



# Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association Summer Business Meeting July 19, 2020

*We Protect Southwest Virginia*

19 July, 2020

The Summer Business meeting of the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association was held on Sunday, 19 July, 2020 at Riner Volunteer Fire Department with 32 members present, representing 13 member organizations.

The business meeting was called to order at 1300 hours by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Todd Chrisley. The invocation was given by Chaplain Kenny Hancock of the Draper Volunteer Fire Department. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrisley welcomed everyone in attendance.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrisley thanked the members of Riner Volunteer Fire Department. Riner Chief Jerry Saul addressed the members in attendance.

Due to the meetings that were missed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrisley established the following committees to work and report at this meeting:

### **Audit Committee**

Mr. Leon Reed  
Mr. Mike Moles  
Mr. Frank Wright

### **Nomination Committee**

Mr. Page Brockenbrough  
Mr. Alan Anderson  
Mr. Jerry Saul

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrisley recognized Mr. Michael Geary, the new Montgomery County Emergency Services Coordinator. Mr. Geary addressed the members present.

## **Reports:**

### **President:**

President Nunley offered the following report.

- Unable to attend due to work,
- Would like to thank the members of the association for the support over the past year. President Nunley advised that if there is ever a need that he can assist with he is only a phone call away (report via email)

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

1st President Todd Chrisley offered the following report

- Thanked everyone for coming out and supporting the association
- Thanked Riner Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the meeting and lunch

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

1st President Todd Chrisley offered the following report for 2nd Vice President Mark Smith

- If there is ever anything that the members need please feel free to contact Mark.

### **Treasurer:**

Treasure Robbie Kiser offered the following report

- Treasurer's report for the past 2 quarters was read
- Motion to accept made by Kenny Hancock and seconded by David Akers
- **Motion voted and passed**

### **Asst. Treasurer:**

Asst. Treasure Potsie Smith offered the following report.

- No report

### **Secretary:**

Secretary Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- Web site has been re-designed and up and running ([www.swvafirefighters.com](http://www.swvafirefighters.com))
- The association now has a Twitter account to better reach its members with information (@SWVAFFS)

### **Asst. Secretary:**

Position is currently vacant

### **Chaplin / Welfare:**

Chaplin Kenny Hancock offered the following report:

- Please keep the members of the association that have experienced loss or illness in your thoughts and prayers
- The association lost the following members since the January meeting:
  - Mr. Harold Akers – Christiansburg Fire Department
  - Mr. Ralph Lane – Draper Fire Department
  - “Chick” Wagner – Abingdon Fire Department
  - Terry McPeak – Pulaski / Draper Fire Departments
  - James Martin – Riner Fire Department
  - Richard Thompson – Bristol Fire Department
- David Akers of Christiansburg Fire Department thanked the members for the support at the time of his father's passing.

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

Sgt. At Arms Roy Wall offered the following report:

- No Report

### **Executive Committee:**

Paige Brockenbrough offered the following report.

- No Report

### **Legislative Committee:**

Mike Moles offered the following report:

- Thanked Riner Fire Department for hosting the meeting and providing lunch
- Reviewed legislative items that were presented at the January Meeting

- Every bill that was presented that had implications on the fire service passed.
- This included the added cancers coverage as well as PTSD coverage
- Discussed the Southwest Virginia Firefighters Association booth at the 2020 Fire Rescue Conference in Va. Beach in February
  - Our booth was the only volunteer organization that was represented at the 2020 Fire Rescue Conference
  - The booth was well attended by not only members but non-member departments to learn more about our association
  - There were several members of the association that attended the conference for networking and training opportunities
- Reported on good news about the ATL (Aid to Localities) money
  - The association worked with stakeholders to get the ATL minimums raised for towns and counties
  - The old minimum rates were \$10,000 for a town and \$20,000 for a county
  - The new rates will be \$15,000 for a town and \$30,000 for a county
  - These additional funding amounts will help smaller counties and towns
- There are 711 fire departments in the Commonwealth of Virginia, 70% of them are volunteer
- This new ATL Funding rate will go into effect on 1 July, 2020
- There is a new representative on the ATL board, Mr. Jim Stokley. representing the Insurance Industry
  - Mr. Stokley is a Past President of the Virginia State Fire Fighters Association
- Wise County has submitted paperwork to VDFP for the 2020 Fall School
  - More information will be discussed in the New Business Section of this report

### **Membership Committee:**

Leon Reed offered the following report:

- Take membership brochures when visiting non-member departments or attending events
- Brochure is on the web site as well as the membership application

### **Training Committee:**

Curtis Whitt offered the following report:

- VFIS University is an online resource for training
  - Any issues signing up contact Mark Bowery
- Responderhelp.com is another on-line training resource

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

Page Brockenbrough offered the following report:

- No new business at this time

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

Mike Moles and Billy Cook offered the following report:

- Thanked everyone for the help at the 2019 Convention

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

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Todd Chrisley offered the following report:

- Doing a 50/50 during the meeting, \$60.00 to the winner

### **Scholarship Committee:**

Barry Simmons for Billy Hanks offered the following report:

- Billy Hanks had the Board of Directors and the Scholarship Committee polled by email to get feed back on the presentation of the Scholarships for the 2020 Convention. Due to the convention being cancelled.
- The Board of Directors and Scholarship Committee agreed that the Scholarships should be awarded for this year.
  - The association had 5 applications for this year, all 5 were recommended for award.
  - The association will cover 4 of the 5 scholarships at \$500.00 each.
  - The Red Knights will cover the 5<sup>th</sup> scholarship at \$500.00
- The checks will be mailed along with an award letter from the association.
- A motion was made by David Akers and seconded by Kenny Hancock to award the scholarships.
  - **Motion voted and passed**

### **Convention Committee:**

Barry Simmons offered the following report:

- Explained the reason and the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Convention
- The date for the 2021 convention will be 17-19 June, 2021 in Kingsport, TN
- The status of the hotel for the 2021 convention is still not clear, Barry will follow up with the hotel and keep the membership up to date
- This 2021 Convention will be the 75<sup>th</sup> year of the association and the convention will be the 75<sup>th</sup> Convention
- If anyone is interested in the Convention Committee Chairman for the 2022-2023 please contact Barry and he will help get you up to speed.

## **Old Business**

None at this time

## **New Business**

The Audit Committee has reviewed the Treasurers books and everything is in order

The meeting dates and locations for the 2020-2021 year have been set and are as follows:

**Fall Meeting – 18 October, 2020 – Martinsville Fire Department Firefighters Cabin**  
**Winter Meeting – 24 January, 2021 – Dublin Volunteer Fire Department**  
**Spring Meeting – 18 April, 2021 – Christiansburg fire Department**  
**Convention Meeting – 19 June, 2021 – Meadowview Marriott, Kingsport, TN**

**The Nomination Committee offered the following slate of officers for the 2020 – 2021 year:**

- President – Mr. Todd Chrisley, Christiansburg Fire Department
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Mr. Mark Smith, Blacksburg Fire Department
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Mr. Roy Wall, 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 – **Vacant to be filled at the October Meeting**
- Sergeant at Arms – Mr. Thomas Anderson, Dublin Fire Department

**The Nomination Committee offered the following slate  
for the Board of Directors for the 2020 – 2021 year:**

- David Akers - Christiansburg Fire Department
  - Leon Reed – Martinsville Fire Department
  - Jeff Saunders – Dublin Fire Department
  - Mike Moles – Riner Fire Department
  - Page Brockenbrough – Martinsville Fire Department
- There were no nominations from the floor
- Motion made to accept the slate of officers and the Board of Directors, was made by Billy Cook and seconded by Barry Simmons
- **Motion Passed**
- Members were sworn in to office at this meeting
- President Chrisley advised that he would like to keep the committees the same as last year. If you would like to be on a committee or removed from a committee, please contact him
- Mike Moles asked if the association would be interested in being a sponsor at the 2020 Wise Regional School at the same rates as the 2019 school.
- \$300.00 sponsorship for the school
  - Southwest Association will have a booth set up at the school
  - Association will cover the lodging for Mike Moles to represent the association at this school
    - Motion to sponsor for the school and lodging made by David Akers and seconded by Leon Reed
    - **Motion Passed**
- Meeting was adjourned at 1440 hours with the closing prayer by Chaplain Kenny Hancock

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

**The next meeting will be Sunday, 18 October, 2020 at the Martinsville Volunteer Fire Department Firefighters Cabin at 1300 hours**

**Directions will be attached to these minutes and posted on the website**

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

## **Directions to the Martinsville Volunteer Fire Company's Fireman's Cabin**

If you are coming from:

US 220N (from Roanoke) – At the US 220 By – Pass take the 220 South Business Collinsville / Martinsville Exit - SEE \*\*\*

Route 8 (from Christiansburg & I 81) – take Rt. 57 towards Fairystone Park and Bassett- this turn off will be between Woolwine and Stuart.

Follow Rt. 57 through the US 220 By – Pass staying on US 220 Business & Rt. 57 - SEE \*\*\*

Route 58 (from Hillsville & I 77) – take the US 220 By-Pass North towards Roanoke for approximately 6 miles to the US 220 Business Collinsville / Martinsville Exit - SEE \*\*\*

\*\*\* From the US 220 Collinsville/Martinsville Exit - stay on 220/Rt 57 Business (also known as Virginia Ave) at the 1<sup>st</sup> Stop Light - turn left on Kings Mountain Road (Rt. 174) - go to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stop Light - turn left on College Dr Continue on College Drive approximately 1 mile – turn left on Redskin Dr go approximately 100 feet - turn right on to gravel road go through gate which will be marked - follow gravel road through another gate and across dam spillway (may be running water) continue on gravel road to CABIN (gravel road Redskin to Cabin about a mile)

NO TELEPHONE AT CABIN (WE RELY ON CELL PHONES –# AT FIRE STATION IS 276-403-5325