

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association

Booster meeting May 3, 2015

Winchester, Virginia

The booster meeting was called together by President Robertson just before noon. Walter asked Assistant Chaplain 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 12:45 to resume the business of the Association. The President led the group in the pledge to the flag. Walter brought greetings, spoke on the medical condition of VP Howell who will be seeing a specialist next week, please keep Hoby in your prayers. He then stated it is good to see Director Brennan in attendance after a short stay in the hospital. Walter asked Fire Chief Allen Baldwin to give the welcome on behalf of the department. Allen gave some remarks and spoke briefly about the Apple Blossom activities and would have more to say later in the meeting. President Robertson presented the complimentary \$100 check to our host company. Chief Baldwin stated this money would go into the recently created Foundation.

Introduction of Guests

None

Roll call by Recording Secretary Gene Worthington with 84 Officers, delegates/representatives and guests in attendance

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD	MARCH	MAY
President	Walter Robertson	1	1	1	1
1st Vice President	Hoby Howell	1	1	1	
2nd Vice President	Bill Keller	1	1		1
3rd Vice President	Rich Brunner	1	1		1
4th Vice President	Richard Toulson		1		
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1	1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee	1	1	1	1
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1	1	1	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1	1	1	1
Publicity Manager	Bob Timko	1			1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart				
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry	1	1		1
Attorney	Howard Cohen				
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers		1		1
Director, Pennsylvania (2015)	Donna Welsh	1	1	1	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2016)	Mike Whitzel	1	1		1
Director, Maryland (2015)	Dave Lewis	1			
Director, Maryland (2016)	Robert Cumberland	1			1
Director, West Virginia (2015)	Dustin Amtower				
Director, West Virginia (2016)	Randy James				
Director, Delaware (2015)	Harry Balthis		1		1
Director, Delaware (2016)	Steve Austin	1			1
Director, Virginia (2015)	Steve Switzer	1	1	1	1
Director, Virginia (2016)	Allen Brennan	1			1
Director, New York	Dave Jacobowitz	1	1	1	
Past President	James Watson	1	1		1
	Totals	19	17	9	18

Past Presidents	13	12	6	14
Maryland Fire Depts	10	0	3	7
Delaware Fire Depts	9	0	0	9
Virginia Fire Depts	8	0	11	10
West Virginia Fire Depts	2	0	1	2
Pennsylvania Fire Depts	14	0	2	24
Others	1	0	1	0
Grand Totals	76	29	33	84

Reading of Communications

None

Motion to accept the March booster meeting minutes as published by George Dove, seconded by James Watson, 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 Allen Baldwin and the Winchester Fire Companies for hosting this booster meeting. The muster was well attended even with the down pour, and the Fireman's parade was well attended. Since our last meeting in Lexington, VA, I have attended the I-81 coalition meeting in Roanoke with the Responder Safety Booth. I also attended the president council meeting in Lancaster, PA, and FDIC in Indianapolis, IN. I want to thank 1st VP Hoby Howell for attending the CFSI dinner in my place. I also attended all my fire company's meetings and fund raising activities, and county meeting. Again Chief Baldwin and the Winchester Fire Companies for a nice weekend, job well done. Everyone be safe going back home.

First Vice President's Report – Hoby Howell

Hoby was absent, sent his regards, unable to attend due to a medical condition.

Second Vice President's Report – Bill Keller

Thanks to Winchester for hosting the meeting, appreciate the short drive to the meeting. I have been outside the organization teaching classes. Have a safe trip home.

Third Vice President's Report – Rich Brunner

Good afternoon President Robertson, Officers, members and friends of CVVFA and welcome to the March meeting here in Winchester, Va. A special thanks to the members of the Friendship Fire Co. 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. 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 our meetings. I also attended the PA State Firefighter's Association meeting and the President's Council meeting in April. Unfortunately one common theme among the State's is recruitment and retention. This is a major issue facing all volunteer organizations today and one that must be addressed at the highest levels of organizations and government if we are to survive. I also attended a State training program on the "Courage to Be Safe" taught in part by our State Fire Academy Director. Part of our discussion in this course was about the ever increasing training and other requirements placed on volunteers and its adverse effect on recruitment and retention. I also met with our new State Fire Commissioner Mr. Tim Solobay and invited him to attend the President's Council and other upcoming meetings. 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	34,307.55
Savings	90,877.74

George stated he would like to thank those who came to the Apple Blossom, it was good to see and talk with them. It is good to be here since I miss these meetings. Thanks to Chief Baldwin and the Foundation for hosting today's meeting and to Friendship FC. We have received a check from Oklahoma University for \$3k and the NVFC for \$15K.

Financial Secretary's Report – Stephen C. McBee

No report at this time.

Recording Secretary's Report – Gene Worthington

Thanks to Winchester and Chief Baldwin for hosting our booster meeting today. The minutes from the March booster meeting have been transcribed and sent out to the membership. The agenda for the meeting was sent to the President. Thanks to all for their thoughts during my family medical emergencies. 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. Special thanks to Chief Baldwin and Winchester FD and with the Apple Blossom festival committee and the citizens of Winchester for hosting today's booster meeting and the entire weekend's events. I personally enjoyed Saturday's Grand Feature parade. Since our last meeting, I attended the Presidents Council meeting in Lancaster. Thanks to Ernie for hosting. I collected dues and membership applications on behalf of Financial Secretary McBee and turned same over. Also, I obtained and delivered the DMV tags for the CVVFA trailer. Booster meeting requests are coming in slowly, however I am hesitant due to possible by-law changes for the meetings. The 114th annual convention is fast approaching. Hotel information is on the front table, please help yourself. Anyone needing special attention, please let me know.

Publicity Manager's Report – Bob Timko

Bob reported that ads are coming in slowly for the convention book. He will re-contact our regular folks. We currently have 8 ads and 3 for the main covers. Remember June 30 is the deadline for submitting. Bob announced that he would not seek this position next year.

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

Assistant Chaplain's Report – James J. Wharry

Since the last meeting, I have sent cards when requested and attended my own company meetings. Thank you to the Friendship FC of Winchester for hosting this meeting. Please contact me if you need a sympathy card or thinking of you card sent to one of our members.

Attorney – Howard Cohen

Howard was absent due to a family commitment

Delegate to Pennsylvania – Charlie Myers

Charlie advised that the state quarterly meeting would be held July 10, convention September 23-26. Ernie has sign up sheets for the PA Firemen subscription and remember the Expo in two weeks. Bob Timko advised that Provident would be providing their hospitality Friday night at the Sheraton, see him for additional details.

Past President – James Watson

I would like to thank the Winchester FD for hosting the booster meeting at the Friendship fire station. Since the last meeting, I have been working on the upcoming convention July 29-Aug 1 and trying to take in new members.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

Pennsylvania - Donna Welsh (2015)

It's good to see everyone. Since the last meeting, I have attended the Presidents Council meeting, my company meetings and the Pennsylvania Township Emergency Management Association annual training in Hershey. I took ResponderSafety information cards along and they were passed out to approximately 150 in attendance. I am also working with my county on redoing the 5 year hazard mitigation plan. Have a safe trip home.

Pennsylvania - Mike Whitzel (2016)

Good afternoon Officers, Members, and Guest, I would like to thank Friendship Fire Company for hosting the meeting. The Pennsylvania Fireman's Legislative Federation and the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute are still working together to consolidate or merge. Both groups agreed to move forward, at this time the Federation is drawing up the agreement. I attended the Cumberland County Firefighter's and Fire Chief's consolidation meetings. These 2 groups are looking at their options. The meeting attendance, redundancy of reports, and host of other items came up in the meeting. I attended the PA State Fireman's Associations meeting and the 5 State's Presidents Council meetings. PA Emergency Services has to get background check. There are a lot of questions about who is going to pay the checks. I have been attending my Fire Company's meetings, trainings, fundraising, fire prevention programs. I attend 5 Municipality meetings each month to report on the Company's activities. (Calls, training, Etc) I've been attending our school safety and security meeting on monthly basis. I attend my fire chief's and Firefighters meetings. I've been promoting the Cumberland Valley Fireman's Associations every chance I get. I steer them to the learning net, Facebook and Website. I also let them know what the value of becoming a member of our Association.

Maryland - Dave Lewis (2015) was absent

Robert P. Cumberland (2016)

President Robertson, Officers, Directors, Members and Guest, I want to thank the Friendship Fire Company for hosting the meeting and providing lunch for the group. I have attended my fire department and county association meetings. I also attended the April Executive Committee of the MSFA held in Urbana, Maryland. I attended the Presidents Council Meeting held at the Lancaster County Firemen's Association Headquarters in Lititz PA. I also completed the Train-the-Trainer course for the Federal Highway Administration SHARP 2, National Traffic Incident Management responder Training Program at the National Fire Academy. I represented the MSFA President at Lineboro Volunteer Fire Departments 100th Anniversary and made a presentation on behalf of the MSFA and also presented them with a letter from the Adjutant General Maryland National Guard Major General Linda L. Singh. On April 9, 2015 we had the opportunity to be part of the I-81 visitor center program for Highway Safety Awareness week with the ResponderSafety booth. I want to thank President Robertson, Greg Yost, and Bob Timko for their help and support in this event. It was a very successful event and we got to talk to many visitors about the move over laws and other highway safety materials. The news media was there to cover the program and interview all of us reference what we do and why we are doing these types of programs. There was a nice article in the Chambersburg Public Opinion where they invited Greg Yost. We have an invitation to put on our program for the National Tourism Week event during the week of May 2-10, 2015, we need to see if we want to participate in that event. Linda Hoover Tourist Information Supervisor for the Keystone Welcome Center at Dutch Country estimated there was about 1200 to 1300 visitors came through that day. We also need to thank Linda Hoover and Tiffany Brown who is the Tourism Services Manager, who is Linda's boss and supports us in allowing us to do our program at the different events. I represented the CVVFA at the CFSI program, dinner and the National Advisory Committee Meeting as the primary contact person for the CVVFA. This was the first meeting since the Association was accepted as a member to the CFSI National Advisory Council. This meeting was an abbreviated meeting because of the passing of the Deputy Administrator of the USFA Chief Glenn Gaines funeral service that morning. This is a great lost to the fire service and would ask that everyone keep Glenn's family in their prayers. The committee did approve a resolution in support of the James Zadroga 9/11 health and

compensation reauthorization act. The committee held the annual election and the following people were elected back to their positions, Chair Jim Dalton and Doug Aiken as Vice Chair.

West Virginia – Dustin Amtower (2015) – absent

Randy James (2016) - absent

Virginia - Steve Switzer (2015)

I want to thank everyone for coming to the Winchester today and thanks to Friendship Fire Company for hosting the meeting today. Since the last board of directors meeting I have been very busy with work, still getting the information about CVVFA and Responder Safety. Enjoy your day in Winchester and have a safe trip home.

Allen Brennan - (2016)

It is great to be here after my stay in the hospital. Thanks to Chief Baldwin for their hospitality. Thanks to all for the well wishes during my illness, had a pacemaker installed, feeling much better. I will not be at convention due to the same time as Virginia state convention.

Delaware - Harry Balthis (2015)

Thanks to Winchester for hosting the meeting and I also attended the Presidents Council meeting.

Steve Austin (2016)

As usual I remain busy with work for the Association. The following is a recap of activity. As result of the Strategic Planning Session last fall, I have been working with 2 graphic artists in redesigning the logo. We have maintained the tradition of the Association and also reflect we are a national not a regional association. Shirley and I invite you to the Austin Fire House Saturday following convention for an open house with food and drink starting at 6:30 p.m. I continue to sign up new members. We added a number at the FDIC a couple weeks ago. We are slated to become an affiliated organization with the FL State Fire Chiefs Association. I will have more to say later in the meeting.

New York - Dave Jacobowitz

Dave sent notification that he would not be in attendance for the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives/Historical Committee – Guy M. Flory/Ray Mowen

Ray reported on Guy that he is doing well, had a rough winter, enjoys getting him now and then, he appreciates the cards sent to him. We have not heard anything further from Chambersburg about the move of our historical materials.

Auditing Committee – Jerry Daniels

Nothing to report at this time

Budget & Finance Committee – George J. Dove

No report

Business & Operations Plan – Greg Yost - absent

Constitution & By-Laws Committee – Robert P. Cumberland

Bob gave a thorough overview of the proposed by-law changes. Discussion with Q&A ensued for over an hour on all the changes. Printed and electronic copies have been distributed twice previously; therefore no further documentation is attached to these minutes. If you did not receive a copy and would like one before convention, please contact either Bob or myself and we will forward same. Motion was made to accept today's report as the first reading by James Watson, seconded by Rich Brunner, voice vote taken, motion passed. Question was asked about the voting procedure, this will be decided by the President and notification made, possibly a sample ballot could be distributed.

Convention Committee – Steve Flickinger

Sponsorship letters have been mailed to those sponsors from previous years. Today is the day we take up a donation for the Louise Dell memorial, passed the hat. I am making a recommendation that the CVVFA stop sponsoring the convention parade in 2017, if the host company desires to have a parade, it would be their responsibility. My thoughts are that we could continue on with donations and put the money towards scholarships. PP Watson provided additional convention comments as the host, moving

along great, provided some logistics: Wednesday night Board meeting along with a meet your host, Thursday night barbeque, special event on the waterfront, opening ceremonies, Friday Council meeting, banquet and parade. All info is on the web site, info on the motel will be posted this week.

Credentials Committee – Dave Lewis was absent

Emergency Responder Institute – Steve Austin

Steve reported we had a successful FDIC, Atlantic City, Harrisburg, MSFA, FRI in Atlanta and others. Our new PSA just won a Telly award. The Learning Network has new modules under development. Greg is working today so we don't have a current financial report but we are well into the black. The Presidents Council is requesting authority to purchase mementos for the 6 or 7 charter members of the Presidents Council at the 114th Annual Convention.

Fire Person of the Year Committee – George Dove

We have made our selection; will be awarded at convention banquet.

Fire Prevention Committee – Jamie Watson was absent

Grants – Steve Austin

Current grants are FHWA, IFSTA. We have been approached about extending our contract with Federal Highway, meeting scheduled on May 12. Fire grant has been submitted on April 16 for \$441K with a 5% match for the Learning Network. We need an app for phone on move over that could be a giveaway at our rest stop programs.

Honor Guard – Claudia Garner was absent

Legislative Committee – Bob Cumberland

Nothing further to report

Memorial Committee – Chaplain Charles E. Barnhart, Jr. was absent

Mutual aid response – Allen Baldwin

Allen had to leave the meeting due to a personnel emergency.

Parliamentarian – Howard S. Cohen was absent

Public Relations Committee – Rich Toulson was absent

Publicity – Robert Timko

Nothing further to report

Recruitment & Retention – Allen Brennan

No report

Reputation Management – Candice McDonald was absent

Candice is doing family things this weekend, very busy, reaching out to Kim O'Malley in DE to assist her in teaching. Claudia and Erin are busy with work and don't have time to speak at this time. She has not heard from Chief Dale Myers and may have to cancel next week's class in Cumberland County.

Resolutions Committee – Jerry Daniels

Nothing

Scholarship Committee – Harry Balthis

This year CVVFA received 29 applications for scholarships from 24 students. They came from 14 states, Florida to Alaska. The committee recommends that each of the following students be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

JR Haines Memorial: Kyle Melton of Media, PA, he is a member of Middletown Fire Company. Kyle attends the University of New Haven studying Fire Science Administration

Kenneth E. Butts Memorial: Bryan Howell of Towson, MD. His course of study will be physical therapy exercise science. He is VP Howell's grandson.

Harry C. Alt Memorial: Travis Lee Karicofe of Waynesboro, VA. He is a member of the City of Harrisonburg FD. He attends Columbia Southern University studying Administration.

Motion was made to accept the recommendations of the committee by Bob Cumberland, seconded by James Watson, voice vote taken, motion passed.

Sgt. of Arms – Wayne Baker

No report

Sign Trailer – Wayne Baker

Wayne reported he had to repair a tire problem.

Training Weekend – Greg Yost was absent

Web Page Committee – Stephen P. Austin

Steve reported we are currently undergoing changes and updates, check out the newly optimized ResponderSafety.com

Topics Committee – Stephen P. Austin

We are working with the Delaware City folks to confirm our speakers. Dr. O’Neal will be the banquet speaker. Colton Matthew the 15 year old R.O.O.M.S. museum will be on display.

Youth Leadership – Jamie Watson was absent

Steve Austin spoke on needing help for upcoming displays, Harrisburg and MSFA. He mentioned again of the 30th anniversary of the Presidents Council and he is requesting the authority to purchase memos for the 6 or 7 charter members to be given at convention, motion made by Steve Austin, seconded by James Watson, voice vote taken, motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Classified ads on the web page – Bruner

We are doing some further investigation, may not be as appealing as once thought.

PA sales tax exemption – PA Directors

Need to complete paperwork reported by VP Brunner

Challenge coins – Hoby Howell absent

Chambersburg museum request letter – Heefner

Quiet

President’s Council meetings – Austin

Did a membership survey, more to follow at the next meeting of the Council

Southeast Firemen’s Association – Austin

We are currently awaiting their response, will re-contact them and ask for intentions

Membership application – Cumberland

New application on line on web, will remove this item from business

Keystone State Firefighter’s Conference – Austin

On-going, made a presentation at the last Council meeting

Enterprise Rental Car – Robertson

Further discussion on their proposal, need some logistics worked out, motion to support the program with the issues to be resolved within the document by Steve Austin, seconded by James Watson, voice vote taken, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve Heefner advised the group that K&R engraving in Hagerstown has closed, Alladin awards in Funkstown is interested in our business.

We received a booster meeting invitation for March in Indian River, discussion ensued.

Allen Baldwin asked if there is interest in making the May meeting an annual event in Winchester.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Bob Cumberland informed us that Chaplain Charlie Barnhart is celebrating his 20th anniversary as a deacon, congrats Charlie.

Steve Flickinger stated we collected \$146 for the Louise Dell memorial parade award.

There being no further business, benediction given, the meeting was adjourned by motion at 16:00 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington
Recording Secretary