



Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association Quarterly Business Meeting January 15, 2012

We Protect Southwest Virginia

15 January, 2012

The Winter Quarterly Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Sunday, 15 January, 2012 at the Abingdon Volunteer Fire Department in Abingdon, VA. with 30 members present, representing 10 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 13:00 hours by President Jeff Saunders. The invocation was given by Mr. Page Brockenbrough of the Martinsville Volunteer Fire Department. President Jeff Saunders of the Dublin Fire Department welcomed everyone in attendance. President Saunders also thanked the members of the Abingdon Volunteer Fire Department for lunch.

Reports:

President:

President Jeff Saunders offered the following report:

- The 2012 convention is on task and President Saunders thanked the members of the convention committee for their continued work and support.
- Read a card from the Estes family of Riner fire department for the support during the loss of the family home.
- Called for the acceptance of the September minutes, Mike Moles made a correction to the September minutes, motion was made by David Akers, second by Billy Hanks. (correction was made to the September minutes)
- **Motion voted and passed**

1st Vice President:

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

- Mr. Isreal O'Quinn of the Clinch Mountain Volunteer Fire Department was elected to the House of Delegates for the 5th District.

2nd Vice President:

2nd Vice President Joe Rakes offered the following report.

- No Report

Treasurer:

Treasurer Billy Cook was not present.

- Joe Rakes gave a brief report
- The treasurers report was tabled until the April meeting

Asst. Treasurer:

Secretary Potsie Smith offered the following report:

- Gave a convention account report
- Requested that the audit be done on the account at the January meeting.

Secretary:

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- Website is being redesigned
- Dues notices will be sent out in January
- Mr. Roy Redd asked that I report on the following:
 - Roy attended the visitation for Poplar Hill firefighter Mr. Albert Richard Johnson
 - Advised the Pearisburg firefighter Mr. Ken Yost passed away last week

Asst. Secretary:

Secretary Mark Smith offered the following report:

- No Report

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:

- Thanked the members of the committee for their hard work for the direction of the association

Legislative Committee:

Mr. Mike Moles offered the following report:

- Thanked Abingdon for hosting the meeting.
- Attended a work summit in October 2011
- Mid-winter conference will be in February 2012
- Advised there are major items to be watching:
 - They are trying to get the LODD benefit funding back in the states hands and not the locality
 - HB 1104, dealing with boards and committees

Membership Committee:

Mr. Leon Reed offered the following report:

- Requested information about departments from Secretary
- Asked the membership to assist with helping the membership grow

Training Committee:

Mr. Tim Estes offered the following report for Mr. Roy Redd:

- The Galax school will be 31 March – 1 April, 2012.
- We need to help get attendance up for schools.
- There will be four Firefighter I classes going on in the 4th Division the winter and spring
- The National Fire Academy Virginia In-State weekend will be 10-11 March, 2012
 - The cost is \$30.00 per person.

- If you plan on attending please register through the Virginia Department of Fire Programs as soon as possible

By-laws Committee:

Mr. Page Brockenbrough offered the following report:

- The By-Laws are to be added to the website

Rules and Contest Committee:

- No Report

Ways and Means Committee:

Mr. Potsie Smith offered the following report:

- \$ 100.00 in the 50/50

Scholarship Committee:

Mr. Billy Hanks offered the following report:

- 2 or 3 scholarships to be given out at the 2012 convention.
- Need the nominations for scholarships by 1 April, 2012
- Scholarship application is on the website

Convention Committee:

Mr. David Akers offered the following report:

- The 2012 convention will be held in Roanoke, 14 -16 June, 2012
- Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn in Roanoke
- Convention information will be posted on line
- Convention packages will be sent out in February
- Registration will be \$30.00 per person prior to 1 May, 2012 and \$40.00 per person after 1 May, 2012
- The golf tournament will be at Ole Monterey Golf Course in Roanoke, Va. with a entry fee of \$40.00 per person
- The association will need photos of deceased members for the memorial service
- If you know of a t-shirt vendor that would be willing to set up at the convention please contact President Saunders
- Any questions or comments please contact Mr. David Akers at dakers815@aol.com

Old Business

None

New Business

- Lifetime membership nominations need to be sent to Mr. Mike Stevens before the April meeting.
- Above and Beyond Award nominations need to be sent to Mr. Page Brockenbrough before the April meeting.
- Mr. Billy Hanks requested that the association look into the association becoming a 501 C3 corporation.

- The association would need to become incorporated and get a tax ID number
- The association would need to have a attorney to assist
- Billy suggested that a committee be appointed to study the 501 C3 status
- This process could be a long process
- Mr. Tim Estes made the following motion:
 - “The association should proceed with becoming a 501 C3 corporation”
- Motion seconded by Mr. Potsie Smith
- **Motion voted and passed**

- The April meeting date was changed from 8 April, 2012 to 15 April, 2012. The date was changed due to the Easter holiday

The meeting was adjourned at 14:16 with Mr. Page Brockenbrough offering the closing prayer.

**Thanks to the members of the Abingdon Volunteer Fire Department
for hosting the meeting preparing and serving lunch.**

**The next meeting will be Sunday, April 15, 2012 at the Dublin Fire
Department in Dublin, VA. at 1:00 pm.**

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