

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association  
 Board of Directors Meeting  
 January 14, 2007  
 Halfway Volunteer Fire Company, MD

President Marshall Younker called the meeting to order promptly at noon. Harry Alt gave invocation in the absence of the Chaplain, followed by the pledge to the flag. Steve Heefner from Halfway gave the welcome to the group. Steve commented on their banquet last night, great to host the meeting each year and refreshments are at the table. Roll call was answered by 20 of the Officers.

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD
President	Marshall Younker II	1	1
1st Vice President	Steven Flickinger	1	1
2nd Vice President	Jerry Daniels	1	1
3rd Vice President	Walter Robertson	1	1
4th Vice President	Greg Yost	1	1
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee	1	1
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1	1
Publicity Manager	Robert Timko		1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart		
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry		
Attorney	Howard Cohen		1
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers	1	
Director, Pennsylvania	Gerald Holtry	1	1
Director, Pennsylvania	Steven Haines	1	1
Director, Maryland	Robert Cumberland		1
Director, Maryland	Wayne Baker	1	1
Director, West Virginia	John Ashcraft		1
Director, West Virginia	Harry Alt	1	1
Director, Delaware	Steve Austin		1
Director, Delaware	Robert Hahn	1	1
Director, Virginia	Lee Holler	1	1
Director, Virginia			
	Totals	16	20

**OFFICERS REPORTS;**

President Younker started by thanking everybody in the association for all the thoughts and prayers on the passing of his mother. I have attended most of all the local meetings and a few other funerals. I look forward to a successful year.

Vice President Steve Flickinger read from his written report stating welcome to Halfway for our annual Board of Directors meeting. I have attended local and county trainings and meetings. I have also been re-elected to my 14<sup>th</sup> year as Fire Chief at my

company. We have some good news our county public safety vest program has been filed through our state representative for a grant of \$10,000. He has promised this to happen in this year's first quarter. Steve also spoke as chairman of the convention committee, our committee will be meeting with George Dove in Winchester, hopefully early February, and will report back at the March booster meeting. Thanks to Halfway and Chief Ringer for their great hospitality at the banquet and hosting today's meeting. Let's all continue to improve our association and see you in St. Thomas in March.

Vice President Jerry Daniels spoke from his written report. Jerry wished everyone a happy new year, welcome and thanks to Halfway for hosting the meeting. I have attended all my home company's meetings. In the last three months I have attended New Castle County fire police meetings as well as the installation banquets for all agencies within the county. I, along with the members of the New Castle County Fire Police Honor Guard presented the colors at this meeting. I attended the executive and quarterly meetings of the Delaware State Fire Police in November. I have also attended other fire police meetings in Kent County. I was re-elected as the Treasurer of the Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder for the next two years. Since the approval of the public safety vest, I have been stressing the need for purchasing the 5 point breakaway vest with a minimum of 4 point breakaway as this was considered as voluntary within the approval. I served as pallbearer at the funeral of Joanne Lakata, lady friend and companion of our Director Pappy Hahn. Once again, thanks to Halfway for hosting the meeting and wish everyone a safe trip home.

Vice President Walter Robertson reported on attending all of his fire company meetings and activities. We are getting ready for hosting the May booster meeting. I also have attended the Virginia Firefighters Association committee and regular meetings. I attended President Younker's mother's funeral. I taught some EVOC classes and have talked with a few departments about CVVFA. On the way home, I will be meeting with Woodstock tonight.

Treasurer George Dove reported on the finances of the Association by giving the account balances. I have attended all my fire company functions. I am now Director of the Apple Blossom Festival for the next two years. I also attended the viewing of President Younker's mother. I have attended several convention meetings.

Financial Secretary Steve McBee gave his written report. Reminder notices were sent out to members with dues in arrears. I have collected dues from approximately 45 of those notices along with some address corrections. Under the proper order of business, I am going to ask for a decision for dropping members who have not paid their dues. The next dues notice will go out in either May or June along with a reminder about the convention.

Recording Secretary Gene Worthington thanked Halfway for hosting the meeting. Gene reported on the activities of the secretary's office. He has filed all the association papers at Level VFC. We have some resolutions that need to be delivered. Those were given to the various Officers for their action. Also some gold membership cards were given out to the Officers. It was noted that some of the resolutions needed corrective action.

Home Office Manager Steve Heefner again welcomed all to Halfway. All contracts for meetings have been distributed. Spring looks to be a very busy time for everyone. I need a count of bears if possible. We are finally getting low, however still getting requests, thanks mostly to PP Joe Bukowski. I have sent updated addresses to Steve McBee for record keeping. To date I have received 1 scholarship application which will be forwarded to proper committee.

Publicity Manager Robert Timko wished everyone a happy new year. I gave out a handout consisting of a greeting letter and ad forms for the convention book. I did not hear of any complaints on the printer, actually the cost was less for printing. If you have an ad please forward them electronically if possible. I encourage all to look within their areas and possible vendors for the ads. Packets will be mailed in February. We need to get this info up on the web page.

Attorney Howard Cohen had nothing to report, continues to research info for the web.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS;**

Pennsylvania Director Gerald Holtry thanked Halfway for hosting the meeting today. I am still recovering from heart surgery and am doing well.

Pennsylvania Director Steve Haines wished all a happy new year, welcome to Halfway and thanked Halfway for hosting the meeting. Also thanks to Halfway for a very enjoyable banquet last night. I have attended my company meetings as well as my county association meetings. I am looking forward to a productive and successful year for the organization. Good seeing everyone, have a safe trip home and I'll see everyone in St. Thomas for the March booster meeting.

Maryland Director Bob Cumberland reported on his recent stay in the hospital. We have moved into our new home in Westminster. I have attended all my fire company meetings and now am the immediate Past President. After 43 years, I thought it was time to step back some. I attended my county association meetings. I will be in Emmittsburg to review fire grants in February.

Maryland Director Wayne Baker had no report.

West Virginia Director Harry Alt reported on the county fire school program. He also spoke on the state training activities forthcoming. During the holiday season, I spent some time visiting nursing homes and visiting some members from Keyser and CVVFA.

West Virginia Director John Ashcraft had no report.

Virginia Director Lee Holler spoke on his activities. Lee also spoke about his appointment to a special committee for the city of Winchester on consolidation of fire departments.

Delaware Director Robert Hahn presented his written report. I have attended all my company meetings and county fire police meetings. I participated along with others in presenting colors at the state conference. Thank everyone for his or her cards and thoughts during the loss of my companion.

Delaware Director Steve Austin spoke about the laptop computer that is excess property from the secretary's office. Back in December, we assisted with some mailing of delinquent letters to the membership. I have several updates on other issues later.

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP;**

Robert Trace spoke about the publicity for the association. PA Firemen has the listings of our meetings in their publication. A discussion ensued about the training class on highway safety. We will not request it to be held at the Expo, however we would like to have booth there. We will need manning for the booth, several for all three days. Bob Timko will contact Ernie with the request.

## **COMMITTEES;**

Convention – Steve Flickinger spoke about the parade trophy for best marked fire apparatus for highway safety. Since this is a new trophy, we need to know how many will be awarded for this class. Also, would like to consider giving out some money for marching units in the local area in lieu of trophies. All the trophies presently have a sponsor and Crawford will be sponsoring the new award. Discussion continued about having a trophy for marked fire apparatus and one trophy for marked EMS apparatus. Hugh Harris will sponsor this award for marked EMS apparatus at a cost of \$125 if accepted.

**MOTION by Steve Flickinger that we have a category for best marked fire apparatus for highway safety, first place trophy and best marked EMS apparatus for highway safety, first place trophy, seconded, discussion, voice vote taken, passed.**

Steve continued his discussion of the marching units. Others spoke of their concerns and asked for resolution by next meeting. Steve will discuss this during the meetings on the convention and report back in March.

Steve Austin spoke about the payment for the duplication of the promo DVD's received by the Association. This payment is not eligible for the grant money. The treasurer has not received the bill, when he does, he will pay it.

Web Page – Steve Austin thanked those for sending info for the site. There are a few misspellings that will be corrected. There will be some new articles forthcoming. Steve then spoke about some personnel changes by our host.

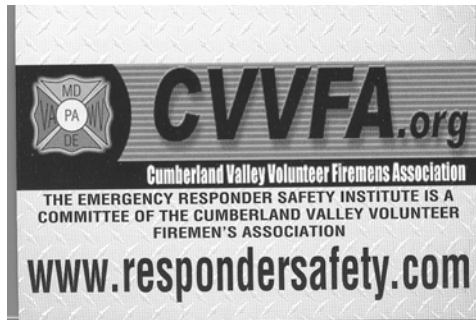
Responder Safety – On display today is a new pop up sign to be used at our display booths. Steve then talked about the safety vest program. The long awaited standard for breakaway vests was passed. We now have an ANSI standard 207 public safety vest. The manufacturers are just now starting to make that available. Lakeland Reflective presently has them on the market. Several models were displayed for all to look at. We fought as hard as we could to get these vests five point breakaway mandatory. The standards making body issued the standard that breakaway is optional, we think that is wrong. We have asked the manufacturers to take a pledge that they will only manufacture a public safety vest with a minimum breakaway of four points, we suggest five. These vests are currently retailing at about \$50. He then spoke about some other models received that we are testing. Steve spoke about his trip to California to further the National Unified Goal. Delaware Fire Police has initiated a Zero Tolerance program for 2007. There is a new federal regulation just put into effect regarding anyone providing a service on the public highway that was built or received funds by the feds must wear a vest. We hope to get this regulation modified to state public safety vest.

Federal Grants – We have an extension to our CVVFA grant with the Fire Administration to keep the web site going until June 30. We did not get any new money. We also have gotten the FireCorps money extended to June 30. We need to get these classes started and our manual completed. We will be doing some traveling in the future. Steve then spoke about the Atlanta program of moving traffic. We got a verbal from the DOJ on a grant to replicate our fire service program to the police agencies.

Apparatus Markings – We have been jointly working with Montgomery County, MD on an issue regarding stripes on the back of fire apparatus. 3M would not warrant the yellow striping. It was our belief that since the red and white was warranted, the yellow should also be. After some discussion with 3M they agreed on the warranty. This is a big victory and

shows the impact we are having. We do have a section marked Gallery on the web site, just click on that for pictures of fire apparatus markings.

Promo cards – We now have the new cards and are encouraging their distribution.



Responder Safety Grant – Friday, we submitted a grant under Firefighter Safety and Prevention to the Department of Homeland Security. This grant request is a competitive grant for teaching the national unified goal for traffic incident management. This evolves around a concept called Safe, Quick Clearance. Thanks to the many who contributed in this process. Our proposal is to conduct train the trainer classes across the US of the best instructors we can find. This is a departure for our norm, in that our work is voluntary. This program will require paying of incentives. The request is for \$144,300. We should know by late spring if awarded.

Resolutions; - Joe Bukowski provided the following written report. Every year, the state Directors of the CVVFA are requested to submit the name of an individual from within their respective state, who deserves recognition by the CVVFA for service to their community. Enclosed you will find the resolution nomination submission form to be completed and returned to me at your earliest convenience, but no later that May 1. It is very important that all information is clearly legible, because it is this information that will be used to process the resolutions that will be presented at the annual convention. Please keep in mind that your request is for someone from your state, not necessarily from your company.

Presidents Council – PP Brennan spoke about CVVFA sponsored Presidents Council meeting to be held in Fredericksburg, VA. Reservations must be in by March 30, 2007 to the Hilton Garden Inn at 1-877-STAY-HGI. Rooms are \$109 plus tax, you must use the code VFF. A social will be held Friday evening starting at 6pm plus a cash bar. The dates are April 13 and 14, 2007. On Saturday, the meeting will convene at 9am. Additional info will be posted on the website.

### **OLD BUSINESS;**

We need to fill the vacant Virginia Director position. Nomination was made for Allen Brennan, second, voice vote taken, passed with one opposed Allen. The train was rolling down the tracks with whistle blowing.

VP Yost spoke about his proposed training weekend from last meeting. CVVFA would be the main sponsor with possibly some partners. Anyone would be invited to attend. Discussion ensued about the proposal by several. Preference would be to hold the training class near the Hagerstown area.

**MOTION by Steve McBee that Mr. Yost proceed with trying to partner with other organizations such as MFRI and the fire academy and set up a partnership training weekend, second, further discussion, voice vote taken, passed.**

Director Wayne Baker reported that the convention sign has been updated and ready to go to Winchester. The application has been mailed back to the Apple Blossom committee reserving our space for the unit. The Apple Blossom parade is May 4.

**MOTION by Steve Austin that we extend an honorary membership to CVVFA to Graydon Moir for his long years of service and handling our IT problems, second, voice vote taken, passed.**

Steve McBee asked for some guidance from the group reference Norman McCleary membership status. He sent a check for \$20, however he should have received a life membership at last convention. Steve would prefer to return his check with a note saying your life membership card will be forthcoming.

**MOTION to return his check by Pappy Hahn, second, voice vote taken, passed.**

Steve also spoke about the outstanding members who haven't paid their dues since 2005, 166 of them. Out of that 166, 42 of them are beneficial members.

**MOTION by Steve Austin that after trying to locate these members, we should drop their membership status from the Association, second, voice vote taken, passed.**

As a sideline, we request a list from Steve of those beneficial members, possibly we could go to work on locating them and return them to an active status.

George Dove requested a list of all the fire company members so they can get an invitation to the convention parade. Steve McBee will provide.

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER;**

Director John Ashcraft spoke about the state using national registry testing. He spoke of the problems being encountered with this process. A contractor at specific locations in West Virginia is doing it.

John Fox from Delaware State Fire Chiefs was introduced who spoke on behalf of his group. John is currently serving as Vice President of that Association.

The following address changes are entered into the business:

Hugh Harris	Lee Holler
962 Fountainhead Lane	2489-56 Martinsburg Pike
Martinsburg, WV 25401	Stephenson, VA 22656-1748

President Younker presented a plaque to Steve McBee on a personal note who was instrumental on his career in reaching this Office.

Next booster meeting will be held on March 18, 2007 and be hosted by St. Thomas. Meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington  
Recording Secretary