

**Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association**  
**Fall Booster Meeting**  
**United Communities Volunteer Fire Department**  
**October 20, 2019**

The meeting was opened by President Allen Baldwin at 0910.

Invocation was offered by Asst. Chaplain Wharry.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Welcome was given by UCVFD President Ron Sarnicki. President Baldwin thanked him and the UCVFD staff for all their hospitality including the excellent training yesterday, the wonderful social last night and breakfast today. Everyone had thoroughly enjoyed it.

President Baldwin introduced special guests Joel McCrea, Michael Faust, Jeff Flippo And Ernie Rojahn.

The roll call/attendance will be per the sign in sheet attached to these minutes.

Secretary report- Deb Watson apologized for any misspelled names and thanks everyone for their patience.

Officers Reports were submitted electronically and will be attached to the minutes.

Thank you to Mike Cox who worked with President Sarnicki to make this weekend happen.

Financial Secretary Jim Watson reported he handed in checks to the Treasurer and has gotten 4 new members this weekend.

Asst. Chaplain Wharry reported he has sent cards to those in need. Thanks to UCVFD for their hospitality.

Board of Directors reports will be submitted electronically and attached to these minutes.

Steve Austin reported that the address (Pennsylvania Fire & Emergency Services Institute) on the cards sent by Choice are now the official home address for CVVFA. As for the grants and contracts they must go through Dunn & Bradstreet and the funds get held up if there are any changes midstream.

Dave Lewis is unable to be with us due to recent surgery on his foot and his report has been submitted electronically.

Bob Cumberland's report has been submitted electronically.

Donna Welsh-No report.

Program-presented by Doug and Shelby DeHaven; Individualized Fire Prevention program or ifireprevention. They did a power point presentation of how the fire service is changing (80% EMS now) and how we have decreased resources. It is about Community Risk Reduction. We can add safety seat information and drug education/prevention to our plans. We need to develop good programs to get to the educators. The three E's-education, engineering (smoke detectors, smoke alarms, CO Alarms and sprinklers), enforcement (credits for prevention through ISO). Sprinkler systems save lives and property information needs to be more in the forefront. They would like to launch the website in January 2020 or sooner and have the 1<sup>st</sup> articles on-line by Spring. They have help with Kim O'Malley and Erin Drumheller on board. After the presentation it was discussed that we could add cancer prevention and PTSD

information. Maybe add bullying information. Can it be added to our website? Absolutely, per Steve Austin. We can try to get fire prevention grant to assist this once it is up and running. It was decided to have them go with it and make it happen.

Constitution & By-Laws-Jim Watson read the possible By-Law change regarding LODD benefit. See attached.

Convention-Report given by Steve Heefner, Steve Flickinger and Hoby Howell; they are a team. The 119<sup>th</sup> will be held at Williamsport VFD on 7/29-8/1, 2020. The Convention co-chairpersons are Jimmy Kimble and Will Ball. The motel will be the Ramada Plaza in Halfway for \$89 per night. They have not signed a contract yet. They have secured McConnellsburg for 2021, ?? for 2022, a tentative place for 2023, Halfway for 2024, and Newport for 2025. They are splitting the duties amongst the team. Steve Flickinger said the host company will decide if they will have a parade and they are then responsible for the costs, etc. He has revised the letter for the parade sponsors to make them convention sponsors. There are three levels, gold for \$100, silver for \$75 and bronze for \$50. The letters are being sent out to the original sponsors. They are adding it to the website and placing in the PA Fireman. The convention book deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup> to Bob Romig and Bob Timko.

Emergency Responder Safety Institute-reported on by Steve Austin and Rod Ammon; they have been busy but that is good. They have revised the agreement with Rod and Stonehouse Media. There is a new addition to the Responder Safety website so that it is optimized to be easier on a tablet or a phone. The goal is for it to be ready by 1/1/20. Rod Ammon mentioned that marketing is tied to Facebook. Steve further reported that they are trying to transition to new leadership. There are 5 new modules with a new grant. They are polling for new modules. There is a public education program rolling out in the Dallas Metroplex, replicating the Miami program. They can get national TIMS certificate from our site. Steve Austin mentioned that we need someone to take over the public education/partial responsibilities from Bob Cumberland. We need someone to step up as Director of Public Education. We have new materials to hand out. Allen Baldwin mentioned that help is needed at the I-95 Fredericksburg Visitor Center of Wednesday November 26<sup>th</sup> for the busiest travel day of the year. The program is growing. We have Warren Jones of Salem County, NJ who wants to get involved and has requested 5000 push cards. Rod Ammons mentioned they are developing a survivor's video designed as an emotional appeal regarding what happens with a struck by event and the importance of care. Greg Yost is the distracted driving coordinator and is working on a presentation. Steve Austin is involved with Research & Development. A company is developing technology to prevent struck bys. We received a contract from USFA to further study the brightness of LED lighting. We will conduct a scientific study of the effect on drivers and there will be a white paper after the study. Jack Sullivan is the project manager, with a plan for it to be completed by fall of 2020. Steve Austin announced the following shows: numerous state shows, FDIC in Indy, FR in Phoenix and other opportunities. Bob Cumberland & Greg Yost are working with Tourist Bureaus. Jack Sullivan and Greg Yost are working on Drivers Safety Conferences. We need to drill down further because there is a lack of knowledge by firefighters and leadership who do not know who we are or what we do. We are working on Google ads and getting to the younger set.

Steve Austin said we are working on or have grants for emergency vehicle lighting and fire prevention education. We need to keep the funds up and get more funds to keep the good work going. We received \$10,000 from the State of Maryland Highway Authority. We are getting more coloring books, displays and doing more marketing. We have grant application from GM. We received a \$1000 donation from AT&T First Net for distracted driving education. Arrow sticks on apparatus were discussed. Last year we did a study in proper use of blocking vehicles. Specific reports for grants need to be completed. The FEMA automated grant process time will be helpful but right now the transition period from the old system is slowing down closing of old grants. We are funded to have a Conference with major fire groups either at IAFC Headquarters or the PA Turnpike.

Ron Sarnicki reported that the NFFF held a retreat at the Truman site in Key West. The next meeting will be held in Washington, DC before the CFSI meeting to take the initiative to get to the next level.

Steve Austin said he needs help with the Firefighter Behavior especially the website. We need help at the CVVFA.org. Candice McDonald asked for help with the Reputation Management website.

Recruitment & Retention- Jim Watson asked for the Directors to help pick up more members and companies.

Resolutions-Gene Worthington will get them prepared when he gets the requests.

Scholarship-Hoby Howell is the chairperson now.

Youth Leadership-Jim Watson is working on having information on the website.

Old Business:

The reimbursements for the Convention have been evaluated and are completed.

A motion was made by Jim Watson and seconded by Hobby Howell to approve the minutes from the Convention. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jim Watson and seconded by Steve Austin to accept the final reading of the proposed By-Law change for the LODD benefit. Motion carried.

We need to continue to grow this LODD fund to \$5000. Jerry Daniels has a separate checking account for this fund. We need to figure out ways to support this fund. A motion was made by Hoby Howell and seconded by Jim Watson to put the money from the raffle tickets he sold today to go into this fund. Motion carried.

Coin-design was passed around to be posted on the website. Jim Watson offered information on a place to produce them, but Hobby Howell has a company he deals with and gets discounts for repeat business. The Lapel pins were produced and are available through the Company store. There is a link on CVVFA.org to make comments about the coin design. Steve Heefner raised concerns regarding the lapel pins. Should we have adopted an official logo? There was discussion regarding standardization. Merchandise-It will be in the Company Store and on the website for purchase. The new Home Office Manager is Mike Cox.

The By-Laws are still being updated and they will be on the webpage with the first vote at the Spring meeting and then final vote at Convention. Several of the changes are housekeeping or grammar issues. Read them on the website to be prepared.

New Business:

It was mentioned to try to have a holiday social in December or January in the Harrisburg or Gettysburg area.

The Spring Booster meeting is tentatively for April 18-19 with a social on Saturday evening, possibly a workshop on Saturday afternoon and the meeting on Sunday morning. Possibly in Greencastle, Marion or Chambersburg. There is a concern for e-mails that are spam being sent from the Home Office. Concerns regarding how to contact Officers. Possibly set up new e-mails on the website.

Hobby Howell and Steve Heefner said that pocket badges will cost \$25 a piece. The Home Office Manager can get these updated and ordered.

Allen Baldwin mentioned that thank you letters have been sent to the Corporate Sponsors and those that helped with the past Convention. Letters have also been sent to new Officers.

Jerry Daniels asked Steve Flickinger for the future the costs for a Convention to our Association. We give the Convention Host Company \$1000. We give \$100 for the Booster meetings and \$100 for the President Council meeting. The last two being to cover lunch.

Good of the Association:

Jim Watson mentioned that Deb Watson is selling specialty pretzels for \$1 each for the Delaware City Fire Company.

Deb Watson is also selling gun raffle tickets for the Delaware Valley Fire Chiefs Association for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. This is for one of two guns or \$500 cash.

Joe Kroboth mentioned that traffic on Rte. 50 is bad so consider a different way home possibly. Lunch will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

The raffles that Hobby Howell held raised \$155.00 and there were 18 items.

The Benediction was offered by Asst. Chaplain Wharry.

The meeting adjourned at 1159.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Watson

Acting Recording Secretary