

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
 Booster Meeting March 20, 2011
 North East Fire & Rescue Enola, PA

President Yost called the group together for lunch early as it was ready. A delegation of our members was busy stuffing envelopes for the upcoming mailing to all our membership. Lunch was served by the host company. The membership went all out in their preparations and serving of the food. Greg called the meeting to order at 12:50 hours. He asked Assistant Chaplain Wharry to give the invocation and lead the group into the pledge. Greg asked VP John Klinepeter and Assistant Chief John Matter to give the welcome on behalf of the company. They both made some brief remarks. Greg thanked the company for hosting the meeting, thanked the membership for serving lunch and presented the complimentary \$100 check for expenses.

Introduction of Guests –

President Yost welcomed the delegation from McConnellsburg convention committee. They would be speaking later in the meeting.

Secretary Worthington took roll call with 96 representatives and delegates being recorded in attendance.

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD	MARCH
President	Greg Yost	1	1	1
1st Vice President	Michael Sullivan		1	1
2nd Vice President	Steven Haines	1	1	1
3rd Vice President	Rich Toulson		1	1
4th Vice President	Walter Robertson	1	1	1
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee		1	1
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1	1	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1	1	1
Publicity Manager	Robert Timko	1	1	1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart			
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry			1
Attorney	Howard Cohen			
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers	1		1
Director, Pennsylvania (2011)	Rich Bruner	1	1	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2012)	Curtis Alleman		1	1
Director, Maryland (2011)	Wayne Baker		1	
Director, Maryland (2012)	Robert Cumberland		1	1
Director, West Virginia (2011)	Bill Keller	1	1	1
Director, West Virginia (2012)	Brett Bittle	1		
Director, Delaware (2011)	Harry Balthis	1	1	1
Director, Delaware (2012)	Steve Austin	1	1	1
Director, Virginia (2011)	Kevin Wilkes		1	
Director, Virginia (2012)	Allen Brennan	1	1	1
Past President	Walter Robertson	1	1	1
	Totals	15	20	20
Past Presidents		10	11	11
Maryland Fire Depts		7		11
Delaware Fire Depts		8		10

Virginia Fire Depts	8		5
West Virginia Fire Depts	3		5
Pennsylvania Fire Depts	25		34
		76	31
Grand Totals			96

Communications – None

Officers reports:

President Yost brought greetings to the group and continued by stating thanks to the newly merged company, amazing that they were able to do that as smoothly as they did to become the North East Fire & Rescue. They had done an excellent job this weekend, quite an event yesterday and I am sure everyone that was here had a good time. Since the Board of Directors meeting in January, I have attended all my company and county meetings, attended various company banquets including my own this year. I responded to numerous emails concerning the business of the CVVFA, also represented the organization on the MSFA Firefighters Life Safety Taskforce. At this meeting, CVVFA was recognized by providing leadership in responder safety on the highway, training and free materials. The Task Force will be meeting again, unfortunately it is the same day as our Presidents Council meeting, therefore; I will not be able to attend. They have scheduled a couple of Train the Trainer classes and a big seminar to be held at MFRI Headquarters the first Saturday in October with many demonstrations and classes stressing firefighter safety for both volunteer and career.

First Vice President Sullivan stated Fellow Officers, Members & Guests, welcome to North East Fire & Rescue. Thank you to the host company and Officers for having us. Since the meeting in Halfway, I have attended all my home company meetings. I also am trying to orchestrate the banquet committee for next year. Again, thank you and see you in May.

Second Vice President Haines presented his written report and spoke from it. President Greg Yost, fellow Officers, members and guests, welcome to today's booster meeting. I would like to thank the North East Fire & Rescue for hosting today's meeting. Since our Board of Directors meeting in January, I have attended my own company meetings, my county association meetings. I also attended the New Bloomfield FC meetings and their banquet. I attended the Responder Safety class yesterday. I would like to thank Jim Derstine for opening up his home and having an enjoyable time with good friends. Good seeing everyone this weekend and good seeing you Charlie Myers. I am glad to see that you are out and about once again and feeling better. Looking forward to attending the Presidents Council meeting next month and also the next booster meeting in Maryland on May 1. Take care and have a safe trip home.

Third Vice President Toulson submitted a written report. President Yost, Fellow Officers, members, and guests, good afternoon, I want thank North East Fire & Rescue Station #1 for hosting today's booster meeting. Since our last meeting I have attended my departments meetings, training nights. I have attended both Firefighter and Chief meetings in all three Counties of the State. I attended Delaware Volunteer Firefighters Association Officer and Executive meetings, and attended training at our State Fire School. I was also invited by the Delaware Governor to go to Washington at a senate hearing on the 800 MHz radio system. I want to thank Allen Baldwin for conducting the second half of traffic control training class. The first half of the class was held at Delaware State Conference, I understand it was very successful; the attendees are looking forward to receiving more hands on training. I'm looking forward to this coming week instructor's conference at Indianapolis. Hope to see all of you there.

Fourth Vice President Robertson stated I want to thank North East for hosting this weekend's activities and today's booster meeting. I have attended all of my fire companies meetings and fund raising activities. Also I have attended all of the scheduled county and state meetings. Jack Sullivan and I worked the Responder Safety booth at the Virginia chief's conference in Va. Beach. Hope that everyone has a safe ride home, and again thanks to North East for hosting this weekend.

Treasurer Dove presented the following balances of the accounts.

CVVFA #4100840 death	300.00
General Account	15468.72
CVVFA #236	85877.77
Net Worth	101646.49

I attended all my fire company meetings, The Apple Blossom Festival Firemen's Parade is on April 29. Sirens are allowed in the 4th division but will not be judged or on TV. I want to thank North East Fire & Rescue for hosting this meeting today. For those who have not purchased the Firemen's Challenge coin, I still have 19 left with only 100 being made. The cost is \$10 and it has lots of history.

Financial Secretary McBee stated we just got our entire mailing ready to go, thanks to all for their help in doing that. I am constantly updating addresses so if you know of someone had a change of address, please notify us. Also if any email addresses are updated, please provide that info to us. The Newsletter goes out via email for those we have, the remaining get mailed.

Recording Secretary Worthington stated, the minutes from the October booster meeting and the January Board meeting were transcribed and sent out electronically for any corrections, some were received back. Copies were mailed to those desiring hard copies. Also the final copies were sent to the webmaster for posting on the site. Also, at the front table are proceedings books from convention for your usage, please take them. I have been in communication with the President to assist with the business of the Association, also provided him with an agenda for today's meeting. I certainly thank our host company for their hospitality. I have attended all of my company, county and state meetings. The Office stands ready to support the Association as the Secretary's office.

Home Office Manager Heefner presented a written report. Officers, Members, and Guests, welcome to the first day of Spring, St. Patty's Day weekend and everything turning green again. Thanks to PA Director Curt Alleman and the North East Fire & Rescue Station #1 for hosting today's booster meeting. Also thanks to Chief Jim Derstine for hosting the Saturday evening social at his residence. I collected and distributed all correspondence received including trailer tags, scholarship applications, dues money, address changes, booster meeting applications and stamps and envelopes for today's special mailing. I attended a convention committee meeting in McConnellsburg on March 6. Our next opening for a booster meeting is May of 2012. Thanks to everyone for your continued support.

Publicity Manager Timko made some spirited comments. Ads are coming in slowly; we have collected a total of \$1,490 with at least two more forthcoming. We did receive some ads today. I have talked to McConnellsburg and they are working on getting some to their Chamber. You have to do this on an individual basis. I have some extra copies, also taking some for the booth at FDIC. All the ads are on the web site.

Chaplain Barnhart was absent.

Assistant Chaplain Wharry stated, since the convention, I have had a total hip replacement which made it impossible for me to travel to the Directors meeting. I would like to thank the North East Fire & Rescue of Enola, PA for hosting the booster meeting. I would like to thank the members of my fire company with helping me by providing transportation to the booster meetings. I would like to thank my family for understanding the times I must be away.

Attorney Howard Cohen was absent, however submitted some comments. I won't be at next week's booster meeting as I'll be at synagogue celebrating the joyous Jewish festival of Purim. I do plan to attend the May meeting, and following is a brief report for the March meeting. Unfortunately, it has been another busy period for struck-bys, including several LODDs. The winter season generally proves rougher than other times of year, with drivers sliding on slick roads, and this winter has been no different. Some western states have reported over a dozen state troopers struck during the winter months. Searching for these incidents continues to keep me busy every day. I have also been working with Mr. Austin on a conflict of interest (COI) statement and annual disclosure form that he will extensively discuss at this meeting. Adopting a COI statement not only makes good business sense for

any organization, ours included, but is also an important part of the CVVFA's conversion to a 501c3 non-profit organization, which will better enable the Association to qualify for grants and donations.

Pennsylvania Delegate Charlie Myers thanked everyone for their concerns, prayers and cards when I had my medical problems, apparently I had an irregular heart beat, hopefully all is well, going for an EKG this week. Charlie talked about the class held on Saturday, after arriving home he was able to talk with the EMA Director about some of his concerns. He reported on the PA convention and provided a convention information packet. This year's convention will be held up in Split Rock, September 21-24. He asked for additional remarks by Curtis and Ernie. Curtis spoke further about the state convention. For the PA folks here, last week we had our legislative federation meeting. We continue to work the sprinkler issue, hopefully some type of compromise. If you are not registered, please get on the web and do so. Ernie has some additional info on various subjects at the back of the room. Ernie made some additional bullet points on these subjects. He talked about the 20th anniversary of the downtown Philadelphia fire killing three firefighters. The USFA has a listing of all the fire deaths in residential properties showing over 400 deaths killed in their homes in two months. Most of these folks are the elderly and the young. I have gotten numerous calls from people across the state concerned about the legislators standing on this issue. However with all of this negative, there are some successes at the local jurisdictions. We got a federal grant for PA for the Delaware County Fire Training Center. UL is currently burning there with solar panels on roofs and the dangerous situations they provide to the emergency responder. We invite all to the Fire Expo in May just across the river.

Directors' reports – Pennsylvania Director Rich Brunner stated good afternoon and best wishes to you Mr. President. CVVFA Officers, Board members, members and guests. Thanks to the North East Fire & Rescue Company of Summerdale, PA for hosting today's meeting and for the delicious meal. Since the last meeting, I have attended my company meetings, training and fundraisers. I also participated in an on-line survey regarding the federal appropriations on Fire/SAFER grants. I also contacted some of our PA companies with outstanding dues encouraging them to pay and reinstate their membership. Again, thanks to the North East Fire & Rescue for hosting today's meeting. I hope everyone has a safe trip home.

Pennsylvania Director Alleman had no additional comments to make.

Maryland Director Wayne Baker was absent.

Maryland Director Bob Cumberland read from his written report. President Yost, Officers, Directors, and Guest, I want to thank the Northeast Fire & Rescue Station and Curtis Alleman for the hard work on making the Responder Safety Class a success and for Allen Baldwin in putting on the class. I also want to thank the Citizen Fire Company for hosting the Booster and the fine meal that they served. Since the January Directors meeting I attended all my fire department meetings, and Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association meetings. I attended different fire department banquets as President of my fire department along with my own fire department banquet. I also attended the MSFA legislative reception in Annapolis to meet and discuss fire serve legislation. As a Board member of the Board of Visitors to the National Fire Academy we held a conference call in February since the last meeting in July of 2010. I traveled to Portland, CT to help teach "We have your Back" to the Portland Fire Department and other Connecticut fire police in January and there was good attendance with 30 members in the class which was received very well. The first week of February I attended the Mid-Winter Chief Conference of the North Carolina Fire Chiefs in Concord, N.C. with the Responder Safety Booth and we received a thank you letter from the administrative director for be part of their program. Allen Baldwin and I presented a training program to the Delaware Fire Police Association on the new program "The First 15 Minutes" which had 31 fire police in attendance from the state association and we may be going back to do the practical part of the class on "We have your Back". I continue to work on getting Lou Jordan to add other items to the CVVFA store but have been unsuccessful so far. For the month of January we have received \$63.40 and we could be making more if we promote the store more as directors of the association. Most of the funds came from new or renewed membership.

West Virginia Director Keller read from his written report. I would like to thank North East Fire & Rescue Station #1 for hosting the CVVFA Booster Meeting. I have been busy teaching Fire and EMS classes since the last meeting. I have taught Truck Company Operations, ICS, EMT recertification, Propane Emergency and started a Fire Officer 1 and 2 class yesterday. I will be working the CVVFA booth at Fire Expo in Harrisburg in May. As we have teams deployed in Japan for search and rescue operations, please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

West Virginia Director Bittle was absent; however he submitted the following report. I would like to apologize that I'm unable to attend the meeting on Sunday. Since the last meeting I've had to regretfully resign from membership of the New Creek VFD due to personal reasons and have returned to Keyser VFD once again where I attend meetings and trainings regularly. I also recently was hired with the City of Harrisonburg VA Fire Dept. as a career firefighter/EMT and am also teaching firefighter 1 currently at the Mineral County Technical Center. If there is anything I can do to help please forward it to me. Take care and I hope to see everyone at the next meeting!

Virginia Director Kevin Wilkes was absent. VP Robertson stated that Kevin was unable to attend the meeting today due to work schedule conflict.

Virginia Director Allen Brennan had no report.

Delaware Director Harry Balthis spoke from his written report. I would like to thank North East Fire & Rescue for hosting the booster meeting. I have attended fire company meetings and functions.

Delaware Director Steve Austin stated that he has other business to be conducted later on in the meeting. He further stated this winter we were fortunate to have signed up Volusia County Fire Police as a new organizational member. We have been training with them and for them for about five years and all their members joined, that's good news. There is much information on the Presidents Council meeting on the web page with social events on Friday night. We were requested by Delaware to speak about a bulk purchasing concept program and that has been approved for presentation by Warren Jones, new Executive Director for Delaware. This is materials you use every day within the fire station.

Past President Robertson had no other report than what he previously stated.

Committees –

Archives – no report

Auditing – no report.

Budget & Finance – no report

Business & Ops Plan – no report

Constitution & By-Laws – no report

Credentials – no report

Convention – Steve Flickinger reported on meeting with the McConnellsburg convention folks. The parade sponsorships will be going out in April, hopefully if you are one of the sponsors, you will continue your sponsorship, if not, please let me know. We had 100% participation last year, picked up a new one this year. Also all the awards given out by CVVFA during convention will be done by our vendor. Please get me the correct information after the May booster meeting allowing time for completion. Now I would like to introduce Dave Hoover from McConnellsburg.

Dave said that the committee has been meeting for the last five months and will continue until convention. We have the agenda in hand, Board meeting Wednesday night, Thursday registration starting at 8am, Memorial service to be held at the Lutheran Church, Thursday night social at the legion picnic grounds, Friday Presidents Council, Friday night banquet at the legion, Saturday parade starting at fair grounds down through town and ending at the school. After the parade, refreshments will be served at the fire hall. The business meetings will be held at the fire station. Plenty of food for your enjoyment all three days at no cost, however please reserve for the various functions. Lodging will be in Clear Spring. We look forward to hosting the convention and hope to see you all there. We should have hats and shirts available for sale at the Joppa booster meeting. There will be no official golf tournament; however there are some groups who plan to golf. This is our 225th anniversary, may try to incorporate some events together. The attendees applauded Dave and the McConnellsburg folks to show their appreciation.

Steve Heefner spoke about the motel accommodations and has handouts in the back of the room. Our host will be the Clear Spring Sleep Inn. The ladies will be having a tour on Friday. This is also Clear Spring carnival week, bring the kids and enjoy.

Emergency Responder Safety Institute – Steve Austin spoke about the activities some of whom Bob Cumberland has previously spoke. Some of this has started in early January in Orlando, FL now for the 5th year. Our student evaluations were very high and have invited us back next year. Allen Baldwin did an excellent presentation. Bob and Stu traveled up to Connecticut and did a class, again great feedback and highly successful. Jack did an executive briefing for the I-81 Corridor Coalition group in Hagerstown. We are in negotiation with Charleston, SC where we will be teaching two classes. There will also be a multi-disciplinary class there to include all service folks. Jack has made arrangements in New York state to teach the I-81 group up to ten classes. Bob Cumberland went to NC Fire Chiefs and displayed the booth. Bob and Walter also went to Virginia State Chiefs. So you can see we have been extremely busy. We are leaving for FDIC Tuesday. VP Toulson spoke on the advance warning program in concert with Montgomery County MD and the NFFF. We have many enhancements coming on-line with ERSI. We will be meeting with Stone House Media to update our Face book and Twitter accounts. We also have brand new handouts to be given out at FDIC. These are also available on the web site. We now have a lane designation handout. Thanks to all who contributed in the preparation of the Fire Prevention grant to FEMA submitted in January. This is for a distance learning program allowing anyone at home to get the latest information and training in module format. Our goal is to reach 100,000 providers around the world. A question was asked about the seat belt pledge program. Some comments were made about the successful program in Minnesota. Bob Timko spoke about the PA rest stop display program. Steve continued by speaking on the driver behavior program whereby Dr. Bill Jenaway has agreed to steer. This involves using a driving simulator and actually testing drivers on how they react when approaching an emergency vehicle.

Fire Person of the Year – no report

Fire Prevention – Erin Drumheller was absent, however she submitted the following report. Hello everyone! Please excuse my absence today as I am in the Manchester VFD's annual fundraiser play this afternoon. I hope you are all well and enjoying the nice weather we've had recently. I'd like to present to you an idea for the fire prevention committee. As a result of the meeting in January, we were given a \$500 budget, which got me thinking, "how can we best promote fire safety and prevention to a vast group of people with this amount?" I think a website would best serve this purpose and stay within the budget. I'd like to create a website promoting *individualized fire prevention*. I would like to identify ways for people to prevent fires in their own homes; how to prepare for fires should they have some type of disability, live in a home or apartment, or have children or elderly living in the home; and how to protect their families with a proper smoke alarm. With the association's permission, I'd like to work with Steve Austin to get this project going. I understand that the association already promotes multiple websites, but this one will be directed at everyone, not just emergency responders. If there are any questions, please feel free to e-mail me or call me at edrumheller10@gmail.com or 410-259-5180.

Grants – Steve Austin reported he had spoken on these, waiting to hear from the NFFF and the fire grant application.

Legislative – Bob Cumberland said the federal government is still working at least for another two weeks. This creates a problem for the FireAct grant program, authorized but not appropriated.

Memorial – Chaplain Barnhart was absent.

Parliamentarian – no report

Public Relations – no report

Publicity – no report

Recruitment & Retention – no report

Resolutions – no report

Scholarship – Harry Balthis reported that scholarship applications are in for this year, total number of 8 is down. We will review and submit our recommendation at next meeting.

Sergeant at Arms – Wayne Baker was absent.

Training – no report

Topics – Chairman Steve Austin is working with Dave Hoover about speakers for convention.

Web Page – Steve Austin stated stay tuned for the upgrades. We are soliciting any input from all. As for FireFighterBehavior.com the website is up and Tom Savage will be the webmaster. We are looking for some good stories to be placed. He continued talking about panels at various seminars that are discussing this issue.

Youth Leadership – no report

Unfinished business

Scholarship brochures – Rich Bruner stated no action.

Charitable tax status – Steve Austin stated that 2 years ago we voted unanimously to pursue a 501c3 tax status allowing people to donate money to us and take it off their income tax as a charitable deduction. It will make us better eligible for certain types of grants. We were incorporated within the commonwealth of PA in 1950. Today is the first step we will be taking toward this goal. We need to thank Provident Insurance who covered the cost of the attorney and a CPA to do this. We do have some fees that we must pay. The Directors authorized \$1,000 in the budget for this change. Steve then read a short resolution required by the Attorney. “Resolution of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association, Whereas, the Articles of Incorporation for our organization originally organized in April 19, 1950, do hereby require amendment to add the attached clauses and language as attached hereto as Exhibit A. Now, Therefore, be it resolved, 1. The undersigned members hereby request that the Amendments of the Articles of Incorporation to add the language shown on Exhibit A and change the current address to 404 Hidden Valley Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070, of the Association. It is hereby duly requested the Association to begin the approval process required by law. 2. The members signing this document further waive any notice to those specific persons signing this Resolution. Those signing the Resolution hereby acknowledge Notice of the Amendments referred to herein and request the membership to approve the process at a regularly duly convened meeting of our Association.” Steve then explained the necessary steps to proceed. This lead to some discussion by several of the members. **Motion** to approve the resolution previously dictated by PP Austin to the membership to modify the articles of incorporation of the CVVFA by Steve Austin, seconded by Walter Robertson, discussion and questions, verbal vote taken, passed unanimously. At the conclusion of the vote, the hard copies were distributed whereby the delegates printed their name, signed the document and marked the appropriate box Y or N.

Motion to change our address to 404 Hidden Valley Road, New Cumberland, PA by Steve Austin, seconded by Bill Keller, verbal vote taken, passed unanimously. Next, we will need a conflict of interest statement and a disclosure form. This statement was drafted by Attorney Howard Cohen and MSFA PP Lee Sachs. This will be attached as Exhibit B to the Secretary’s files. This will require all Officers to sign at the time of election before being sworn to office at convention.

Motion to adopt the conflict of interest statement as drafted by Attorney Cohen and reviewed by Attorney Lee Sachs by Steve Austin, seconded by Bob Cumberland, verbal vote taken, passed unanimously. Steve reminded all that we must take the final vote at the May booster meeting to comply with the Attorney’s directions.

President Yost thanked all for their personal commitment and dedication toward reaching our goal as a 501c3 Association.

Promotional package and agreement with booster meeting partners – Steve Heefner stated no report.

Background investigations – Steve Austin reported they will contact this vendor again at the FDIC.

Secretary Worthington read a resolution requested by Jack Sullivan approved at the Board meeting in January reference the anniversary of Lionville VFC. A copy of the resolution is on file with the Secretary's office.

CVVFA family event – President Yost suggested a night at the ball park. This would occur during the Fire Expo in Baltimore, ticket prices vary, need a show if interest July 23 game night. Advance sale of tickets must be purchased two weeks before game night. There were a few interested, more details to come out later. Please discuss with your members and we will make a final decision at the May meeting.

New business –

President Yost acknowledged the request from the fire prevention committee to fund the \$500 request for the web site. The Budget included this amount. **Motion** to approve the \$500 expenditure for the fire prevention web page by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Dave Hoover, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Curtis Alleman requested some thank you letters be drafted and sent out to the Saturday training class sponsors VFIS, Service 1st Restoration and Jim Derstine. The Secretary's office will handle.

Hoby Howell reported on the accommodations for the next booster meeting to be held at the Joppa Magnolia VFC in Harford County MD. Overnight lodging will be at the Holiday Inn Express at 2118 Emmorton Park Drive in Edgewood. Reservations can be made at 410-612-1200, mention the H/C Firemen's Association for special rate. There will be a hospitality room sponsored by the Harford/Cecil Volunteer Firemen's Association for Saturday night.

Jerry Daniels stated that he will be the incoming President of the Delaware Fire Police. Next year they will be celebrating their 50th anniversary, therefore I am requesting the CVVFA to purchase a full page ad for \$100 for the book and will make that in the form of a **Motion**, seconded by Bill Keller, verbal vote taken, motion passed. Jerry Daniels will prepare the ad.

Bob Cumberland suggested that the CVVFA send a letter of support to the Senate delegation in support of residential sprinklers and will make that a **Motion**, seconded by Hoby Howell, verbal vote taken, motion passed. Some discussion continued on who should receive the letter and how it should be delivered. Curtis Alleman will write the letter and have delivered. Ernie continued with some comments about the legislative problem. Bob Cumberland welcomed anyone to stop by his house and see a home on a well with residential sprinklers.

A request from Delaware was asked for from the Association in support of residential sprinklers and motion of same, seconded by Bob Cumberland, verbal vote taken, motion passed. The PA letter will be forwarded to the Secretary's office and he will address it to the Delaware delegation.

President Yost spoke about a fundraising effort being done by some women; this will be an Avon sales event with a percentage to CVVFA. A proposal will be forthcoming at the May booster meeting.

Steve Flickinger reminded all of the newly created award, the Joe Bukowski Award nominations to be in by June 1.

Good of the Association -

Please let Bob Cumberland know who can work the display booth at Harrisburg. Meeting was adjourned by motion at 3:10pm.

Respectfully submitted

Gene Worthington
Recording Secretary