides. If student fail, say EMT, what do you do with. Some programs send them back to the school system and my feeling, and I feel very strongly about this, if they aren't a discipline problems, let them audit the class because very likely, my experience has been, and Bobbi and I have ran this program for ten years, we have met with about every county in the state, those kids a lot them, are going to go back and get EMT at night. And if they audit, they will have a foot up on it. Same with firefighter and if there is a discipline problem, there is no question, they are out of there, because they are going to ruin it for everybody. But if they are not a discipline problem, I think Director Edwards is leaning in that direction also, so stay tuned. We have one more meeting to finalize these things but the meetings have been extremely positive. These are the same people that Bobbi and I ten years ago as a high school program as a completed program. It renews my faith in state agencies, Maryland State Department of Education has some good people, and we have really enjoyed working with them and I think this won't be any different. So we continue on those. I think we will have another meeting in a week or two and Director Edwards spoke to the medical clearance and that will be the State Board of Education is on that and they think it is an excellent idea and likes their sports physicals.

Director Edwards mentioned the tri-fold that he is developing that can be used by anybody for recruitment. We are working or we have had inquiries or we have actually met with Prince Georges, Dorchester and Anne Arundel. So we will be moving ahead with those plans to help those folks. We actually had a meeting with the Prince George's County School System, the Volunteer Fire Association and the Career Chief about restarting the program in Prince George's County. And the President of the Prince George's County Volunteer Association is here, Bill Smith is here. Bill, if you have anything to say about that program (Mr. Smith made a comment but was not picked up by the recorder), thank you, I appreciate that. I think the meeting kind of blindsided Bill and he called me the night before and I told him I'd be their man – Upper Marlboro isn't that far. I think we had a very positive meeting and hopefully things are moving in Prince George's County that they can renew. Prince George's County had one of the first programs in the state, if not the first, and everybody is enthusiastic about getting the thing going and they have a target of Fall, 2011 as does Dorchester but I have not met them and maybe they are better off without me, I don't know.

We have been surveying several counties in they are working and most things seem to be going well in most counties. We seem to be in one of up-tic years where the programs that had some problems before are doing better. The three programs in Southern Maryland are much better than they were before and I'd say the one in Charles is light years better than it was and we'll continue to monitor and we are there to assist in anyway. I think we have a pretty good handle on what the problems are and maybe sometimes if you are close to a problem you can't see it but it comes down to the high school counselors are one of the big things and the volunteer fire departments are another and we don't do our share of recruitment and mentoring and maybe discipline. If you have a problem and you need us, we are there. We will go anywhere in the state and you don't have to feed us or put us up for the night but we never turn a meal down. So if any of you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them.

**Richard Smith:** You say you have not been contacted by Dorchester County?

**Chair Stevens:** I spoke with them but the principal at the career tech was on vacation that week. I was coming over for the meeting at Church Creek that afternoon to go to the meeting and the principal wasn't there and I talked to the Assistant Principal and he said it would be better to wait.

**Richard:** I think they need all the help they can get.

**Chair Stevens:** Okay, I renew my efforts to meet with them.

**Roger Powell, Executive Committee:** When we met with Steve Edwards at MFRI, to review the various programs throughout the state, one of the things we realized what that there was absolutely no standardization each area of the state. The Upper Shore had a fantastic program that I think Steve was going to some general guidelines, not necessarily standardize them but to make things more similar is the best way I can say it. Which would make it easier for us to be able to mentor from the state level down to the county. It is obvious that one of the most important things we can doing is to support the high school programs.

**Chair Stevens:** That's what this meeting with the state Board of Education – they are trying to come up with some standardization but Roger I think one of the strength of the program statewide is that they are different and you can tailor the program to your particular county to suit your county. And that is why out in Allegany County they go a week to the career tech and then they go back to school for a week and that is the only program like that. The set program in Centreville is four counties that go to the training center and that is the only one like that and it works for them. Montgomery is at the Academy, I think Anne Arundel is looking at doing it at the Academy, so there are a lot of differences per county and I don't think we want to tighten it up too much where we cause problems for the

individual counties. And not only in the counties, but those of you in education know it better than I do, but even the individual schools in the county have autonomy – all the way from the individual schools up to the county to the state and the state appreciates that and they don't try to tighten things up too much. The guidelines that we come out of meeting with MFRI you will find will have a lot of flexibility in them and I think that is a plus of the program and that is my opinion.

**Lee Sachs:** Can we go back to scholarship for a minute. I hear most of the reports every meeting and I don't know whether we solidified the relationship between the Scholarship Committee of the MSFA and the Foundation. The money is supposed to go to the Foundation and the Scholarship Committee is the one, as you hear, is working on the scholarships. And I am hoping, and maybe at the next meeting, you can get some report of how they work together or if they work together because they advantage, or the ability to get donations is much greater with the Foundation than it is in the MSFA. Because you will not get contributions from any other 501C3 or 4 corporation or entity into the MSFA. It has to go to a C3 and that's what the Foundation is and that's why it was formed. So I don't even know how the books are working but it really is two different entities that need to be collaborative because that was the whole intent of setting up the Foundation in the first place.

**President Cox:** Mr. Chair, I think, Lee, on that, and I go back to this year and reports and so on, the members of the Scholarship Committee are serving on the Foundation. I think Mr. Fishack is the liaison between the two organizations. I think they are working there very closely because I can remember when last year's after Scholarship reviewed all the applications, then they went to the Foundation and said this is what we have and they approved the money. I did see that last year between the two committees.

**Chair Stevens:** And Lee I do think that is something we do need to watch and we will certainly do that.

## **HIGH SCHOOL CAREER TECH COMMITTEE**

**Chair Dan Stevens:** The Committee was part of the second meeting held October 5, 2010 at MFRJ College Park that brought together MFRI, Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and MSFA to discuss some current issues with the Cadet Programs Statewide. Work continued on several issues and we are scheduled to meet again in the near future to finalize a MOU. The meeting was extremely positive and each group left the meeting with specific items to research and discuss. We hope to finalize the document at the next meeting.

One of the items that will be incorporated in the agreement will be the requirement for a medical clearance prior to starting the class. This will be similar to a sport physical where a physician signs a form that the student can do the activity required by the program.

Director Edwards agreed to develop a tn-fold brochure that could be used in the recruitment process. It will be generic enough to be used by any county that wants to use it and it can be tailored to the specific county.

We have also been in discussions with both Prince George and Dorchester Counties. We plan to meet with the Career Tech folks in Dorchester in the near future to answer questions and get an overview of the program they have in mind. They hope to start the program in the 2011/2012 school year.

We participated in a meeting with the Prince George County Public School system, the Volunteer Fire Association and the Career Chief All the parties were enthusiastic about the program and are anxious to revive it in the County. They also have a target of fall 2011 to start the program.



We have surveyed several counties and are pleased to report that, although they have smaller enrollment in some cases the programs are running smooth. The Committee will continue to participate in the State level meetings and we will keep the Association advised. We also stand ready to assist in any way we can with the individual county programs.

**Chair Stevens:** Johnny – Firefighter of the Year Committee Report.

## **FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR**

**Chair John Gatton:** Mr. Chairman we have submitted our report electronically. Plus we have provided other copies. It is time to start again getting ready for the 2010 Firefighter of Year Award. I would like to remind everyone as you travel around, especially with the Installations coming up this time of the year, to remind your local companies to submit their Firefighter of the Year to the state award. Last year I think we only had 12 nominations and there is 13 on the Executive Committee. So we didn't even get one from each Executive Committee Member.

**Johnny:** I did get one from Pikesville, thank you very much.

**Chair Stevens:** And some of us represent more than one county! I think we need to encourage all the companies in our region to participate. And not just for Firefighter of the Year but for all the awards. Any questions for Mr. Gatton? Okay, thank you sir.

We are once again preparing to start the procedures for selecting the 2010 Firefighter of the Year to be presented at the Convention to be held in Ocean City in June.

The M.S.F.A. Firefighter of the Year Committee is prepared to start another year of requesting nominations for the 2010 award.

I have prepared a packet for each of you that will also go out to all the M.S.F.A. member Departments in early 2011. Again this year, we are requesting the Officers and the Executive Committee members to promote all the awards programs as they travel the State to various Association and Department meetings. It would be great if each of you would have your Department submit a nomination too.

In addition, we have prepared the packet of rules and application to give to the Awards Committee for disbursement throughout the State.

Many thanks for your continued support.

**Seven State Circle Committee:** No report.

**Standard or NFPA Oversight Committee:** No report.

## **EMERGENCY VEHICLE ISSUES SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Chair Roger Steger:** You did not get my electronic report Mr. Moe because I did not send one in. We did not have a report but within the last couple of days we have had some questions in reference to – are you required to have a DOT Physical Card to drive a non-commercial fire truck and the answer is no.

Some people I guess, Steve Kesner is the one that called me, so I guess they are having trouble in Allegany or Washington County they are having that problem again or Garrett County. When we they went to get their non-commercial Class B License to drive a fire truck, they were advised they had to have a physical card. We researched that in 2008 and I sent the information to Steve. If any of the rest of you are having problem that is the ruling – you do not need a physical to get a Class B Driver's License to drive a fire truck! BUT if you have a CDL Drivers License you DO have to have a DOT Physical Card. That is all I have. I don't know if you have any questions or not. Thank you Mr. Moe.

**Chair Stevens:** Thank you Roger. Any questions? Special Activities, do we have any report on that? Transportation?

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Chair Tom Flint & William "Butch" Frazier:** Good morning everybody. Over the last couple of months we have had members go local MVA Offices and they have run into a little obstacle. And they have to have right forms – some did and other did not – they called and we got it all straight. So what we did in your report, there is an attachment that tells everyone how to get tags and to contact their chairman.

We had a request for damage or worn tags, they will be replaced by MVA and they will be replaced free. But you will not get the same number, you will get whatever the number off the shelf is. That is also in the packet.

We received who is our coordinator? We also attached that and all this will be submitted to the Trumpet, so those who read the Trumpet will get that. We had a meeting in Queen Anne Hillsboro VFD which the chairman is going to talk about.

And we have one action item that he is going to talk to you about and you will need to take action on.

**Tom:** What we would like to do folks is we would like to look into revamping our tags, our motor vehicle tag and replace what we have to something to improve the tag. We would like permission here to start from the beginning. In doing this, we are going to see what we can do by starting at ground zero. If we can't, then we will work on a plan to go from where we are. And then we can come back to you with recommendations. But we need to have permission to go ahead and start from the top because we are not going to go to the local office, we go right to the top. Frank Underwood and I will be getting hold of you to start. We have a six man subcommittee and they will give you a report at the next meeting.

They sent to the lady they deal with now and got the Q & A answers up-dated as to what they will and won't do. So we have the most current information and the same with replacing your tags and replacing them. So what you have in your report is current from MVA.

Next meeting we will have a reply for you in revamping the tag and we are also going to have a current update on tags that have not been paid. I know every time we come to you about this you say well they are in good standing whether they paid for the tags or not. But way my part of the By-Laws read that is they don't pay their tag fee they are not in good standing. So I will address that at the next meeting. Any questions.

**Motion by Ben Kurtz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stuart Carter to proceed with a new tag design and meeting with MVA.**

**Chair Stevens:** This is just approval for them to proceed.

**Secretary Olson:** Is there a problem with the old tag?

**Chair Flint:** Yes, we are selling many, we like to refresh the tag and get a better design out there. This way all the black and white and red and white tags will go away. So we are going to the top and start down because there is no use in starting at the local office, we will start at the top and work down. So we need to go forward.

**Secretary Olson:** Over the years Companies have gotten their own tag. And that probably why they are not getting tags. That is why the sales are probably lower.

**Chair Flint:** People are requesting a new tag, these are over 20 years old and most are worn and we would like to offer a better tag to offer.

**Chair Stevens:** **Are there any other questions? Any other discussion? The questions has been called for. All those in favor say aye. Those opposed? Passes unanimously.**

**Past President Mattingly:** Just food for thought though, if you go changing it you are subject to lose more to individual company going out getting their own tags. There are a lot of other who say let's just go get our own FD tags. You are subject to losing more members so you have to be careful how you market it.

During the past several months, I have received several calls from members who wanted FD tags and were at their local MVA. Some had the proper work and others did not. Each time this happened I talked with the MVA representative and it was determined that the member was misinformed. To help alleviate the problem we have revised the procedures to obtain logo tags. [Attached] (Could not get file to open.)

Several Coordinators have requested information on replacing worn/damaged FD tags. As a result of a meeting with MVA, procedures were developed to address the issue and placed in the MSFA Fire Dept. Vehicle Tags FAQ's. [Attached] (Again, could not get file to open.)

We have received numerous calls for Coordinator contact information. [Attached]  
All attachments will be submitted to the Trumpet for publication.  
All tag recertification for Queen Anne County have been received.  
A committee meeting was held at Hillsboro-Queen Anne VFD on 11-6-10 minutes

## **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

**Chair Margaret Gouty:** Reported we made \$230.00 on the raffle.

**Chair Stevens:** Anybody here from the Rescue Committee? There is an electronic report submitted.

**Chair Stevens:** Are there any other committees that I have missed? Does the Board of Trustees have anything? And we have a group of minutes that were never approved, so let's go ahead and do that. Jackie correct me if I am wrong. They are from June 13, 16, and 17 and August meetings minutes. The three in June are from Convention and then the Hollywood meeting.

**Motion was made by Stuart Carter to approve all the minutes submitted. 2<sup>nd</sup> to motion by Roger Powell. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Chair Dan Stevens:** Any discussion on this. All in favor aye. All opposed nay. Motion carries unanimously. Okay. The thing that I have here that we will be following up on the Vehicle Replacement Policy, I will contact the funds that are on that one. We will be calling you all or emailing you all on the amount the car is so they can get approval to order the new car. The VCAF follow up and then I have to contact the attorney about working on the issue from the Honor Guard. I think that is it. So I will be in touch with you all by email. Bill you did not get the email and I'll get a new email address from you. So I guess with that we will go around the table. John we will start with you.

## **Round Table –**

**John Guntow –** Just a brief statement, we have had some activities down there on the Sprinkler ordinances. Worcester voted to adopt but now they are wondering what to do. The town of Berlin voted to opt out and the reason was very comical. Somerset also dropped out. Ocean City did adopt and we had two dedication down there. Parsonsburg dedicated their new fire house and Mt. Vernon dedicated an engine – both obtain with VCAF funds. Thank you

**Bill Hildebrand –** Greetings from Kent, Queen Anne and Caroline Counties. As I mentioned earlier, this is a very important week for us in Kent with the residential sprinkler issue. We think that they will be left in ordinance. We have one new commissioner but he won't be there for this particular vote. We hoping and we thank everyone who came over to help us with that. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and a lot of the members of the MSFA Sprinkler Committee so we will keep you posted. I like to wish everybody a very happy holiday season – Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Stu Carter –** Greetings from Baltimore County. Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen's Association held their elections in September. Jack Mozza is now the President and there are a couple of other new faces that are now new officers of Baltimore. A gentleman by the name of Kevin Kamovitz is the new Baltimore County Executive and everyone is waiting to hear who his new department heads are what have you. Other than that, nothing earth shattering. I, too, would like to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Holidays to all and be safe. I almost forgot the most important thing. At the Baltimore County Awards Banquet, Lee Sachs was awarded the Administrator of the Year Award – and congratulations to Lee. (Applause)

**Craig Moe –** As most of you know, we have had some pretty good excitement in Prince George's County the last few days, we don't think it is over, we hear there is a list. So stand-by, I am sure there will be more and no the Mayor of Laurel is not involved. We do everything out in the public and I never hand held out. The County Executive is going to be interesting. But we are told there are other going to happening and the week and months ahead. So they are cleaning it up and I, for one, is glad it is happening. We did have our County Executive Race and we have a new County Executive Sharon Baker which will be sworn into Office on December 6<sup>th</sup> and the new member of the County Council will be sworn in on the sixth which means be possibly may have a new fire chief. That is done by the County Executive and confirmed by our County Council, so we will see what is done there. I want to thank Bill Smith, who is our President (PGCVF&RA) and Bill is in the audience and has been here the last two days. Thank him for being here he was just elected for his 2<sup>nd</sup> term as president of PGCF&RA and congratulations and thank you for being here. (Applause) And Frank reminded me the Maryland Fire Chiefs will meet next Sunday around noon on the 21<sup>st</sup> at Branchville. As you hear everyone has wished all Happy Holidays and a safe trip home. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Ben Kurtz –** I bring you greetings from Harford and Cecil Counties. I would like to start off by thanking Aberdeen, John, his wife, Ruth, the ladies of Grace United Methodist Church, the Aberdeen

Fire Department, President Russell Pipper for hosting the Executive Committee and appreciate all that each has done. Our election this past fall, all our County Council and Executive were all reelected. Most of ours individuals were unopposed which is highly unusual. The support that we have from our House of Delegates and State Senators will continue on that. Our County Executive had a fire study done and we will probably see this during his second term. Happy Holidays and be safe going home.

**Wiley Donaldson** – Greetings from Anne Arundel County. Once again the elections in Anne Arundel County were interesting. Our County Executive has been reelected and he'll be in office for a while< I guess. He had some issues but we have five new members of the County Council and we'll have to get them up to speed.. One interesting note is that one member of the county council. The candidate was a retired fire fighter in Anne Arundel County and his platform was that he was going to do away with the LOSAP program. He did not get elected so lessons learned for him. Otherwise things are status quo. Looking forward to a good year. I want to wish everyone a happy holiday season.

**Roger Powell** – Stu obviously said everything we need to say in Baltimore County but I'd like to thank everyone for all your good wishes and prayers for Iris.

**Mark Bilger** – Thank you Mr. Chairman. I bring you greetings from Carroll and Howard County. We too in Carroll County had a very interesting election. We went from three commissioners to five commissioners. Previously the three were elected at large. Now the five are elected from Districts. All five are brand new commissioners. They have never served in public office before. We did a lot of interesting things. Before the primary election, we developed a video or a presentation we mailed to them and asked them to write back with questions or concerns. We also asked them to do a survey. That when we determined that none of the candidates had any idea how the fire or EMS service operated in the County. After that election we met with them again, prior to the general election, we brought them to our training center, provided them with information about our budget, the budget process, our master plan, our goal for a new training center, and our goal for EMS and how we want to improve that. Provided all that and now that elections are over we have a meeting this week, set up a breakfast meeting with the five new commissioners and will educate them about the fire service, what our needs will be and what we feel they will need to do to support us. I'm also very pleased to announce that we have established an Associate Degree program with the community college, where a student can go get an AA degree in EMS. If this program flies the college has agreed to look into doing a fire program, similar to what they had in Catonsville, I think they have in Montgomery. But again we have an EMS program that is up and running and we're very pleased about that and we're going to continue our working relationship with the community college. We feel between the cadet program, volunteers in the county and now with the EMS program we can groom people to come in and be leaders since we have all these programs in tact.

As far as Howard County they have developed a program to provide physicals to the volunteers. That cost is being picked up by the career fire service under Chief Goddard. As everyone else I look forward to everyone having a safe holiday season. Look forward to the banquet circuit starting up and travelling throughout the state and jurisdictions, meeting with the folks representing the MSFA.

**Richard Smith** – I bring you greetings from Talbot and Dorchester. We're in my own area and the last three days almost every company has been fund raising with the Water Fowl Festival in Easton. They were looking for thirty thousand people this weekend. Our companies have been out selling food during that time. Our counties, we've had some major changes in the council or commissioner line and we're very busy preparing budgets and educating commissioners. For the February meeting the information was given to the Secretary's Office yesterday. The meeting in Cordova, you'll be staying in the Comfort Inn in Easton at \$65 per night. We're looking for hospitality

on Friday night and looking to open the Elks for a buffet dinner on Friday night.

**Dan Stevens** – The hotel is on the web site. I also extend greetings from Calvert, Charles and the mother county of Maryland St Mary's. I'd like to thank everyone as I did yesterday for the support during Bill Olsen's wife's death. It was very unexpected and I know he appreciates those of you that came down. He would appreciate a phone call if you think about it. He's a very people oriented kind of guy

Also the three counties. We have a bunch of new commissioners. We lost our fire service commissioner to term limits, so good job for keeping the mother county straight for twelve years Tommy. (Applause) I think all three counties will have a job educating the new commissioners. We have one returning but he wasn't anything to write home about and we had one who was there before and she was instrumental in helping get the residential sprinklers and we at least have open communications with her and she's chairman of the commissioners but we all will have to do our homework to educate these folks.

The cadet program in all three counties as I mentioned before is going a lot better than last year. I worked with all three, I haven't worked with the Charles County class yet because they take EMT first, but I've worked with the other two counties and we've got a good bunch of students. I think we've solved some of the problems we've had.

I'd also like to thank Nancy for doing the minutes this weekend and thank Aberdeen for the hospitality and wish everyone a happy holiday season starting with the turkey day so Jackie. I think Mr. President will take care of that.

**President Cox** – A lot of you know I think that we have a birthday boy here with us today. Mr Lewis you want to stand up. I know all the candles just about burned out so that's less you have to blow out. It's going to be hard to get up to the 50 – 60 range. (Everyone sang Happy Birthday to Dave).

With that I'll give you the Second Vice President for his closing.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Denver** - Thank you all for spending time here this weekend. Thank you Aberdeen and enjoy your holidays.

**President Cox** - Birthday Boy.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lewis** – Thank you I knew somewhere today it just had to come. I just echo the comments that you've heard repeatedly since we won't meet again before the holidays, so Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Honnika and all those things that come together. Again I echo thanks too to Aberdeen and the Harford Cecil for a great weekend.

**President Cox** – And you know I'll go there too. One, I'll pick up on a couple things that the Chairman made was reference to, yes we had an election across the state. There was a tremendous amount of turn over, new people in there, yes the legislative committee has a job to do in Annapolis. The Officers have a job to do, but you as members of the Executive Committee and you as members in the audience, you have a job also to do on the local level to educate your elected officials, some of them are with you, some are against, so we have to convince the ones against and the ones on the fence that they need to support us also. The volunteer fire service is in need so lets go out as leaders and do our job what we need to do.

To the members of Aberdeen, John, it's been, you have a group of individuals that have gone way above what anyone expected, from the people here at Aberdeen, you're outstanding. To the members, as I told Gene, of Harford-Cecil bent over backwards to make this an enjoyable weekend. A weekend you'll never forget. It means so much because you try your best to make it enjoyable for everyone, and they have, so again my hats off to them. As I told some of them back at the room last night, I don't know how I can ever repay them for what they've done,

To the members of the Executive Committee, thank you for taking the time out of your, the holiday season is about to approach, thank you for taking care of the business of the Association. To you each and every one, thank you, thank you. Today when you leave here, Roger, there is a card for Iris if you will take it and present it to her on behalf of the association. John if you'll take care of the one for Rev. Jackson and need someone to take the one to Bill Huttenloch. Frank greatly appreciate that. Between Tommy, John can you take the one to Jenks? Tommy you will. Greatly appreciate that.

With that, yes, the holiday seasons are approaching, we gotta be thankful, Thanks Giving's coming. We gotta be thankful for what we've got and what we're doing. You gotta be thankful for the service you perform. With that I'd close. thank you, John

John Bender – On behalf of the Aberdeen Fire Department we want to express our appreciation for the opportunity to host this very distinguished group. It's been an honor and a pleasure and I certainly want to extend our appreciation to the ladies of Grace United Methodist Church who really stepped up to the plate to do something they've never done before on this scale. You know on this end of the state, Level sets the standards and we've tried our best to do Aberdeen's best this weekend. Being at the meeting it looks like your meeting was very successful and we thank you for everything and all the graciousness you've extended to us. Lunch is the same as yesterday. Go to the far end of the table where Judy will collect your donation, six dollars again for lunch today and go through the line. If you will bring your dirty dishes to the counter we will make sure they are taken care of from there. Again hot drinks at the far corner, cold drinks at this end of the room and there are deserts on the desert table. Enjoy

**President Cox** – John, it's been an honor to be here. Ben, I left you out. If you ever want something done go to someone to take care of it. I went to Ben and said find me a place. He has worked on this for the past six – seven months, emails flied. Thanks (Applause). So with that Mr. Chairman to each and every one of you a very merry Thanksgiving and now the chaplain.

**Chair Dan Stevens** – Just real quick any good of the Association. I didn't think so. Harry it's all yours.

**Good of the Association:** None.

**Benediction Harry Hetz** – It's written in the hundred psalm, that we are to approach God with thanks giving so let's all rise.

Our Lord and our God as we draw to a close this meeting of the Executive Committee we thank you for the dedication, the commitment of all that participated. We thank you for the dedication and commitment for all those that serve in our communities and those in armed forces that protect our way of life throughout the world. Father we are coming into a season of thanks giving, a time of praise, a time of celebration with Christmas, Hannaka, Thanks giving and Lord we thank you for these times to pause and reflect, times to remember, times to give praise to you as well. And now Lord as

we prepare to depart and partake of the food, we ask your blessings over us, we ask that you will grant us travelling mercy, that you would bless this department as it's provided hospitality to us this weekend and all those that have contributed to our success. We praise and thank you for all things. Amen

**Chair Dan Stevens** – We'll call the meeting adjourned.





