

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association

Booster meeting March 15, 2015

Lexington FD Virginia

The booster meeting was called together by President Robertson just before noon. Walter asked Financial Secretary McBee to give the blessing for the meal. The meeting was then recessed for all to enjoy, lunch served by our host.

The meeting was called back to order at 12:35 to resume the business of the Association. HMO Heefner led the group in the pledge to the flag. Walter asked Fire Chief Dickerson to give the welcome on behalf of the department. Chief Dickerson spoke of his fire service background with DE and MD in previous years and is enjoying his current position. He spoke of the historic nature of the town and welcomed all to return another time. President Robertson presented the complimentary \$100 check to our host company.

Introduction of Guests

Jeff Flippo VP of Virginia State Firefighters Association was in attendance, nice to be here.

Roll call by Recording Secretary Gene Worthington with 33 Officers, delegates/representatives and guests in attendance

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD	MARCH
President	Walter Robertson	1	1	1
1st Vice President	Hoby Howell	1	1	1
2nd Vice President	Bill Keller	1	1	
3rd Vice President	Rich Brunner	1	1	
4th Vice President	Richard Toulson		1	
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee	1	1	1
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1	1	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1	1	1
Publicity Manager	Bob Timko	1		
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart			
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry	1	1	
Attorney	Howard Cohen			
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers		1	
Director, Pennsylvania (2015)	Donna Welsh	1	1	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2016)	Mike Whitzel	1	1	
Director, Maryland (2015)	Dave Lewis	1		
Director, Maryland (2016)	Robert Cumberland	1		
Director, West Virginia (2015)	Dustin Amtower			
Director, West Virginia (2016)	Randy James			
Director, Delaware (2015)	Harry Balthis		1	
Director, Delaware (2016)	Steve Austin	1		
Director, Virginia (2015)	Steve Switzer	1	1	1
Director, Virginia (2016)	Allen Brennan	1		
Director, New York	Dave Jacobowitz	1	1	1
Past President	James Watson	1	1	
	Totals	19	17	9
Past Presidents		13	12	6
Maryland Fire Depts		10	0	3

Delaware Fire Depts	9	0	0
Virginia Fire Depts	8	0	11
West Virginia Fire Depts	2	0	1
Pennsylvania Fire Depts	14	0	2
Others	1	0	1
Grand Totals	76	29	33

Reading of Communications

The Secretary read from a message sent from Joyce Strock on the appreciation of the resolution presented to them. Donna provided some additional comments that Mr. Strock is currently in the hospital in need of our prayers.

We also had a request from Guy Flory's daughter reminding us of Guy's birthday; we overwhelmed him with cards and best wishes from the membership. We received a follow up message from her stating same.

Motion to accept the January Board minutes as published by George Dove, seconded by Steve Sweitzer, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Randy James was not present to take the oath of office.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

President's Report – Walter Robertson

I want to thank Chief Dickerson and the members of the Lexington Fire/Rescue for hosting today's booster meeting. I want to welcome everyone to Lexington, VA and hope you enjoy your stay here. Since our board meeting in Halfway, I have attended all my fire company meetings and fund raising activities. I have attended all of my county meetings and committee meetings. I also went to VA Beach for the Fire Chief's conference. Everywhere I go, I pass on information about CVVFA and ResponderSafety. I have attended a few more department year end banquets. Again, thanks to Chief Dickerson and the Lexington Fire/Rescue for their hospitality and I hope everyone has a safe trip home. I also want to report that Allen Brennan will not be here today as he is recovering from a recent hospital stay.

First Vice President's Report – Hoby Howell

Hoby thanked the Lexington FD for their hospitality. I attended the Leadership seminar yesterday in Winchester with lecture given by John Salka, retired Deputy Chief, FDNY.

Second Vice President's Report – Bill Keller

Bill was absent, sent a message stating he would not be able to attend due to work schedule.

Third Vice President's Report – Rich Brunner

Rich was also absent, sent this report. Good afternoon President Robertson, Officers, members and friends of CVVFA and welcome to the March meeting here in Lexington, Va. A special thanks to the members of the Lexington Fire Dept. for hosting our meeting. As usual the hospitality of our hosts is second to none and very indicative of the member companies of the CVVFA. I apologize for not being able to make this month's meeting but a previous family obligation prohibits my attendance. Since our last meeting I have attended all of our company meetings, training and functions. I have also attended training for Emergency Coordinators presented by Perry County Emergency Services and continue to work with our County EMS coordinator. I have also attended our County Fire Association meetings where we continue to promulgate the CVVFA and invited all to attend the President's Council in April in Lancaster. In addition I attended an Emergency Management Symposium as part of our County Township Supervisors Annual Conference. I also attended county wide training on Emergency Response to MRI's. Our fire company hosted this event as we have just had the first MRI machine in the county installed in our district. I wish all in attendance safe travels. Thanks to all for attending this meeting and for keeping CVVFA a front runner in the fire service.

Fourth Vice President's Report – Rich Toulson

Rich was also absent.

Treasurer's Report – George J. Dove

George provided the following account balances:

Death benefit	700.00
General account	33,197.08
Savings	90,877.74

The NFFF funding of \$15,000 has been included into the General Account to coincide with the budget. George thanked Lexington FD for hosting the meeting.

Hoby asked if there was a break out for coin sales; yes have the detailed report at home.

Financial Secretary's Report – Stephen C. McBee

No report at this time.

Recording Secretary's Report – Gene Worthington

Thanks to Lexington FD and Chief Dickerson for hosting our booster meeting today. The minutes from the Board meeting have been transcribed and sent out for review. The agenda for the meeting was sent to the President. I continue to meet my local training requirements and attend many meetings, company, county and state. As always the office remains committed to support the Association.

Home Office Manager's Report – Stephen E. Heefner

President, Officers, members and guests, thanks to everyone who attended today's meeting. This is the further most South we have ever attended a booster meeting. Thanks to President Robertson for arranging and Chief Ty Dickerson for hosting our March meeting. We had dinner last night downtown and it is a lovely little town. Since our last meeting, I have been communicating electronically with regards to our 144th convention. I received 33 scholarship applications and will distribute them to the committee. I attended the MSFA legislative open house reception in Annapolis in January. I also participated in the birthday card shower for our good friend Guy Flory. Our next regular scheduled event is the Presidents Council meeting April 10-11 at PA Firemen's magazine headquarters in Lititz, PA. Our host hotel will be the Best Western Eden Resort. This will be our historic 30th year for hosting this Council meeting. Safe travels to everyone and see you real soon.

Publicity Manager's Report – Bob Timko

Bob was absent.

Chaplain's Report – Charles E. Barnhart, Jr. - absent

Assistant Chaplain's Report – James J. Wharry

Jim was absent, sent this report. I will not be able to attend the meeting today. Thanks to Lexington FD for hosting our meeting. I have attended all my company meetings since our last meeting. Anyone needing cards sent, please contact me.

Delegate to Pennsylvania – Charlie Myers was absent.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

Pennsylvania - Donna Welsh (2015)

Welcome members and guests, thank you to Lexington FD for hosting the meeting. Since the last meeting, I have attended my company meetings, county emergency management LEPC meetings, the county table top drill and I am on a county hazard mitigation committee. I have promoted our organization and ResponderSafety at these meetings. I am preparing to go to PA TEMA training in Hershey promoting both organizations as well. Have a safe trip home and I hope to see everyone in April.

Pennsylvania - Mike Whitzel (2016)

Mike was absent, sent this report. Good afternoon Officers, members and guests, please excuse me for not being at the meeting today. I was working in Kansas City Wednesday through Saturday and flew into BWI late last night. I hope you're all doing well, have a great meeting and enjoy the hospitality. I'll see you in May. Couple of things going on in PA, we have a new Fire Commissioner Tim Solobay. He is from Washington County and is a former House of Representative and Senator in PA. He is a Fire Chief

as well. The Pennsylvania Firemen's Legislative Federation and the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute are still working together to consolidate or merge. The former Fire Commissioner Ed Mann is going to work for a Provident agency. You may cross paths with him again and I forgot he will also be teaching for CVVFA. I have been attending my fire company meetings, trainings and fundraising programs. I attend 5 municipality meetings each month to report on the company activities (calls, training, etc.) I've been attending our school safety and security meeting on a monthly basis. This weekend was the Swab meeting for the Institute and I did not make it to the meeting. I do not have any information on any of the legislative items. I attend my fire chief's and firefighters meetings when I can. I've been promoting the CVVFA every chance I get. I steer them to the Learning Network, Facebook and website. I also let them know the value of becoming a member of our Association.

Maryland - Dave Lewis (2015) was absent

Robert P. Cumberland (2016) was absent

West Virginia – Dustin Amtower (2015) – absent

Randy James (2016) - absent

Virginia - Steve Switzer (2015)

I would like to thank everyone for coming to Lexington today and thank them for hosting the meeting. Since our last meeting, I have been out of commission from breaking my ankle due to a fall on ice. I hope everyone has a safe trip home

Allen Brennan - (2016)

Allen was absent, however sent this report. Just a note to let you know that I will not be at the meeting Sunday; I had planned on coming, but have decided that it may not be the best thing if I did. I am better, but it has been a slow process since getting out of the hospital in January and I don't want to do anything to hurt this. I look forward to seeing everyone at future meetings. Be safe and have a good meeting.

Delaware - Harry Balthis (2015)

Harry was absent, sent these comments. I would like to thank Lexington FD for hosting the booster meeting. I am sorry I am not able to attend and hope to see everyone at the Presidents Council and at the May booster meeting.

Steve Austin (2016)

Steve was absent, however sent an extensive report on his activities which is included later in the meeting.

New York - Dave Jacobowitz

Let me start with an apology, we will not be in attendance at the Presidents Council meeting, we will be celebrating a burning of the mortgage on the Firemen's Home that day. We have 86 members in the home now including one of the FASNY PP's. FASNY has been busy with young firefighters, have a youth in the fire service committee. We are looking for a group of the year, currently soliciting nominations in the competition. We also give out \$1500 scholarships to high school seniors. This is our last year of the SAFER grant where we provide college tuition based on grade levels. Next month is our Recruit New York, our 5th anniversary, a statewide program open house. We provide the materials with over 300 companies registered at this time. We also are getting ready for convention in Albany in August. We had legislation passed on fireworks enabling at the county level to adopt. We are also doing an education on cancer, something that has come to the forefront after Tampa II. We are exploring an addition to the museum now that the mortgage is being paid off.

Past President – James Watson, absent

President Robertson asked our guest VP Flippo from VA to bring comments. Jeff spoke of the upcoming conference, unfortunately the same dates as CVVFA convention. We are under discussion with other groups in a combined conference for all.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives/Historical Committee – Guy M. Flory/Ray Mowen were both absent

Auditing Committee – Jerry Daniels - absent

Budget & Finance Committee – George J. Dove

No report

Business & Operations Plan – Greg Yost - absent

Constitution & By-Laws Committee – Robert P. Cumberland

Bob was absent, however sent a copy of the proposed by-law changes. Copies were provided to all in attendance. President Robertson declared this will be the first reading of the changes; any comments please contact Bob and let them know your thoughts. A question was asked about the voting procedure are we voting on the submittal as whole or individual articles, response that decision has not been made yet, will be determined at the May meeting when discussion continues.

Convention Committee – Steve Flickinger - absent

Steve is on vacation in Florida, Heefner made some comments from a phone conversation they had earlier. All the trophy categories will remain the same as last year after a review. The host company can add additional trophies at their choosing. Steve continued his comments about the motel arrangements, nothing in the vicinity. He proposes to stay at the Red Roof Inn in Newark, consensus by the group that the Red Roof Inn will be the convention host hotel. A listing of other motels will be sent out in the convention mailing for those desiring different accommodations. Mike McMichael from Delaware City has requested time to speak at the Presidents Council meeting to give a detailed report on the activities for convention.

President Robertson announced that he will not call on the individual committees to report, only those needing to do so. He then asked for the reports of Steve Austin read into the minutes which the Secretary did. Steve's reports as follows:

Please excuse me from the meeting as we are still in FL and will be returning in time for the CSFI Dinner. The following is a brief overview of current projects:

ResponderSafety.com- Please check out the new and improved website that has been enhanced for phone and tablet use

CVVFA.org- Still a delay in upgrading this site. I have been in touch with Fire Companies who powers our 3 sites and they will be moved to a new design platform after April 1.

Reputation Management-Candice is scheduling classes across the country using the NFFC Foundation Grant Funds as specified.

CFSI National Advisory Committee- I have worked out a "Partners in Progress Agreement" with IFSTA and Fire Protection Publications at OK State University. They have agreed to pay our dues at CFSI (which includes a table of ten) for \$3250. I will be working with Bob and Greg on the seating. We are presenting a workshop and a booth at CFSI.

The following invitations have been extended to those who are on the program and are working at CFSI:

President Robertson

Bob Cumberland CVVFA Representative to NAC

Greg Yost Alternate

Jerry Daniels Booth Worker

Candice McDonald Booth Worker

Jack Sullivan Presenter

Rich Marinucci Presenter

Kim Vasconez Presenter

(2 seats open at this time)

Action Item: Please ask Treasurer Dove to issue a check for \$3250 and deliver it to either Bob or Greg to pay our CFSI. Check should be made payable to CFSI.

Grants: New Grant Period opens Monday. We will be ready to submit before the deadline.

Contracts: Our FHWA Contract has been extended to September 1, 2015 and we are working to get an additional contract. I have been notified by USFA that our contract now underway will be

renewed for next fiscal year with new funding. Nothing received from Motorola or Homatro requests at this time.

Looking forward to a strong show season including FDIC, Fire Expo, Firehouse Expo, Keystone Fire Conference, FRI in Atlanta and various State Conventions. Lot's more going on, will fill in everyone at Winchester. Be safe.

President Robertson advised that we would be reimbursed for the \$3250 for the CFSI dinner next month. He asked for any comments from the reports from Steve. Greg Yost reported that he is in upstate New York teaching this weekend.

Credentials Committee – Dave Lewis

Emergency Responder Institute – Steve Austin

Fire Person of the Year Committee – George Dove

Fire Prevention Committee – James Watson

Grants – Steve Austin

Legislative Committee – Bob Cumberland

Memorial Committee – Chaplain Charles E. Barnhart, Jr.

Mutual aid response – Allen Baldwin

Parliamentarian – Howard S. Cohen

Public Relations Committee – Rich Toulson

Publicity – Robert Timko

Recruitment & Retention – Allen Brennan

Reputation Management – Candice McDonald

President Robertson read from a written report.

Hi all, I am teaching in WV this weekend, but wanted to share our committee report for the meeting.

Reputation Management Committee Report:

2015 has been off to a great start. The message is getting out there via presentations and through publications.

Presentations Delivered:

January - Firehouse World, San Diego

January – Delaware State Fire School

February – United-Winona Fire Services, Ohio

February – Fire Engineering Talk Radio - You can listen to the show by clicking this link -

<http://www.blogtalkradio.com/fireengineeringtalkradio/2015/02/18/episode-974-the-professional-volunteer-fire-service>

2015 Upcoming Presentations:

March 15th – Sissonville Fire School, WV

April 10th – Miltenberger Trauma & EMS Conference, Wisp Resort, MD

July 18th – Firehouse Expo, Baltimore, MD

August 7th – Keystone Firefighter Conference, PA

August 26th – iWomen Leadership Conference, Atlanta, GA

August – Fire Rescue International, Atlanta, GA

September – Old Forge Fire School, New York

2016 Presentations:

July 2016 - Missouri Valley IAFC Fire Chief's Conference

August 2016 – FASNY

Publications:

Firehouse continues to print articles and be supportive of our efforts. During the trip to San Diego, a video promo was completed about the Reputation Management class that they will be using to promote the class. Fire Engineering will be publishing one of my articles in the May issue in the volunteer section. The article is about technology, but covers using technology to protect the reputation of the department. Technology was the topic I was asked to cover.

Fire Rescue – They reached out and asked me to submit articles. I just submitted my first article to them on preventing member derailment. They liked it and plan to print it. Have a great weekend!

Resolutions Committee – Jerry Daniels

Scholarship Committee – Harry Balthis

Steve Heefner reported that he has received 33 applications for scholarships. I have spoken to Harry on the phone, will get them to him. Deadline has ended for submittal.

Sgt At Arms – Wayne Baker

Sign Trailer – Wayne Baker

The trailer will go to the Apple Blossom parade May 1, not sure where after then. This led into a discussion about the future of the mobile sign; will need some upgrading soon.

Training Weekend – Greg Yost

Web Page Committee – Stephen P. Austin

Topics Committee – Stephen P. Austin

Youth Leadership – James Watson

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Robertson asked that we include the \$3250 for the CFSI dinner into the budget for this year; motion made to do so by Dave Jacobowitz, seconded by Hoby Howell, verbal vote taken, motion was passed. Walter advised the Honor Guard program has been placed on hold after phone conversation with Claudia. She will be looking into sponsorship funds for the program. VP Howell made some additional comments.

Classified ads on the web page – Bruner

PA sales tax exemption – PA Directors

Challenge coins – Hoby Howell

I have coins here today, have about 20 remaining, however many are outstanding. George is receiving the funds as sales are made.

Chambersburg museum request letter – Heefner

NEW BUSINESS

Walter spoke about a benefit package being proposed by Enterprise Rental Cars that includes the discount rental with a damage waiver at no cost. He will discuss further at the May meeting. Motion was made to move forward into the possibility of entering into a contract with Enterprise for reduced fees of rental vehicles by VP Howell, seconded by Steve Sweitzer, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by motion at 13:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington

Recording Secretary