



Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association First Convention Business Meeting June 15, 2012

We Protect Southwest Virginia

15 June, 2012

The First 2012 Convention Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Friday, 15 June, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Valley View in Roanoke, VA. with 88 members present, representing 17 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 14:05 hours by President Jeff Saunders. The invocation was given by Mr. Kenny Hancock of the Draper Volunteer Fire Department. President Jeff Saunders of the Dublin Fire Department welcomed everyone in attendance. The first business meeting was sponsored by 2-Way Radio.

Reports:

President:

President Jeff Saunders offered the following report:

- Welcomed everyone to the convention.
- Introduced Mr. Randy Edwards of 2-Way Radio.
- Introduced Chief David Hoback from Roanoke Fire and EMS
 - Chief Hoback welcomed everyone to Roanoke on behalf of himself, Roanoke County Fire and Rescue Chief Rick Burch and Salem Fire and EMS Chief Pat Counts.
 - Chief Habock advised if there was anything his department could do during your stay in Roanoke please let him know.

1st Vice President:

1st Vice J. C. President Bolling offered the following report:

- No Report

2nd Vice President:

2nd Vice President Joe Rakes offered the following report.

- Thanked President Saunders and the members of Dublin Fire Department for the hard work done for this convention.

Treasurer:

Treasure Billy Cook offered the following report.

- Treasure's report was given.
- Motion made by Kenny Hancock and seconded by Joe Kingrea to approve the Treasure's Report
- **Motion voted and passed.**

Asst. Treasurer:

Secretary Potsie Smith offered the following report:

- Gave a report on the Convention account.
- Requested that the audit be done on the account at the September meeting.

Secretary:

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- 58 people attended the training of Friday morning; the training was “Tactical Ventilation” by Retired Deputy Chief Steve Poff.
- Dues notices were sent out and past dues notices will be sent out in the near future.

Asst. Secretary:

Secretary Mark Smith offered the following report:

- Thanked everyone for registering for the convention early.

Chaplin / Welfare:

Chaplin Kenny Hancock offered the following report:

- No Report

Sgt. At Arms:

Sgt. at Arms Morgan O’Quinn offered the following report:

- No Report

Executive Committee:

Mike Stevens offered the following report:

- The Executive Committee discussed the leadership and direction of the association in the future.

Legislative Committee:

Mr. Mike Moles offered the following report:

- No new legislation to report.
- The Virginia Fire Service Council will be hosting the 2012 Legislative Summit.
- Mike moles asked the association for endorsement from the southwest association to represent this association at this event.
 - Mike made this request as a motion, the motion was seconded by Joe Kingrea
- **Motion voted on and passed**

Membership Committee:

Mr. Leon Reed offered the following report:

- No Report

Training Committee:

Division Chief Dennis Price offered the following report for Mr. Roy Redd:

- Elliston Fire Department will be hosting a Firefighter I & II class in the fall of 2012.
- NFA Incident Safety Officer class will be held in Christiansburg in June of 2012.
- The Virginia weekend at the National Fire Academy will be the 29- 30 of September 2012.
- FEMA is going away from using social security numbers when registering for training.
- The Virginia Department of Fire Programs instructors symposium will be 15 & 16 of September, 2012.
- The Wise Regional School will be 8-9 September, 2012.
- The Southwest Officers Seminar will be in Roanoke 21-22 September, 2012.
- Please continue to register for classes on line.

- Check your online records and make sure they are correct.
- The new training schedule will be coming out in July.

By-laws Committee:

Mr. Page Brockenbrough offered the following report:

- Proposed a By-Laws change:
- The following are the proposed changes:
 - ARTICLE 5 - Expenditures of the Association - Section 1. - (a). The Association shall reimburse a Department or Company its expenses in hosting a regular meeting not to exceed the sum of \$65.00.
- *Proposed Change:*
 - ARTICLE 5 - Expenditures of the Association - Section 1 - (a) The Association shall reimburse a Department or Company its expenses in hosting a regular meeting not to exceed the sum of \$125.00.
- The motion for the change was presented by the By-laws Committee and seconded by Mr. Kenny Hancock.
- This was the first reading of this by-law change.

Rules and Contest Committee:

Mr. Danny Yopp offered the following report:

- The competition will be held in the grass area at the back of the hotel on Saturday beginning at 1300 hours.

Ways and Means Committee:

Mr. Potsie Smith offered the following report:

- Working on the 50/50

Scholarship Committee:

Mr. Billy Hanks offered the following report:

- There will be 2 scholarships to be awarded at the dinner on Saturday night.
- Reminded members to apply for the scholarships in the future.

Convention Committee:

Mr. David Akers offered the following report:

- Thanked everyone attending and reminded members to visit the vendors.

Old Business

Billy Hanks does not have any additional information about the 501C3 status for the association at this time. Still looking into it.

New Business

Mr. Mike Glass asked the association to be a sponsor at the 2012 Officers Seminar in Roanoke, 20 – 21 of September, 2012. The sponsorship will be \$250.00.

Mr. Glass advised that the association approved last year to be a sponsor at \$250.00 but the check was never written.

There is no record of this request in the past minutes.

- A motion was made by Mr. Mike Stevens and seconded by Mr. Billy Hanks to pay for the 2011 and 2012 sponsorships. **Motion voted on and passed**

President Jeff Saunders appointed the following committees and asked them to report at the 2nd Business Meeting:

- Audit – Leon Reed, Zane Price and Mike Moles
- Nomination - Page Brockenbrough, John Campbell and Martin Keffer
- Resolutions – Mike Stevens and Fred Linkous

President Saunders reminded and invited everyone to the Memorial Service beginning at 1900 hours in the ballroom of the hotel on Friday night.

President Saunders reminded and invited everyone to the Vendor Social beginning at 2000 hours in the vendor area.

Mr. Larry Logan reminded everyone of the Virginia State Firefighters Association Conference that will be held in Hampton, 15 – 18 of August, 2012.

Chief David Hoback of Roanoke Fire and EMS gave a report about the Public Safety Memorial that is to be built in Richmond.

- They are trying to get names together for the memorial.
- If you or your department has names that they would like to see added to the memorial please get the information to Chief Hoback at david.hoback@roanokeva.gov or 540-853-2327.
- Chief Hoback also advised that he is the 2nd Vice President of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association.

If you have a nomination for the 2012 – 2013 year please see Page Brockenbrough before the Saturday meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1445 hours with Mr. Kenny Hancock offering the closing prayer.

The next meeting will be Saturday, June 16, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Valley View in Roanoke, VA. at 9:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Curtis Whitt
Secretary
Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association
cwhitt@swvafirefighters.com



Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association

We Protect Southwest Virginia

26 September 2011

Virginia Fire Services Board
c/o Chief Richard Burch, Jr.

Dear Chief Burch,

The Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association held its quarterly meeting at the Newport Volunteer Fire Department in Newport, Va. on Sunday, 25 September 2011. At this meeting the members of the association discussed the possibility of re-certifications through the Virginia Department of Fire Programs. While this association feels that re-certification would not be beneficial to the fire service, the association would like to see a continuing education program in place of re-certifications.

Due to shrinking department budgets and volunteers work and family time being a premium, a continuing education program could offer a solution to keep the firefighters in the Commonwealth of Virginia trained to the highest possible levels. Some of the ideas that were discussed at this meeting to achieve this level of training were;

- Credit for in-house department training
- Online training
- ISO training
- ICS training
- National Fire Academy training
- Other local training opportunities

With 63.5% of the fire departments in the Commonwealth of Virginia being volunteer, it is becoming increasingly harder for members to attend trainings and re-certifications. Due to the demands of time and family, this makes long re-certification classes harder to accomplish.

It is the opinion of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association that the creation of a continuing education program would be the most beneficial for firefighters, both career and volunteer, as well as providing the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia with the highest level of fire protection.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jeff Saunders
President
Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association