



**Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association**  
**Quarterly Business Meeting**  
**January 10, 2016**  
*We Protect Southwest Virginia*

10 January, 2016

The Winter Quarterly Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Sunday, 10 January, 2016 at the Saltville Volunteer Fire Department in Saltville, VA. with 37 members present, representing 16 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 1310 hours by President Bill Nunley. The invocation was given by Mr. Kenny Hancock of the Draper Volunteer Fire Department. President Bill Nunley welcomed everyone in attendance.

**Reports:**

**President:**

President Bill Nunley gave the following report.

- Working on convention

**1st Vice President:**

- No report

**2nd Vice President:**

- No report

**Treasurer:**

Treasurer's report was presented.

- Motion made by Mark Smith and seconded by Barry Simmons to approve the Treasurer's Report
- **Motion voted and passed.**

**Asst. Treasurer:**

Potsie Smith offered the following report.

- Motion made by Page Brockenbrough and seconded by Nathan Brewbaker to approve the report
- **Motion voted and passed.**

**Secretary:**

Curtis Whitt offered the following report

- A discussion was started about the drop in membership in the association.
  - This has been seen thru the slight decline in the association dues that are being paid
- The fact that there is a "lack" of training at the annual convention has been cited as a reason for the decline in the attendance and membership in the association
- Many ideas to build the association membership included:
  - Additional Training
  - Visiting departments to promote the association
  - Provide information about the additional program(s) the association can offer thru outside companies with membership

- Keep social media and the web site up to date
- The association will work with the Virginia Department of Fire Programs to set up VDFFP credit for convention trainings.
- President Bill Nunley made a motion to create a “Membership recruitment and retention” committee which he has agreed to be the chairman of.
  - Motion seconded by Ben Saunders
  - **Motion voted and passed.**
- If a member knows of a department that would like to join the association or has questions have them contact Bill or Curtis
- There was some discussion about possibly sponsoring a couple of members from a department that are interested but cannot attend the convention due to financial issues to let them see what the association is about.
- The association web site is being revised and taken in a new direction.

**Asst. Secretary:**

- No report

**Chaplin / Welfare:**

Chaplin Kenny Hancock offered the following report:

- Please keep David Akers in your thoughts and prayer due to a recent medical issue
- Great to see Mr. Roy Redd at the meeting today
- One association member death was reported to him the quarter
  - Mr. Miller Tyree Farris from Newbern Fire Department

**Sgt. At Arms:**

- No report

**Executive Committee:**

- No report

**Legislative Committee:**

Mr. Mike Moles offered the following report:

- Thanked the members of the association for hosting the Fire Board Meeting in Blacksburg and Christiansburg
- The latest bill report has been sent out by email
- Hosted the ALT committee
  - Go to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs web site and look at the Fire Board section, and look at the minutes from the past meetings
  - There is new language about how you can spend your ATL money
- The Virginia Department of Fire Programs will be represented at the 2016 convention
- In the past couple of weeks there has been a lot of activity about the Fire Fund money
  - There has not been a increase in the funding since 1995
  - Trying to get an increase in the Fire Fund money for departments
- Will be attending the Mid-winter Conference in February in Virginia Beach

**Membership Committee:**

Mr. Curtis Whitt offered the following report for Mr. Steve Hall:

- Fries Volunteer Fire Department has joined the association

### **Training Committee:**

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

- Check the VDFP website for upcoming classes
- There is a new section on the VDFP site that allows you to see what classes are being offered without having to log into the FSTRS
- The pre-requisites for all classes is a link on the front page of the VDFP website
- Reminded everyone of the 2016 Fire Rescue Conference in Virginia Beach, 24 – 28 February, 2016
- There will be a stakeholders meeting in Wytheville on 20 January, 2016. The meeting will be in Grayson Hall, Room 219 at Wytheville Community College from 1830 – 2100 hours.
- Several classes in the area starting in the near future
  - Firefighter I in Elliston
  - Health and Safety Officer Class in Pulaski, 20-21 January
  - Fire Officer III at RFAAP fire department
  - Politics and the White Helmet in Abingdon

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

- No report

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

Mr. Danny Yopp offered the following report:

- Competition will be run at the Driving Range at the Golf Course

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

Mr. Potsie Smith offered the following report:

- Working on the 50/50

### **Scholarship Committee:**

Mr. Curtis Whitt offered the following report for Mr. Billy Hanks:

- Applications for the 2016 scholarships are due by 1 April, 2016 to Billy Hanks

### **Convention Committee:**

Mr. Barry Simmons offered the following report:

- No Report

## **Old Business**

NONE

## **New Business**

Page –

- Above and Beyond nominations need to be turned into Page by the April Meeting
- There will be an opening for the following officers at the 2016 convention:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (This requires a letter of support from the members department)
  - Convention Coordinator (2 year term)

Past President Bill Nunley thanked the members of Saltville Fire Department for their hospitality and lunch.

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

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

**The next meeting will be Sunday, April 10, 2016 at the Martinsville Fireman's Cabin in Martinsville, VA. at 1:00 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Curtis Whitt  
Secretary  
Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association  
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