



# Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association Quarterly Business Meeting April 12, 2015

*We Protect Southwest Virginia*

12 April, 2015

The Spring Quarterly Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Sunday, 12 April, 2015 at the Glade Spring Volunteer Fire Department in Glade Spring, VA. with 24 members present, representing 11 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 13:00 hours by President Morgan O'Quinn. The invocation was given by Mr. Brandon McPhearson of the Glade Spring Volunteer Fire Department. President Morgan O'Quinn welcomed everyone in attendance. President O'Quinn also thanked the members of the Glade Spring Volunteer Fire Department for lunch. He also recognized Mr. William Harrison of Honaker Volunteer Fire Department.

## **Reports:**

### **President:**

President O'Quinn offered the following report.

- Advised that he and his department are working on convention.
- Has asked the members of the Southwest Association to please try to sell golf hole sponsorships for the tournament.

### **1st Vice President:**

1<sup>st</sup> 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 Kenny Hancock and seconded by Danny Yopp
- **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 Jeremy Williams and seconded by David Akers
- **Motion voted and passed**

### **Secretary:**

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- The dues invoices have been sent out
- 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:

- Convention and vendor registrations are coming in at this time

### **Chaplin / Welfare:**

Chaplin Kenny Hancock offered the following report:

- There were 6 deaths reported to him during the past quarter:
  - Mr. Paul Herrell of Elliston Fire Department
  - Mr. John Pauly of LongShop McCoy Fire Department
  - Mr. Warren Capper of Riner Fire Department
  - Mr. Walter Sutphin of Radford Fire Department
  - Mr. Michael Todd "Boots" Harris of Roanoke City Fire Department
  - Ms. Peggy Brown of Bristol Fire Department

### **Sgt. At Arms:**

- No report

### **Executive Committee:**

- Lifetime membership nominations are due by this meeting

### **Legislative Committee:**

Delegate Israel O'Quinn offered the following report:

Delegate Israel O'Quinn was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates on November 8, 2011. He represents the 5th House District which is comprised of Bristol City, Galax City, Grayson County, Smyth County (part) and Washington County (part).

As a strong advocate for Southwest Virginia, Israel works to ensure the 5th District is well-represented in Richmond. Israel serves as Deputy Majority Whip and his legislative committee assignments include Commerce and Labor, Privileges and Elections as well as Militia, Police and Public Safety. Israel is a member of the legislative Coal and Energy Commission and he serves on the Board of Directors for the Virginia Public Safety Foundation.

- Welcomed everyone to Glade Spring
- Advised it was quite a year for Public Safety
- Let everyone know that if there is a legislative issue that you would like information about or if you have any issues please feel free to contact him
- Delegate O'Quinn thanked the members of the association for all that they do for their communities

### **Membership Committee:**

Mr. Leon Reed offered the following report:

- Reported on the newest members of the association
- Discussion about members of the association that have not paid dues or have stopped being active members

### **Training Committee:**

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

- Check VDFP site for upcoming schools

### **By-laws Committee:**

- No Report (see new business)

### **Rules and Contest Committee:**

Mr. Danny Yopp offered the following report:

- No changes this year
- The contest will be run in the same location as last year (the golf course driving range)
- We should have restroom facilities on site this year

### **Ways and Means Committee:**

Mr. Potsie Smith offered the following report:

- Reminded everyone of the raffle for convention this year. A \$1,500.00 gift card to the winner to use at their location(s) of choice

### **Scholarship Committee:**

Mr. David Akers offered the following report:

- Scholarships were due by April 1, 2015
- The association will give out 4 scholarships this year

### **Convention Committee:**

Mr. Barry Simmons offered the following report:

- If you are having trouble getting rooms please contact Barry
- He is working with the hotel to get enough rooms for everyone
- Discussed the Ladies Events and advised information will be sent out
- The beverages for Friday and Saturday night are lined up as well as the Competition sponsorship
- The Cornhole Tournament is on track for this year, \$10.00 per team and a flyer is being sent out

## **Old Business**

NONE

## **New Business**

- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bill Nunley discussed the possibility of the association sponsoring a weekend training in the future. This would not only provide training but possibly boost the association membership.
- ✓ If you are interested or would like to help with this please contact Bill
- ✓ He asked the members to come up with ideas that can make the association more productive
- ✓ .
- ✓ The association has been approached by an insurance agent in Christiansburg who wants to offer products to the association for its membership
- ✓ .
- ✓ Curtis Whitt made a motion to eliminate the Friday afternoon business meeting to provide more time for the members to spend with their families and time with the vendors.

- The motion was seconded by Mr. Kenny Hancock
- **Motion voted and passed**
- ✓ The association was briefed about the association getting its 501 c3 classification
  - There was much discussion about the benefits of this classification and the processes that the association will have to go thru to complete this process
  - The motion was made by Leon Reed and seconded by Mark Smith to begin the process
    - **Motion voted and passed**
- ✓ 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**

### **APRICLE 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.."

- ✓ This was the first reading of this proposed by-laws change
  - David Akers made the motion to accept the reading and seconded by Ricky Price
    - **Motion voted and passed**

President Morgan O`Quinn appointed the following committees:

- Audit – Leon Reed, Frank Wright and Mike Moles
- Nomination - Page Brockenbrough, Mark Smith and Billy Hanks
- Resolutions – Potsie Smith and Jeremy Williams

President O`Quinn asked that every department try to sell at least one golf hole

Convention registrations were due without late fee by 1 May, 2015

The association needs to think about the future officers of the association

The meeting was adjourned at 1430 with Mr. Kenny Hancock offering the closing prayer.

**Thanks to the members of the Glade Spring Volunteer Fire  
Department for hosting the meeting and providing lunch.**

**The next meeting will be Saturday, June 20, 2015 at the MeadowView  
Conference Resort & Convention Center in Kingsport, TN. at 9:00 am**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Curtis Whitt  
Secretary  
Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association  
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