

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
 Board of Directors meeting
 Halfway, MD
 January 9, 2011

President Greg Yost called the meeting to order at 12:05pm. Lunch was served prior to the meeting for all to enjoy. VP Walter Robertson gave the opening prayer and led the group in the pledge to the flag. Greg called on Steve Heefner to offer the welcome from the host company Halfway. Steve invited all to their facility, spoke on this date for the meeting, and seems to be good.

Introduction of Guests – None

Secretary Worthington took roll call with 20 Officers being recorded in attendance.

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD
President	Greg Yost	1	1
1st Vice President	Michael Sullivan		1
2nd Vice President	Steven Haines	1	1
3rd Vice President	Rich Toulson		1
4th Vice President	Walter Robertson	1	1
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee		1
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1	1
Publicity Manager	Robert Timko	1	1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart		
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry		
Attorney	Howard Cohen		
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers	1	
Director, Pennsylvania (2011)	Rich Bruner	1	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2012)	Curtis Alleman		1
Director, Maryland (2011)	Wayne Baker		1
Director, Maryland (2012)	Robert Cumberland		1
Director, West Virginia (2011)	Bill Keller	1	1
Director, West Virginia (2012)	Brett Bittle	1	
Director, Delaware (2011)	Harry Balthis	1	1
Director, Delaware (2012)	Steve Austin	1	1
Director, Virginia (2011)	Kevin Wilkes		1
Director, Virginia (2012)	Allen Brennan	1	1
Past President	Walter Robertson	1	1
	Totals	15	20
Past Presidents		10	11

Communications – One item to be discussed in new business.

Officers reports –

President Greg Yost presented this written report. Welcome everyone and thanks for attending today's Board of Directors Meeting. Also thanks to the Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway for hosting the meeting. I have been busy working on various projects for my company and county association. I gave up chairmanship of the county Chiefs committee so I could have more time to devote to CVVFA activities. Speaking of that, I have been trying to find CVVFA business to attend to so if you have anything that I can help with, please let me know. I attended Needmore Fire Company's banquet last night and spoke to folks from McConnellsburg. It sounds like they are well underway in planning the convention. I will actually be attending their banquet next Saturday on behalf of CVVFA and Hancock.

First Vice President Michael Sullivan stated he had no formal report at this time, thanks to Halfway for hosting the meeting and looking forward to an active year.

Second Vice President Steven Haines submitted a written report and spoke from it. President Greg Yost, Fellow Officers, members and guests, welcome. Thanks to Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway for once again hosting the annual Board of Directors meeting today. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. Since our booster meeting in October, I have attended my own fire company meetings, the New Bloomfield FD meetings, and my county association meetings. I am looking forward for another successful year for this Association. Good seeing everyone, take care, and have a safe trip home and see you all at the March booster meeting.

Third Vice President Rich Toulson submitted a written report and spoke from it. Since October I have attended my departments meetings, training nights and attended training at our State Fire School. Am currently working on a project with Montgomery County, MD of advance warning signs. We will be introducing some training videos to that group in the upcoming weeks.

Fourth Vice President Walter Robertson brought greetings, would like to thank Halfway for hosting the meeting. Since our last meeting, I have attended my state and county meetings, also attended one national conference and hope all have a safe trip home.

Treasurer Dove presented his written report. Account balances are as follows:

CVVFA #4100840 death	400.00
General Account	12574.65
CVVFA HH bonds	2000.00
CVVFA #236	82219.02
Net Worth	97193.67

George also reported on the estate settlement from Harry Alt. The CVVFA was granted \$2,000 in Harry's will and has received the check. We want to continue to remember his family.

Financial Secretary McBee stated no report.

Recording Secretary Worthington reported on the activities of his office. Happy New Year to all. All minutes from the last booster meeting were transcribed, mailed, and posted on the web by the webmaster. The agenda was prepared for this meeting and forwarded to President Yost for his action. There are copies of the proceedings from convention at the front table, please help yourself to a copy. Thanks to Halfway for hosting the meeting as always. The Office remains ready to assist the Association.

Home Office Manager Heefner presented a written report. Mr. President, Officers and Guests, welcome to the VFC of Halfway and the BOD meeting. Thanks to all who traveled this frigid weekend. I have been busy collecting dues and address changes and turning over all information to our Financial Secretary, Steve McBee. The HOM computer needed a PC tune-up and I purchased a Norton 360 Virus protection at a cost of \$42.39. The computer is a 2004 and may need to be replaced sometime in the future. The host hotel for this year's convention will be the Sleep Inn and Suites, 12426 Houck Avenue, Clear Spring, MD 21722 @ \$74.49 per night and Quality Inn of Enola for the March booster meeting. A social event is planned Saturday evening at Chief Dirkson's home and fire collection courtesy of VFIS. Steve spoke about the hotel accommodations within the area. We have scheduled a booster meeting in Irishtown March 2012.

Publicity Manager Bob Timko started his comments by stating he has handouts for convention book ads. Please help us with the distribution of these forms.

Chaplain Charlie Barnhart was absent.

Assistant Chaplain Jim Wharry sent the following message. My recovery from the hip replacement has gone well, but I am not allowed to drive yet. In addition it snowed a little today and I am also restricted from being outside when there is snow on the ground. Snow is also predicted for tomorrow and it looks like Hagerstown has snow on the map by TV. I will not be able to attend the Board meeting on Sunday, but will be able to make the rest of them.

Attorney Howard Cohen sent the following message. Gene, I won't be able to attend Sunday's Executive meeting due to a family sickness. I have nothing to report.

Pennsylvania Delegate Charlie Myers was absent.

Directors reports –

Pennsylvania Director Rich Brunner stated ditto, ditto, ditto. Thanks to Halfway for hosting the meeting. I am currently having trouble with my email. Since the last meeting, I was reelected as company President (20 years). I have been attending my company and county functions.

Pennsylvania Director Curtis Alleman thanked Halfway for hosting us again. Since the October meeting, I have had pretty much a full schedule. My home company has consolidated into a new one Northeast Fire & Rescue Co 20. I have attended all my respective meetings for the company and county. I have been working with the PFESI on some legislative issues fire sprinklers and cancer presumption. Curtis spoke on some specific activities he participated in. Congrats to Curtis on receiving the Presidents Award from PFESI. We have been working with Heefner on the March booster meeting weekend. Check out the web for info.

Maryland Director Wayne Baker thanked Halfway for hosting the meeting. Wayne further spoke about the convention trailer; sign has been updated and delivered to McConnellsburg. Wayne reported he has been battling with some kidney stones over the past month.

Maryland Director Bob Cumberland presented the following report. President Yost, Officers, Directors, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and successful year and thank the Halfway Volunteer Fire Department for hosting this directors meeting. Since the October Booster meeting I attended my own company meeting and my county association meeting representing my department as one of the delegates. I also attended the Maryland Fire Rescue Education Training Commission meeting in December where I serve as one of the commissioners. In December, I was again elected to the position of President of the Westminster Fire Engine and Hose Company No. 1 for the year of 2011. In November, I attended Fire Police training with the Westminster City Police department to be able to work as a fire police for the City of Westminster. I continue to do technical review of the AFG grants. I went to Rochester, Minnesota to attend the Minnesota Fire Chiefs Conference with the booth for Responder Safety. Again this year we had a successful event at the conference even though the attendance was small. The week of Fire Prevention, Curtis Alleman and Bob Timko and I set up the Responder Safety display at the I-81 Greencastle rest stop and promoted highway safety and discussed the move over laws. This was a very successful event and something that we should continue to look at doing in the future. The second Sunday of November, Pennsylvania Director, Curtis Alleman and I attended the Irishtown Fire Department meeting and presented the 50-year Resolution to Robert Bolton. We also worked with the department to host a future Booster meeting and we were invited to attend the Adams County Fire Police Association meeting in the future to talk to them. In November, I had the opportunity to attend the Pennsylvania Fire Services Institute Dinner in Camp Hill, PA and see Pennsylvania Director Curtis Alleman receive the Presidents Award from the Institute. Congratulation Curtis. I continue to work on getting Lou Jordan to add other items to the CVVFA store but have been unsuccessful so far. For the months of September and October, we have received \$93.70 and we could be making more if we promote the store more as Directors of the Association. Next week I will be traveling to Connecticut for a program.

West Virginia Director Bill Keller thanked Halfway for having us again. I have been busy teaching classes.

West Virginia Director Brett Bittle was absent, however sent an email stating that he would not be here due to changing jobs.

Virginia Director Kevin Wilkes stated three cheers for Halfway, great place you have here. I look forward to staying active with the Association. I am now an instructor for VA. I have been working with the county coordinator on specific funding. I was reelected Deputy Chief of my volunteer company. Kevin made some specific comments reference LODD's for fire and police. The police had a large jump in their deaths with 16 being struck on the highway. Thanks very much and look forward to a good year.

Virginia Director Allen Brennan thanked Halfway for hosting us as they do each year. The year has started slow, however looking forward for the pace to pick up.

Delaware Director Harry Balthis thanked Halfway for hosting us today. I have attended my fire company meetings and functions.

Delaware Director Steve Austin spoke about receiving an invitation from the IAFC volunteer section to participate in a volunteer firefighter summit to be held in DC, further details forthcoming. I was at Delaware City FD banquet last night, and I received an honorary membership for the work we did with Responder Safety video.

Past President Walter Robertson had nothing further to report.

Committees –

Convention – Chairman Flickinger reported they will be meeting with McConnellsburg in early March. Steve emphasized again the invitation from the trophy vendor to do all the plaques for convention.

Emergency Responder Safety Institute – Steve Austin spoke on the activities and meetings happening. As usual much is going on. We are teaching for the fifth consecutive year in Orlando in two weeks the new course, “The First 15 Minutes.” Hopefully, this will go well and will lead into a CD to be posted on the web. It is about staging apparatus and doing the initial size-up giving the Officer the right tools to make better decisions. Next, we will be going to Connecticut with the “Watch Out Behind You” program to be followed by the North Carolina Fire Chiefs displaying the Responder Safety booth. Also, Walter and Jack will have the booth at the Virginia Chiefs Conference. There are also several locations in the planning stages. Steve and Stonehouse Media have met with federal highway folks who are interested in extending our contract. We would like to use this grant funding to build our distance learning management platform. We are in the middle of putting together a FireAct grant application for this same platform. Steve then spoke about the I-81 Coalition training class being taught. He further spoke about specific money issues to teach classes.

Web Page – Steve Austin reported on the expenditure to update the site. As you know, there is a law enforcement page on this site. Steve talked about the “NUG” when typed in a search engine, which comes up as an illegal drug. This is being corrected. We are updating some of the audio on our videos to meet current standards.

A question was asked about the inventory of our CDs, response we still have plenty. The schedule was provided for the upcoming trade shows for the year.

Legislation – Bob Cumberland stated the new Congress starts this week. You need to look at the health insurance reform. Part time employees working 30 hours are covered. Bob spoke about the 2010 firefighter fatality report. General information - the Board of Visitors at the NFA is now back up and running; however, many of the members need to be reappointed.

Scholarship – Chairman Balthis had nothing further to report.

Bukowski Award – Chairman Flickinger reported on the proposed guidelines. After formal approval, they will be posted on the web. Steve read the guidelines and asked for approval.

MOTION was made to accept the guidelines as stated by Bill Keller, seconded by Bob Cumberland, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

Steve Heefner gave an update on the upcoming Presidents Council meeting to be held in Wheeling, WVA. Lodging has been secured at the McClure House for April 15-17. Further info is forthcoming, look at the web for reservations and additional activities.

Unfinished business

Reputational Management - Austin

Steve recommended that a committee should be appointed to carry out the work presently happening. On January 4, 2011, we launched the FirefighterBehavior.com. Tom Savage has accepted the position as Editor for this page. We show good and bad both on the site. Ernie has volunteered to do the next printing of the white paper in a book format, great stuff.

Scholarship publicity brochures for colleges – Bruner, no update.

IRS charitable tax status - Austin

We are making progress, charter language changes have been approved, CPA has to change the tax status, write a long narrative on why this is being done, timeline of convention for completion.

Background investigations – Austin

Very disappointing, problems with communications not being returned.

Bob Timko spoke about the working relationship with PFESI on the junior leadership program. We would like for CVVFA to speak about the Reputational Management program during their training.

Promotional package and agreement with booster meeting partners – Heefner

Progress, not yet ready for presentation.

Steve Heefner stated he will be placing the “Seal of Excellence” award received into the trophy case at Halfway.

New business

Treasurer Dove introduced a proposal of a draft budget. He read from it and made some explanations about the numbers. Numerous comments and suggestions were given during the discussion process.

MOTION the Firefighter of the Year plaque only be purchased and presented to the individual, by Bill Keller, seconded by Curtis Alleman, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

MOTION was made to purchase all convention awards and plaques from our trophy vendor by George Dove, seconded by Michael Sullivan, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

The following budget was approved by **MOTION** from Bill Keller, seconded by Walter Robertson, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

INCOME

Membership Dues	2500
Company/Department Dues	1500
Convention	
Book Ad Sales	3500
Trophy Donations	3300
Special Donations	100
Responder Safety	3000
Interest	1200
Miscellaneous	300
Fundraising Sales	200
Transfer of Savings	6756

EXPENSES

Officer Reimbursement	
Home Officer Manager	1800
Financial Secretary	500
Treasurer	250
Convention	
Publicity Manager	200
Convention book	3000
Memorial	100
Trailer signage update	300
President’s lodging	300

Alt Estate	2000	Host company donation	800
		Parade trophies & money	2000
		Administrative	
		Death benefits	1500
		Booster meetings	500
		Presidents Council	200
		Official Functions/Dues	500
		Insurance	800
		Audit	3000
		PA Fireman Magazine	176
		CVVFA web site	465
		Reputation web site	465
		Scholarships	2000
		Miscellaneous	500
		NFPA committee	3000
		501c3 tax program	1000
		Fire Prevention	500
		TOTALS	
	23856		23856

Steve Austin spoke about a request from Jack Sullivan reference special recognition for Lionville VFD 100th anniversary. He further spoke on the reasoning for same. **MOTION** made to approve a resolution and a modest plaque for the contribution of Lionville VFD to the CVVFA by Steve Austin, seconded by Walter Robertson, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

Steve McBee spoke about the MSFA convention book advertisement request he received in the mail. **MOTION** was made to purchase a full page ad in the MSFA convention book by Harry Balthis, seconded by Bill Keller, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed. The Secretary will submit the ad.

Good of the Association -

Bob Cumberland stated that Westminster has a pumper for sale and he has tickets for a raffle they are conducting.

Curtis Alleman has hockey tickets for the game of the CVVFA weekend at the next booster meeting. You need to purchase them by 2/20 if you would like to attend as a group.

Rich Bruner invited all to attend a 9/11 memorial tribute to be held at Newport. He further spoke on some of the logistics for the event.

Wayne Baker announced the date of the Apple Blossom Festival 4/29/11.

Comment was made about the CVVFA Officer badges that were not received or returned by the prior Officers.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15pm with benediction given by Walter Robertson.

Respectfully submitted

Gene Worthington, Recording Secretary