



# Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association Convention Business Meeting June 17, 2017

*We Protect Southwest Virginia*

17 June, 2017

The Convention Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Saturday, 17 June, 2017 at the Sheraton Roanoke Hotel & Conference Center in Roanoke, VA. with 113 members present, representing 19 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 0900 hours by President Brian Hollins. The invocation was given by Mr. Kenny Hancock of the Draper Volunteer Fire Department. President Hollins welcomed everyone in attendance.

Mr. Andrew Marinik and Mr. Brad Wright of the Southwest Virginia Incident Management Team gave a overview of the newly formed team. This overview included the organization, training and capabilities of this team. They also gave the members information about how to request the team and what they can bring to your incidents.

## **Reports:**

### **President:**

President Hollins offered the following report.

- Thanked the members of the Convention Committee and Dublin Fire Department for the work that they put into making this convention a success
- Thanked everyone for the great turnout at the Memorial Service.
- Reminded everyone to stop by and see the vendors and thank them for coming.

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

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Nathan Brewbaker offered the following report.

- Thanked everyone for attending the convention events
- Advised that if anyone would like to serve on a committee please contact Nathan in person, by phone or email

### **2nd Vice President:**

2nd Vice President Brenda Hankins offered the following report.

- No Report

### **Treasurer:**

Treasure Billy Cook offered the following report.

- Treasurer's report for the past quarter was read.
- Motion to accept made by David Akers and seconded by Frank Wright
- **Motion voted and passed**

### **Asst. Treasurer:**

Asst. Treasure Patsie Smith offered the following report.

- Gave a report on the Convention account
- Motion to accept made by David Akers and seconded by Barry Simmons

- **Motion voted and passed**
- Requested that the books be audited at the September meeting

### **Secretary:**

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- No Report

### **Asst. Secretary:**

Secretary Mark Smith offered the following report:

- Advised he would have a complete convention report at the September meeting
- 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:

- Advised that he attended the services for the following:
  - Mr. "Pyro" Leech of Elliston Fire Department
  - Mr. Steve Hall of Riner Fire Department
- Asked that the membership keep those that are sick in your thoughts and prayers
- Thanked everyone that attended the Memorial Service and those that had a part in the service
- Reminded everyone of the Sunday Morning Departure Service

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

- No report

### **Executive Committee:**

Jeff Saunders offered the following report.

- No Report

### **Legislative Committee:**

Mike Moles offered the following report:

- Thanked the members and ladies of Dublin Fire Department for all of the work they put into this convention
- Introduced the Virginia State Firefighters Association Vice President Mr. Jimmy Byer
- Advised that HB#1532 was discussed at the recent Legislative Summit

- ❖ Mike introduced Mr. Larry Logan

Mr. Larry Logan offered the following report:

- Advised that the Virginia State Firefighters Association wants members to join
  - The cost is \$5.00 per person per year
  - Check out the VSFA website for additional benefits that the association can offer
  - The association offers training, comradely and fellowship for the fire service in Virginia
- Mr. Logan read a report that Mr. Charlie Singelton wrote for the VSFA.
  - This was an example of his dedication to the fire service and its members in Virginia
- HB #1532 (ALT Money) that has been discussed in the past passed thru the House and made it to the Governor to be signed

- The bill was re-written and would result in a 40% decrease to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs
- The bill was pulled by the patron which kills the bill. At this time there will be no changes to the ATL money.
- This bill will not be brought back before the legislature at this time
- Mr. Singelton thanked the members of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association and Mr. Mike Moles for their help and support of legislative issues that affect the fire service in Virginia
- The Virginia State Firefighters Association has a booth set up in the vendor area with additional information and a schedule of classes at the conference in Hampton
- SB # 1196 – The VSFA is concerned about mandatory training
  - There is a push to make EVOC a mandatory training for all departments.
  - The association agrees that training is important to the safety and growth of the fire service and departments in Virginia
    - The feeling is that training should not be mandated by the state, but the individual departments set guidelines and training standards that are specific to the locality
- Mr. Moles reminded the membership that 70% of all departments are all volunteer

### **Membership Committee:**

Leon Reed offered the following report:

- No Report

### **Training Committee:**

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

- He introduced VDFP Division Chief Mr. Dennis Price
  - VDFP will put a “No Show” policy in place, for Funded Training Programs, that begins 1 July, 2017 to try to reduce the number of classes that are canceled due to low attendance
  - VDFP will be putting a “3<sup>rd</sup> Attempt” policy in place 1 July, 2017 on written tests
  - Contact VDFP for more information about these policies
- Upcoming training:
  - Wise Regional School – Wise County 8-10 September, 2017
  - Virginia / Tennessee weekend at the National Fire Academy will be 22-24 September, 2017 at the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg
    - Virginia has 250 seats at this academy
    - Members of the fire service in Virginia are urged to attend the training
- 1 July, 2017 the VDP bookstore will be closing
  - You can contact your division office to have books printed for classes, this request needs to be placed early in the planning stages
- There are currently some issues with the FSTRS system
  - If you are missing items on your transcript or need a copy please contact your division office
- The Fire Marshal’s Office is now back up and running
- Commentary driving will be a requirement for the DPO and DAO classes in the future
- The new Fire Officer I and II classes are now out
- There is a new Hazmat program that is slated to come out in the near future
- Curtis Whitt offered the following information about the training at this years convention
  - 4 training topics offered
  - 3 training times offered

- 175 people attended the convention training for a total of 306 training hours

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

Page Brockenbrough offered the following report:

- Advised that there are currently 8 changes that need to be made due to the change of the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors
  - With the possibility of additional changes forthcoming with the possible change to a 501c3 corporation it is the recommendation of this committee to hold off with any By-law changes at this time

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

Danny Yopp offered the following report:

- Contest will be in the grass area at the entrance to the hotel parking lot
- Captain's meeting will be after the business meeting
- Thanked Mark Bowery and VFIS Insurance for sponsoring the contests
- Need additional timers
- There was a lot of discussion about the forecasted rain,
  - A motion was made by Kenny Hancock and seconded by Chris Loan that
    - If the contest are to be canceled due to rain the contest will take place at the next convention”
      - **Motion voted and passed**
- Mr. Yopp advised the membership that the 2018 convention will be has last year as the Rules and Contest Committee Chairman

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

Chris Loan offered the following report:

- Doing a 50/50 during the meeting, a little over \$200 to the winner
- Advised that all tickets have been purchased, (\$1,500 Martin Travel gift card)
- He asked the members in attendance if they wanted to do another raffle next year for the same \$1.500 travel gift card with a \$500 travel gift card to the member that sells the winning ticket
  - Motion was made by Craig Helvey and seconded by Brenda Hankins
    - **Motion voted and passed**

### **Scholarship Committee:**

Jeff Saunders offered the following report:

- The association will give out 5 scholarships this year
  - 1 sponsored by the Red Knights (\$400)
  - 1 sponsored by J. Mark Bowery Insurance(\$300)
  - 1 sponsored by LCM (\$300)
  - 1 sponsored by WEL (\$300)
  - 1 sponsored by Haley Toyota (\$500)
- Jeff asked to association to add to the above listed to make them \$500 each, The request was for \$700
  - Motion by Jeff Saunders and seconded by Leon Reed
    - **Motion voted and passed**

### **Convention Committee:**

Jeff Saunders offered the following report:

- Thanked everyone on the Convention Committee
- Thanked the members and ladies of Dublin Fire Department for all of their help
- Thanked everyone else that assisted with the convention and activities

## **Old Business**

The association is still working with our attorney on the 501c3 vs Non-stock Corporation

The audit committee did the annual audit on the Treasure's books and found them to be in order

- Motion was made by Nathan Brewbaker and second by Jeremy Williams to accept the audit committee report
  - **Motion voted and passed**

## **New Business**

The 2017 – 2018 meeting schedule was set as follows:

The Fall Meeting: 17 September, 2017 at Green Spring Fire Department, Green Spring, Va.

The Winter Meeting: 14 January, 2018 at Newport Fire Department, Newport, Va.

The Spring Meeting: 8 April, 2018 at Christiansburg Fire Department, Christiansburg, Va.

Convention Business Meeting: 16 June, 2018 at the Sheraton Roanoke Hotel and Conference Center, Roanoke, Va.

The Nomination Committee offered the following slate of officers for the 2016 – 2017 year:

- President – Mr. Nathan Brewbaker, Christiansburg Fire Department
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Mrs. Brenda Hankins, Martinsville Fire Department
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Mr. Andrew Whitt, Dublin Fire Department
- Treasurer – Mr. Robbie Kiser, Pulaski 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. Todd Chrisley, Christiansburg Fire Department
- Convention Coordinator – Mr. Jeremy Williams, Christiansburg Fire Department
- Motion made to accept the slate of officers was made by Donnie Reed and seconded by Mavin Ogle
  - **Motion Passed**

The meeting was adjourned at 1100 with Mr. Kenny Hancock offering the closing prayer.

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

**The next meeting will be Sunday, September 17, 2017 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](mailto:cwhitt@swvafirefighters.com)