

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
 Booster Meeting October 21, 2012
 Adams County Training Center
 Adams County, PA

President Haines called the group together to start the meeting early and asked Assistant Chaplain Jim Wharry to give the invocation and lead the group in the pledge to the flag. Steven called the meeting to order at 12:15 hours. We had no one to serve as our host.

Introduction of Guests – Steven introduced Mike Jacoby who brought comments reference the communication problems on databases maintained by the federal government. Mike commented on specific items such as the hazardous materials and Title III requirements. Hopefully we can make some changes with these problems. A question was asked about the EPA web sites. Mike gave some examples of these problems.

President Haines then introduced Pete Mellitts from the Eastern Division, IAFC who brought greetings. He gave some background on himself and spoke about the benefits of the IAFC. I encourage you to look at these opportunities of membership. Pete spoke on some of the highlights on their web, many resources there. In May, 2013, our annual conference will be held in Annapolis, MD.

Secretary Worthington took roll call with 88 representatives and delegates being recorded in attendance.

TITLE	NAME	OCT
President	Steven Haines	1
1st Vice President	James Watson	1
2nd Vice President	Walter Robertson	1
3rd Vice President	Hoby Howell	1
4th Vice President	Bill Keller	1
Treasurer	George Dove	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee	
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1
Publicity Manager	Robert Timko	1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart	
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry	1
Attorney	Howard Cohen	
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2013)	Rich Bruner	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2014)	Mike Whitzel	
Director, Maryland (2013)	Wayne Baker	1
Director, Maryland (2014)	Robert Cumberland	1
Director, West Virginia (2013)	Fred Braggg	
Director, West Virginia (2014)	Mike Sullivan	
Director, Delaware (2013)	Harry Balthis	1
Director, Delaware (2014)	Steve Austin	1
Director, Virginia (2013)	Kevin Wilkes	
Director, Virginia (2014)	Allen Brennan	1
Director, New York	Dave Jacobowitz	
Past President	Mike Sullivan	
	Totals	17
Past Presidents		12

Maryland Fire Depts	10
Delaware Fire Depts	10
Virginia Fire Depts	11
West Virginia Fire Depts	0
Pennsylvania Fire Depts	28
Others	0
Grand Totals	88

Communications – none

Motion to accept the minutes from the convention as posted on the web by VP Watson, seconded by VP Robertson, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Officers reports:

President Haines welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Fellow Officers, members and guests, welcome to Gettysburg. A special thanks to Adams County Emergency Services for hosting today’s booster meeting here at the Adams County Training Center. Thank you to Wayne and Donna for an enjoyable time at your campsite last night. Your hospitality was greatly appreciated and fun was had by all. Since the convention, I have been kept busy for my first couple of months. I am proud to say and with the help of Steve Austin, I would like to welcome New York to our Association. Also, I attended the PA state convention in Norristown. I have attended all my fire company meetings as well as the in-house training sessions. Also, I have attended my county association meetings. Looking forward to a successful year and working with my Officers to continue the success for this Association. Good seeing everyone today, take care and have an enjoyable happy holiday season and have a safe trip home.

First Vice President Watson read from his written report. I’d like to thank the Officers and members of the Adams County Firemen’s Association for hosting this meeting. Since the 111th convention in Berkeley Springs, WVA, I have attended my company meetings, Board of Directors meetings, County firefighters meetings, County chiefs meeting, the Seaford FD softball tournament, Delaware State Firefighters Conference in Dover, state Fire Chiefs Association meeting, fire safety open house and a memorial service for my department’s deceased. I conducted several training classes in my department and attended several classes and have given out a number of applications to new prospective members and have encouraged other organizations to join our group.

Second Vice President Robertson stated I want to thank the Adams County PA Volunteer Emergency Assn., and the Adams County Training Facility for hosting this booster meeting. Since our last meeting I have attended all my fire company meetings and fund raising activities. Also I have been working with one of my county fire companies to help it rebuild, and get it self-reestablished in the community it serves. Also have attended all my county meetings and committee meetings, and taught 2 more EVOG classes. It is good to see everyone and I hope that everyone has a safe trip home, and a Happy Halloween.

Third Vice President Howell spoke from his written report. We would like to thank the Adams County Volunteer Emergency Services Association, here in PA, for your hospitality in having our October booster meeting here today at your facility. We appreciate your dedication to your community and our Association. Since our last meeting, I have attended my company’s regularly scheduled meetings and drills, attended September Harford/Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association meeting, to include President’s volunteer assistance committee, attended MSFA safety committee, attended MSFA convention committee meeting, attended pipe line emergency response & awareness in Aberdeen conducted by Miss Utility. I did miss the MSFA safety committee meeting today to be here with this wonderful group of individuals.

Fourth Vice President Keller provided a written report. Welcome and thank you to the Adams County Volunteer Emergency Services Association for hosting the CVVFA Booster’s Meeting. I attended the 111th Annual Convention hosted by Berkley Springs VFD. A great time was had by all who attended. After the convention I have been busy teaching EMT Recert, Fire Officer 1 & 2 classes. In August I attended a workshop on the implementation of the new EMS educational standards for West Virginia Instructors conducted by the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE). On September 25 I attended the viewing of Fountain VFD Chief Rick

Liller who died Thursday, September 20. He was a lifetime member of the Fountain Volunteer Fire Department where he served as secretary for 29 years and as chief for 12 years. Chief Liller was a member of CVVFA.

Treasurer Dove gave a recap of last year's finances, provided a written copy of same and presented the following report for this year.

CVVFA #4100840 death	500.00
General Account	11763.00
CVVFA cd	90000.00
Net Worth	102263.00

Financial Secretary McBee was absent.

Recording Secretary Worthington stated, the minutes from the convention were transcribed and sent to the webmaster for posting. Since we have approved those minutes today by motion, I will prepare the proceedings book from convention. I have attended many meetings throughout the fire service and kept up with the training classes. 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 October booster meeting in beautiful Adams County, PA. Special thanks to the Adams County Emergency Services and Jerry Poland for hosting today's meeting. Please take time out to enjoy the beautiful fall foliage as you leave here today. I have been busy taking applications for future booster meetings and conventions. I attended the DVFA conference in Dover and processed and mailed over 800 postcards with all the events listed up to convention in Shippensburg, PA in 2013. I have been in contact with many Officers of this Association over the past few months. I will be attending a convention meeting on Nov 4 with the Vigilant Hose Co of Shippensburg along with other convention committee members. Due to a misunderstanding with the host hotel in Gettysburg, I had to make last minute changes for our group. I apologize if it caused any inconvenience to any of our members. I would like to especially thank PP and MD Director Wayne Baker and Donna for hosting Saturday night's cookout and camp fire at the Round Top campground in Gettysburg. An evening of friends, food and fellowship was enjoyed by all who attended. Hope everyone has a safe trip home and enjoy the upcoming holiday season.

Publicity Manager no report

Chaplain Barnhart was absent

Assistant Chaplain Wharry read from his written report. Since the last meeting, I have sent cards when requested, attended my own company meetings and have been appointed to the 125th anniversary committee of the Aetna Hose, Hook & Ladder Company for 2013. Thank you to Adams County, PA Emergency Services Association for hosting this meeting. Please contact me if you need a sympathy card or thinking of you sent for one of our members.

Attorney Howard Cohen was absent, he sent an email to the Secretary's office.

Pennsylvania Delegate Charlie Myers thanked all the guests who came to PA for the convention. Charlie reminded all of the 22nd annual conference and dinner for PFESI. He then asked Ernie to bring additional comments. Ernie spoke about the R&R SAFER grant received by PA. VFIS was awarded the strategic planning process contract. There will be 6 statewide meetings sometime this fall for interviews and complete a survey. A second series of meetings will be held in the spring to review the data collected and bring forth a proposal. He continued to speak about some of the problems with the insurance industry in relation to the recent legislation on cancer presumption. Ernie has many handouts on the back table, help yourself. He then spoke about some recent deaths.

Directors' reports

Pennsylvania Director Rich Brunner provided the following report. Welcome President Haines and officers and friends of the CVVFA and thanks to the Adams County Training Center for hosting this month's meeting. During the last month I have been busy working on understanding the new Charitable Organizations Gambling Law and working on our company's new truck committee. I have attended all of my fire company meetings and trainings as well as the Perry County Association meetings. Steve Austin and I also continue to work on getting the Classified Section up on the CVVFA website. Thanks to all for attending and have a safe trip home.

Pennsylvania Director Michael Whitzel was absent, however sent the following report. Good afternoon Officers, Members and Guests of CVVFA. I apologize for not being able to be in attendance with you today at the

booster meeting. I would like to thank the host ACVESA for their hospitality. I'm not attending due to my Fire Company Activities today. Since being elected at the August Convention, I have been busy learning the duties of my position; working with Steve Austin and assisting Bob Cumberland with Hi-way Safety material. I've attended my monthly Fire Company Meetings and Trainings and perform duties as Fire Chief of the Company, along with the Cumberland County Vol. Firefighters Convention, Fireman's Association State of PA Convention, and PA Fireman's Legislative Federation Board meeting and seminar in which all 3 were held in September. I also attended the PFESI board meeting and dinner committee meeting in September. I worked with Don Konkle from the PFESI on the grant bill and other Bills. I was in touch with my House Representative Perry and Senator Vance in passage of our bills that we are supporting in the legislative priorities list.

Maryland Director Wayne Baker had no report.

Maryland Director Bob Cumberland read from his written report. President Haines, Officers, Directors, and Guest, I want to thank everyone that supported me for re-election to the Maryland Directors position and look forward to continuing the work to promote the association and ResponderSafety Institute. I want to congratulate President Haines and the other officers on being elected to your position within the CVVFA and will help you in any way I can to promote the Association and ResponderSafety Institute along with Firefighter Behavior. Since the Convention I attended all my fire department meetings, and Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association meetings. I also attended the following State Conventions; Firemen's Association of the State of New York. As a member of the Maryland Fire Rescue Education Training Commission I attended the commission's quarterly meetings. I attended the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial weekend programs. The following convention or conference we set up the Booth for ResponderSafety and discussed the e-learning network programs, Firemen's Association of the State of New York. We were invited to the I-81 visitor center for Fire Prevention week on Friday October 12, 2012. Curtis Alleman, Bob Timko, and I have always staffed the small booth at the visitor center. This year we could not be there and Curtis sent out e-mail request for help, but no one within the association that was close to the area could come forward and help at this event. We definitely missed a great opportunity to promote the CVVFA and ResponderSafety Institute. Because our Officers and Directors cannot and will not promote the organization this is why we will never grow in the future. This is very disappointing to me and many others that work hard to improve and promote the association. I met with Lou and Joe Jordon of Emergency Training Associates in Taneytown, Maryland to discuss adding other items to the CVVFA store. From those discussions they are going to add Traffic Vest and Turn-out coats and they will also be adding larger size shirts but there will be an additional cost for the larger sizes. For the months of July, August and September we have received **\$192.00** all for membership renewals or new applications. I still need the officers and directors to continue to promote the association web pages and the store to increase our sales and the funding coming into the association.

West Virginia Director Fred Bragg was absent

West Virginia Director Mike Sullivan was absent

Virginia Director Kevin Wilkes was absent

Virginia Director Allen Brennan presented a written report, Officers and members of CVVFA, thank you to Adams County Volunteer Firemen's Association for hosting the booster meeting. On August 4, I attended the CVVFA convention in Berkeley Springs, August 15-18 attended VSFA conference in Hampton, Sept 8 attended funeral for Past Chief Ricky Arrington of Owl VFD in Woodbridge, Sept 12-15 attended DVFA conference in Dover, Oct 14 attended Fredericksburg FD open house and gave out fire prevention material, have attended all of my company meetings.

Delaware Director Harry Balthis thanked Adams County for hosting the meeting. Since convention, I have attended Delaware conference and PA state convention and most of my home company meetings.

Delaware Director Steve Austin reported on some conversations with Attorney Cohen in regards to the Franklin Fulton County request. Howard has been in contact with the attorney who represents them and has had some good discussions with him about the dissolution of their organization. He provided some financial info that includes some death benefits to be dealt with. One of the issues about a merger, it appears that a merger is probably not in the best interest of CVVFA. There is no record that their Association was ever incorporated. There possibly could be some tax liabilities since they do have a federal tax number. It is still a good idea to continue our talks with them. Some preliminary things to consider, our Attorney asked that the President appoint

a small committee to work directly with them. Here is what could happen, they would like to have their funds be used for scholarships, this is a great idea. We are suggesting two things, first we would invite any member to join the CVVFA with free dues paid for life. Second, the same would go for any company. In exchange for that, they would turn over their funds to the CVVFA, 50% to be used in our two scholarships, the other 50% of the funds to be placed in an endowment account named Franklin Fulton County Association whereby that money would not be used less than the base amount. This would allow their name to remain in perpetuity and half of their money to be in the endowment fund forever. This is only for discussions as they may not be acceptable.

In these investigations we found out there is a PA sales tax exemption form, we feel this Association should immediately file and suggest another small committee to be appointed. It has also been suggested that we look into our other states sales tax exemptions. Speaking of taxes, we received a letter from the IRS stating that we filed under the wrong classification. Our CPA has written them a letter in opposition to their findings and are awaiting their reply.

Steve spoke about the trade show in FASNY, many contacts with the Fire Police Association who have invited us in March for a booth. Also, we met with the Directors and they expressed an interest to have an appointment as Director. We have been invited by FASNY to host the Presidents Council meeting on April 13, 2013 and we accepted. A question was asked about the audit on page 4, appears to be incorrect.

The President recessed the meeting for some refreshments that just arrived.

President Haines called the group back together after everyone enjoyed some Papa John pizza.

PP Mike Sullivan was absent.

Committees –

Archives – absent

Auditing – Chairman Jerry Daniels stated that we have last year's financial report from the auditor.

George has given me his paperwork for the current audit which I will deliver.

Budget & Finance – George Dove no report.

Business & Operations Plan – Greg Yost no report.

Constitution & By-laws – Bob Cumberland reported progress.

Convention – Steve Flickinger reported all the convention plaques were given out except for two. We are meeting on November 4 at Shippensburg for planning of next year's convention. Also, we have two folks here from Chambersburg, our 2014 hosts. All the bills have been paid.

Credentials – Jeff Ringer no report.

Emergency Responder Institute – Steve Austin started his report by showing a video on highway safety produced by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. It is a good video with some of our material shown. He spoke about some positive actions for the Association being able to provide some funding to the general account. We have some grants ending this month. We want to again thank Ernie for his printing, in fact PA Fireman will be mailing out our requests for materials. We routinely get these requests for 200 to 250 pieces of literature for upcoming teaching classes that we ship out in bulk. Thanks to Halfway for warehousing our equipment. We have purchased a new wireless microphone. We just finished our small mini purchase from USFA doing a program on non-visibility fire apparatus. We finished our cooperative agreement with NFA. We ended on October 1 the first learning network grant. As you know we were notified of getting this renewed for continuation. Jerry and I will be in south Jersey to film the next two modules aimed at fire police directing traffic. I have some good news, the project with ITERIS was awarded for a five year term. We are hoping that this will be a new source of revenue for our folks and the Association who will receive a stipend from each contract. We have three projects for approval, Steve spoke on each. First, provide traffic incident management for Minnesota with two people, second, proposal to work on a project for highway capacity manual who needs 1 or 2 people starting next week, third, waiting on paperwork from federal highway administration train the trainer program for fire service involvement. All of these 3 efforts will help with our cash flow in lieu of depending on grants. Motion made by Steve Austin to accept these 3 proposals and we move forward, seconded by VP Watson, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Fire Person of the Year – George Dove no report

Fire Prevention – absent

Grants – Steve reported on the fire prevention safety grant that we believe will open in a couple of weeks, we have asked for an extension on this.

Legislative – Bob Cumberland reminded all to get out and vote.

Memorial – Chaplain Barnhart was absent, Jim Wharry stated they have not received any requests.

Parliamentarian – Howard was absent.

Public Relations – Rich Toulson no report.

Publicity – Bob Timko asked a question about a highway safety training class at Three Mile Island. Steve responded that we are awaiting their call.

Recruitment & Retention – Allen Brennan no report

Resolutions – Jerry reported he has not received anything.

Scholarship – Harry Balthis no report

Sergeant at Arms – Wayne no report

Training – Greg no report

Topics – Steve stated he will be talking to Shippensburg guys.

Web Page – Steve stated they are all up and running. He and Rich are waiting on some changes for CVVFA.org to make room for the classified ads section to be added.

Youth Leadership – Erin was absent.

Reputational Management – Steve reported on the transfer of management to Mrs. Garner is underway. She is out of town and could not make the meeting today. She and Tom are meeting next month to make the necessary security changes. Unfortunately, we have many hits on the site. Erin went over to King of Prussia to make a presentation to the junior leadership conference, she hit another home run.

Unfinished business

Promotional package and agreement with booster meeting partners – President Haines made some editorial comments about the meeting today. Heefner stated that there was a communications break down.

CanAm games in York County – Alleman absent

ITERIS contract – Steve Austin reported on this earlier, we have a five year contract and this can be removed from old business.

Classified ads on the web page – Rich Bruner stated this was reported earlier, just waiting on some changes to the server, hope to have running by the first of the year.

Franklin Fulton County Association – President Haines appointed a committee of the PA Directors along with Director Austin, VP Watson, Secretary Worthington and Attorney Cohen to work with them and meet their goals during the dissolve of their respective association. Steve will be the chair.

Wayne reported on the trailer sign, the vendor suggests that we replace rather than repair. Wayne is working on this.

New business –

Comments were made about vehicle collisions and a misunderstanding on removal of vehicles.

VP Watson made a motion that the Association officers along with the Past Presidents get together for a long range planning meeting and he will host at his company in Delaware on December 1, seconded by Bob Cumberland, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Steve Heefner reported on the meeting schedule for the coming year. The yellow post cards have been mailed to our members. Thanks to VP Robertson and Wilson FC for sponsoring a meeting next year.

President Haines appointed a committee to look at the PA sales tax exemption of the PA Directors and Bob Timko, all will serve as co-chairs.

Comments were made reference keeping your beneficiary name up to date, response was given that the benefit goes to the estate.

Good of the Association

Ernie reported that the new IFSTA manuals will contain the language of CVVFA Reputation Management in them due out next year. Steve commented that FireHouse had done a video after convention on same whereby he and Attorney Cohen spoke on this subject, however they may not be ready for primetime.

Harry Balthis made a motion that the host company complimentary check not be given, seconded by George Dove, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Ed Knight was introduced who made some brief comments.

President Haines thanked all for their attendance today, look forward to seeing you in January at the Board meeting. Assistant Chaplain Wharry gave the benediction, meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm.

Respectfully submitted

Gene Worthington
Recording Secretary