



Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association
Quarterly Business Meeting
January 15, 2017
We Protect Southwest Virginia

15 January, 2017

The Winter Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Sunday, 15 January, 2017 at the Selma Volunteer Fire Department in Selma, Va. with 43 members present, representing 17 organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 1330 hours by President Brian Hollins. The invocation was given by Mr. Lawrence Keffer of the Salem Fire Department. President Hollins welcomed everyone in attendance.

President Hollins introduced Chief John Kern of Selma Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Kern welcomed everyone in attendance. President Hollins also introduced Mr. Jimmy Byer, 1st Vice President of the Virginia Firefighters Association

President Hollins thanked Selma Fire Department for hosting the meeting and providing lunch.

Reports:

President:

President Brian Hollins offered the following report.

- Reported that the association now has a EIN for the bank accounts
- Reported that the association is now incorporated as a Non-stock Corporation

1st Vice President:

1st Vice President Nathan Brewbaker offered the following report.

- No Report

2nd Vice President:

2nd Vice President Brenda Hankins offered the following report.

- Thanked Selma Fire Department for hosting the meeting and lunch

Treasurer:

Treasure Billy Cook offered the following report.

- Motion to accept the Treasures Report made by David Akers and seconded by Barry Simmons
- **Motion voted and passed**

Asst. Treasurer:

Asst. Treasure Potsie Smith offered the following report.

- Motion to accept the Assistant Treasures Report made by Leon Reed and seconded by Derek Thompson
- Motion voted and passed
- Potsie requested an audit of his books. This audit will be conducted after the meeting by Page, Leon and Lawrence

Secretary:

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- Advised that dues notices will be sent out in January
- Asked the membership if anyone wanted to help or take over the maintenance of the association website to contact him

Asst. Secretary:

Assistant Secretary Mark Smith offered the following report:

- No Report

Chaplin / Welfare:

Chaplin Kenny Hancock could not be in attendance:

- Roy Redd offered the following report
- He attended the services or visitations for the following:
 - Mr. Chip Hutchinson – Pulaski Fire Department
 - Mr. Robert Gearheart – Christiansburg Fire Department
 - Mr. Dale Lowery – Falling Springs Fire Department
 - Mr. Justin Smith – Snowville Fire Department
 - Mr. Buck Monroe – Clifton Forge and Radford Fire Department
- Billy Cook notified of the passing of Mr. Daniel Jones of Selma Fire Department

Sgt. At Arms:

Sgt. At Arms Andrew Whitt offered the following report:

- No report

Executive Committee (Board of Directors):

David Akers offered the following report.

- The Executive Committee needs to be renamed as the Board of Directors
- There was a motion to rename the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors to be in line with the Corporation

Legislative Committee:

Mike Moles offered the following report:

- Thanked Selma Fire Department for hosting the meeting and lunch
- Reported on HB 1532 – Aid to Localities Funding Increase
 - This bill was tabled last year (2016)
 - The bill is back up in 2017
 - Mike requested that the association send a letter to the following delegates asking for their support of this bill:
 - Delegate Israel D. O`Quinn
 - Delegate Terry G. Kilgore

- Delegate Greg Habeeb
- Motion was made by Leon Reed and seconded by Potsie Smith
- Letter was signed by President Hollins and was emailed to the delegates on Monday 16 January, 2017
- Mike requested that the latest house bills list to be sent out
- Another house bill that may have impact on the fire service is that Volunteer Fire Officer might be able to install sirens on their personal vehicles. This bill is still in the house committees.
- There is discussion about counties allocating part of the meals tax for emergency services.

Mike reported on the insurance policy available for VFIS at a reduced rate for the members of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association.

- This is a \$10,000 insurance policy that is offered to the members of the association and their families.
- There is no medical exam with this policy
- The rates and additional information is attached to this rmail
- If you have any questions please contact Mike Moles

Membership Committee:

Leon Reed offered the following report:

- Would like to get the Membership Committee together and look at the association membership and how to help increase it.

Training Committee:

Derek Thompson offered the following report on behalf of Mr. Roy Redd:

- Check the VDFP website for upcoming classes
- VDFP is starting a pilot program to hold testing for 4 programs at Virginia Community Colleges.

By-laws Committee:

Page Brockenbrough offered the following report:

The following is the third reading of the purposed changes to the by-laws

- **APRICLE 1 Article 1 Name and Purpose Section 1** currently reads
 - The name of this Association shall be "The Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association Incorporated"
- **Article 1 Name and Purpose Section 1** changed to read
 - The name of this Association shall be "The Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association"
 - *On advice of legal counsel the following change in Article 1 Section 1 of the Constitution shall be made as of June 18, 2016 without the normal 3 vote requirement.*
- **Article 3 Officers and Executive Committee Section 2** currently reads
 - The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, the immediate Past President and four (4) members appointed by the President.

- **Article 3 Officers and Executive Committee Section 2** proposed
 - The Executive Committee shall consist of five (5) members appointed by the President.

Changes recommended by the By-Laws Committee - 2nd by Leon Reed, **motion carried**

- The Executive Committee will be renamed to the Board of Directors to be in line with the Articles of Incorporation

Rules and Contest Committee:

Danny Yopp offered the following report:

- Contest will be held in the grass area in front of the hotel along the road
- There will be vehicle parking at the contest site, items can be dropped off but you cannot park in the contest area

Ways and Means Committee:

Chris Loan offered the following report:

- The 50/50 winner will get \$75.00
- Riner Fire Department will have their Oyster Dinner on 4 February
- The committee would like to do a raffle to be given away at the convention.
 - The raffle will be for a \$1,500 travel voucher from Martin Travel
 - We will have 400 tickets available at \$10.00 per ticket
 - If the tickets are not sold the association will be responsible to cover the difference
 - Motion was made by Potsie Smith and seconded by David Akers to proceed with the raffle
 - **Motion voted on and passed**
- All members will be made aware when tickets are available
- All members are asked to assist with selling tickets
- The travel voucher will be given away at the Saturday night dinner

Scholarship Committee:

Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- Application is on the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association website
- The deadline for the application is 1 April, 2017

Convention Committee:

Jeff Saunders offered the following report:

- Everything is on schedule for June
- Convention registration packages will be sent out soon
- The Memorial Service will be at Cross Roads Church, the address is included in the registration package
- The Convention Registration and the Memorial Service information will be emailed out and the Convention Registration and Memorial Service forms will be available on the association website.
- The registration form can be filled out and emailed to Mark Smith, **the money for the registration must still be received by 1 May, 2017 to avoid the \$10.00 per member late fee.**
- The golf tournament this year will be at Hanging Rock Golf Course in Salem

- Room rate is \$99.00 per night
- You will need to contact the hotel if you are booking your room as part of a department room block. The contact information is included in the convention registration package.
- There will be NO ONLINE PAYMENT option for registration.

Old Business

- The association is now incorporated and has a new EIN.
- It was discussed that the Treasure and Assistant Treasure will need to go to the bank to setup the new bank accounts with the new EIN.
- It was discussed that the association may need to contact a accountant to assist setting up the tax return information for the first few years.

New Business

- The April meeting will be held in Dublin at the Dublin Fire Department. This will be a training secession that will begin at 0800 hours. The training will be a VDFP sponsored training.
- The Spring meeting will start at 1200 hours with lunch and additional training to follow.
- Registration for this training will be online at the VDFP website. Please register for the training to assist with a head count for the lunch.

- There will be 2 officer positions that will need to be filled at the Convention in June:
 - Treasure
 - Sgt. at Arms

- Danny Yopp revisited the contest for the new members and explained how the contest are run and that you must attend the business to be able to participate in the contest

- Fairlawn Fire Department is having a raffle for a YETI cooler
 - See any Fairlawn Fire Department member for a ticket

The meeting was closed at 1435 hours with a closing prayer by Mr. Lawrence Keffer

**Thanks to the members of the Selma Fire Department for the work
hosting the lunch and meeting**

**The next training and meeting will be Sunday, 9 April, 2017 at the
Dublin Fire Department, Dublin, Va. 0800 hours**

Respectfully Submitted,
Curtis Whitt
Secretary
Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association
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