



# Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association Convention Business Meeting June 16, 2018

*We Protect Southwest Virginia*

16 June, 2018

The Convention Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Saturday, 16 June, 2018 at the Sheraton Roanoke Hotel & Conference Center in Roanoke, VA. with 110 members present, representing 21 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 0907 hours by President Nathan Brewbaker. The invocation was given by Mr. Kenny Hancock of the Draper Volunteer Fire Department. President Brewbaker welcomed everyone in attendance.

President welcomed the following guest and allowed them to address the membership:  
Mr. Michael Reilly, Executive Director of the Virginia Department of Fire Programs  
Mr. Jimmy Byer, President of the Virginia State Firefighters Association  
Mr. Larry Logan, Past President of the Virginia State Firefighters Association and Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association

## Reports:

### President:

President Brewbaker offered the following report.

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

### 1st Vice President:

Vacant Position – No report

### 2nd Vice President:

2nd Vice President Andrew Whitt offered the following report.

- Working on membership
- Working with a small committee to help boost membership in the association

### Treasurer:

Treasure Robbie Kiser offered the following report.

- Treasurer's report for the past quarter was read.
- Motion to accept made by David Akers and seconded by Barry Simmons
- **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 Billy Hanks and seconded by David Akers
- **Motion voted and passed**
- Requested that the books be audited at the September meeting

## **Secretary:**

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- Working on getting the 501 c 3 project completed
- Need to be thinking of a replacement in the next 2 years for the Secretary position
- Thanked Christiansburg for the work they have put into the convention
- Will be working with Andrew and the membership committee

## **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.
- Thanked Christiansburg for the work they put into the convention

## **Chaplin / Welfare:**

Chaplin Kenny Hancock offered the following report:

- 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
- Thanked Craig Helvey and the Convention Committee for the work on the Memorial Service
- Reminded everyone of the Sunday Morning Departure Service
- President Brewbaker also thanked the members of the Roanoke Valley Color Guard for their participation in the service

## **Sgt. At Arms:**

Sgt. At Arms Todd Chrisley offered the following report:

- Thanked everyone for attending and reminded folks to go see the vendors
- Recently attended the 2018 Fire Rescue Conference and the 2018 VFPA Spring school

## **Executive Committee:**

David Akers offered the following report.

- If you have any questions or concerns about the association please contact him, any Executive Committee member or association officer

## **Legislative Committee:**

Mike Moles offered the following report:

- Thanked the members and ladies of Christiansburg Fire Department for all of the work they put into this convention
- Introduced Mr. Michael Reilly, Executive Director of the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.
  - Mr. Reilly addressed the group and gave a little about his background, plans and directions for the Virginia Department of Fire Programs in the future.
  - He also reported that Brook Pittinger will remain onboard as the Chief Deputy Director of VDFP
- Reminded the group that 70% of the firefighters in Virginia are volunteers
- The association would like to host a Fire Board meeting in the near future
- Introduced Mr. Jimmy Byer, President of the Virginia State Firefighters Association.
  - Mr. Byer addressed the group and told them of upcoming events with the VSFA.
  - Invited members to attend the VSFA conference in Hampton in August

- ❖ Mike introduced Mr. Larry Logan

Mr. Larry Logan offered the following report:

- Larry suggested that the members get to know your legislators.
  - The members of this association have been very helpful with issues in the past
  - If you have any concerns about issues contact your delegate
- The fireworks bill was defeated in the last session
- There will be a stakeholders meeting coming up in September and we will try to get the information out to the association members
- If you know of a bill that may have an effect on the fire departments please contact Mike Moles
- There has been a lot of discussion about the ATL (Aid to Localities) money recently. Mike advised that the Southwest association has been a huge voice in this bill.
  - Chief Billy Hanks advised that the ATL reporting process has changed
    - Reporting must be completed to receive funds for the upcoming year
    - This year's reporting is due by 13 July, 2018

### **Membership Committee:**

Leon Reed offered the following report:

- The association will be working to have a brochure created to help market the association
- We have setup a small committee that will work with the same company that created the graphics for the association trailer to create this brochure
  - We will be highlighting the benefits and training that the association can offer its members
  - Once this brochure is created it will be shared with the members and will be used as a marketing tool

### **Training Committee:**

Division Chief Dennis Price offered the following report on behalf of Mr. Roy Redd:

- He advised that Amelia Fire Department had a LODD during a training exercise this week and has asked the members of this association to keep that department in your thoughts and prayers
- Advised to go to the VDFP website for information on upcoming trainings
- There will be a pilot Hazmat program that will be coming out soon
  - This program will have a new format and be based on a new platform
- Firefighter I and II are going to be revised to include a new format which will include online instruction. The practical portion of the class will be held at a regional training center
- Student certificates will be mailed to the students home address not the fire department address
- When your department brings on new members contact the VDFP Division office and get the new member setup VDFP as a new student
- The association thanked VDFP for their help with the convention training
  - This year the association provided 311 man hours of training to its members

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

Page Brockenbrough offered the following report:

- We are still working with the association attorney to provide direction and complete the 501c3 process before making the needed changes to the By-Laws

### **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 at 1300 hours
- Captain's meeting will be after the business meeting
- Thanked Mark Bowery and VFIS Insurance for sponsoring the contests
- Need additional timers

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

Chris Loan offered the following report:

- Doing a 50/50 during the meeting, a little over \$180 to the winner

### **Scholarship Committee:**

Billy Hanks offered the following report:

- The association will give out 4 scholarships this year
- Asked that the Scholarship Committee meet after this meeting
- Haley Toyota increased the donation from last year which allowed for all recipients to be awarded more money
- The committee encouraged everyone to apply in the future

### **Convention Committee:**

Jeremy Williams offered the following report:

- Thanked everyone on the Convention Committee
- Thanked everyone else that assisted with the convention and activities
- Thanked the vendors for their support and encouraged everyone to visit the vendors
- Advised that the TV that is at the registration will be raffled off at the Saturday night dinner
- Thanked VDFP for the assistance with training
- Recognized Amanda Henniger from Green Springs Fire Department for her assistance with the door prizes
- Working on the Ladies events for the 2019 convention
- Any issues or suggestions contact Jeremy or any committee members

## **Old Business**

No old business

## **New Business**

Larry Logan reminded members that if their department is a member of the State Firefighters Association that there is a LODD benefit for the members

The annual dues for the state association is \$5 per member

2nd Vice President Andrew Whitt request that the association sponsor refreshments at the Wise Regional School, this request is not to exceed \$500.00. This is a good way to help out with the training and gives us a chance to introduce non-member departments to the association and what we can offer the members

- Motion was made by David Akers and seconded by Derek Thompson
- **Motion carried**

Would like to see the association trailer taken to events (trainings, parades and other fire department events) this year to help promote the association

Need to get a room list, number of rooms needed for the 2019 convention, to Barry Simmons as soon as possible

The 2018 – 2019 meeting schedule was set as follows:

The Fall Meeting: 16 September, 2018 at Blacksburg Fire Department Station #3, Blacksburg, Va.

The Winter Meeting: 6 January, 2019 at Pulaski EOC Building, Pulaski, Va.

The Spring Meeting: 14 April, 2019 at Martinsville Fireman's Cabin, Martinsville, Va.

Convention Business Meeting: 15 June, 2019 at the MeadowView Conference Resort & Convention Center, Kingsport, TN.

The Nomination Committee offered the following slate of officers for the 2018 – 2019 year:

- President – Mr. Andrew Whitt, Dublin Fire Department
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Mr. Bill Nunley, Green Spring Fire Department
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Mr. Todd Chrisley, Christiansburg 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. Derek Thompson, Fairlawn Fire Department
  - Sergeant at Arms – Mr. Mark Smith, Blacksburg Fire Department
  - Convention Coordinator – Mr. Jeremy Williams, Christiansburg Fire Department
- Motion made to accept the slate of officers was made by David Akers and seconded by Derek Thompson
- **Motion Passed**

Door prizes were given out at the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1035 with Mr. Kenny Hancock offering the closing prayer.

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

**The next meeting will be Sunday, September 16, 2018 at Blacksburg Vol. Fire Department Station #3 in Blacksburg, Va. at 1300 hours**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Curtis Whitt  
Secretary  
Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association  
[cwhitt@swvafirefighters.com](mailto:cwhitt@swvafirefighters.com)