



Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association Convention Business Meeting June 20, 2015

We Protect Southwest Virginia

20 June, 2015

The Convention Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Saturday, 20 June, 2015 at the Meadowview Conference Resort and Convention Center in Kingsport, TN. with 97 members present, representing 14 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 0903 hours by President Morgan O`Quinn. The invocation was given by Mr. Kenny Hancock of the Draper Volunteer Fire Department. President Morgan O`Quinn welcomed everyone in attendance.

Reports:

President:

President O`Quinn offered the following report.

- Thanked everyone for the great turnout at the Memorial Service.
- Advised of the convention events that are still to happen and thanked everyone in attendance.

1st Vice President:

1st Vice President Bill Nunley offered the following report.

- No report

2nd Vice President:

- No report

Treasurer:

Treasure Billy Cook offered the following report.

- Treasurer's report for the past quarter was read.
- Motion to accept made by Lawrence Keffer and seconded by Jeremy Williams
- **Motion voted and passed**

Asst. Treasurer:

Asst. Treasure Potsie Smith offered the following report.

- Gave a report on the Convention account
- Motion to accept made by David Akers and seconded by Jeremy Williams
- **Motion voted and passed**

Secretary:

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- Advised that we will be passing out convention surveys at the Saturday night banquet
- Convention registration packages have been sent out.
- Convention events (training and Ladies Activities) have been posted on the association Facebook page

Asst. Secretary:

Secretary Mark Smith offered the following report:

- Thanked everyone for having the registrations completed and sent in prior to the deadline.
- Advised that there were only a few late registrations

Chaplin / Welfare:

Chaplin Kenny Hancock offered the following report:

- Thanked Horne Funeral Home for their continued support of the Memorial Service
- Thanked Mr. O`Quinn for the excellent message for the service

Sgt. At Arms:

- No report

Executive Committee:

- No report

Legislative Committee:

Mike Moles offered the following report:

- Thanked Glade Springs for all the work put in for convention
- Talked about how the association has grown over the past several years
- The Association covers 25 counties which includes 190 departments. We currently have approx. 2,400 members.
- Mr. Moles introduced the following guest:
 - Mr. Charlie Singelton of the Virginia State Firefighters Association
 - Mr. Singelton is the Chairman of the Executive Committee for the VSFA
 - Mr. Singelton reported on legislative issues that the state association is currently following.
 - Mr. Dickie Harris of the Virginia State Firefighters Association
 - Mr. Harris is a Past President of the VSFA
 - The Southwest and Southside associatios represent over 1/3 of the fire fighters in Virginia
- Mr. Larry Logan, President of the Virginia State Firefighters Association
 - Thanked everyone for attending
 - Larry has 28 years of experience in the career fire service and 48 years as a volunteer
 - Past President of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association
 - The Virginia State Firefighters Association represents over 13,000 members
 - Dues are \$5.00 per person
 - The VSFA offers a \$10,000 LODD benefit
 - Reviewed legislative issues with Mr. Singelton and Mr. Harris
 - If your department is not a VSFA member please see Larry
 - Mr. Logan recognized Mr. David Akers and thanked him for his work as Secretary for the VSFA
 - Mr. Logan also recognized Mr. Fred Linkous as a VSFA District rep.
 - Mr. Logan also recognized Mr. Leon Reed as an Assistant VSFA District rep

Mike Moles:

- 70% of the fire departments in Virginia are volunteer
- The Southwest Association hosted the Virginia Fire Board meeting in 2014

- The members of the Fire Board want to come back to southwest Virginia in 2015 for a meeting
- Would like to have this meeting hosted at a fire department of 2015
- If you would like to serve on a VSFA committee please see Mike
- Thanked the Convention Committee for their work on the convention

Membership Committee:

Mr. Leon Reed offered the following report:

- Asked the members of the association to reach out and get new members interested in our association

Training Committee:

Mr. Bill Nunley offered the following report on behalf of Mr. Roy Redd:

- The Wise school is coming up in September
- Check VDFP site for upcoming schools
- Check the VSFA website for the schedule of training and convention activities
- VSFA, State Chiefs and VDFP has created a Chief 101 training (8 hour class) that will be offered at the VSFA convention and will be coming to southwest Virginia at some point

By-laws Committee:

Mr. Page Brockenbrough offered the following report:

- ✓ One of the first steps in this process is for the association to become incorporated
 - This would require a by-laws change. The change will read as follows:
 - FROM** "The Southwest Virginia Firefighter's Association."
 - TO** "The Southwest Virginia Firefighter's Association Inc."

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1

Name and Purpose

Currently reads:

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be "The Southwest Virginia Firefighter's Association."

PROPOSED CHANGE

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be "The Southwest Virginia Firefighter's Association Inc.."

- ✓ The second reading of this motion was read at the convention training on Friday, 19 June, 2015
- ✓ This was the third reading of this proposed by-laws change
 - Lawrence Keffer made the motion to accept the reading and seconded by Bill Nunley
 - **Motion voted and passed**

Rules and Contest Committee:

Mr. Danny Yopp offered the following report:

- Contest will be on the Golf Course Driving Range same as last year
- There is a backup plan in place in the event of rain
- Captain's meeting will be after the business meeting

Ways and Means Committee:

Mr. Chris Loan offered the following report:

- Advised that we will not be doing the raffle this year
 - Could not sell enough tickets
- Let Chris know if you want to try a raffle next year

Scholarship Committee:

Mr. Billy Hanks offered the following report:

- The association will give out 4 scholarships this year
- 1 sponsored by the Red Knights, 2 sponsored by J. Mark Bowery Insurance and 1 sponsored by the association
- We will be looking at the application to make sure it is up to date

Convention Committee:

Mr. Barry Simmons offered the following report:

- Working on a room list for next year
- Need to be looking for someone to be the Convention Committee Chairman for the next couple of years

Old Business

- ✓ 1st Vice President Bill Nunley is working on an association sponsored weekend training in the future. This will be an excellent training opportunity as well as a perfect time for networking.
- ✓ Association productivity
- ✓ The association discussed the benefits offered by the association
- ✓ Thanked Mark & Wendy Bowery for all that they do to support the association

New Business

The 2015 – 2016 meeting schedule was set as follows:

The Fall Meeting: 13 September, 2015 at the Green Spring Fire Department, Green Spring, Va.

The Winter Meeting: 10 January, 2016 at the Saltville Fire Department, Saltville, Va.

The Spring Meeting: 10 April, 2016 at the Martinsville Fire Department, Martinsville, Va.

Convention Business Meeting: 18 June, 2016 at the Meadowview Marriott

Audit Committee:

Mr. Leon Reed offered the following report:

- The books are in order
 - Motion to accept the report made by Potsie Smith and seconded by Scott Canada
 - **Motion Passed**

Page Brockenbrough:

- The association has grown over the past few years
- Golf, training, departure service and convention committee
- Would like to have officers from smaller departments in the future
- Hope to have roles of the association officers defined in the future and posted

The Nomination Committee offered the following slate of officers for the 2015 – 2016 year:

- President – Mr. Bill Nunley, Green Springs Fire Department
 - 1st Vice President – Mr. Brian Hollins, Dublin Fire Department
 - 2nd Vice President – Mr. Nathan Brewbaker, Christiansburg Fire Department
 - Treasurer – Mr. Billy Cook, Elliston Fire Department
 - Secretary – Mr. Curtis Whitt, Dublin Fire Department
 - Chaplain – Mr. Kenny Hancock, Draper Fire Department
 - Assistant Treasurer – Mr. Potsie Smith, Christiansburg Fire Department
 - Assistant Secretary – Mr. Mark Smith, Blacksburg Fire Department
 - Sergeant at Arms – Mr. Joe Kingrea, Elliston Fire Department
 - Convention Coordinator – Mr. Barry Simmons, Christiansburg Fire Department
- Motion made to accept the slate of officers was made by Chris Loan and seconded by Potsie Smith
- **Motion Passed**

The meeting was adjourned at 1008 with Mr. Kenny Hancock offering the closing prayer.

**Thanks to the members of the Glade Spring Volunteer Fire
Department for the work hosting the convention**

**The next meeting will be Sunday, September 13, 2015 at Green Spring
Vol. Fire Department in Green Spring, Va. at 1300 hours**

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