



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION**  
DELAWARE FIRE SERVICE CENTER

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1463 CHESTNUT GROVE ROAD  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904

## **STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION**

Monthly Meeting

February 19, 2019

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

David Roberts, Chairman  
Alan Robinson, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Ron Marvel  
Lynn Truitt  
Marvin C. Sharp – Absent  
Richard T. Perillo  
Joseph J. Leonetti, Sr.

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Patricia Davis, Deputy Attorney General  
Joseph C. Handlon, Deputy Attorney General  
Patrick Matthews, BLS Medical Director - Absent  
Sherry Lambertson, Executive Assistant  
David J. Truax, Investigator/Compliance Officer  
Grover P. Ingle, State Fire Marshal  
Robert P. Newnam, Director, State Fire School

### **GUESTS**

Jay Jones, DVFA  
Bradley Gosch, American Legion Ambulance 64  
Tom Dicristofaro, DVFA  
W. Mike McMichael, DSEMSA  
Anthony Spiezio, DTI  
Bill Betts, DVFA  
Jason Capps, DSEMSA  
William Kelly, Energy Transfer

**GUESTS cont.**

Michael Bundeck, St. Francis EMS  
Michael O'Conner, St. Francis EMS

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 15, 2019 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

It was moved by Commissioner Leonetti, and seconded by Commissioner Truitt that the minutes of the January 15, 2019 Commission meeting be approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Personnel Items

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the Administrative Officer position has been filled by Sheila Alexander. She began working in the position on February 18, 2019. She is familiar with the agency and will be an asset to the agency in this position. As a result of this the position of Office Manager has become vacant in the Kent County office. Fire Marshal Ingle requested approval to move forward with the hiring procedures for this position. It was moved by Commissioner Truitt, seconded by Commissioner Leonetti to authorize Fire Marshal Ingle to advertise, interview and hire for the vacant Office Manager position in Kent County. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Fire Protection Specialist I Desiree B. McCall has completed her one year probation. She has met all of the requirements to be promoted to a Fire Protection Specialist II and this became effective on January 8, 2019. She has been an asset to the agency by adapting to the agency and working well with the clients and staff.

### 2019 Fire Fatalities

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that there are three fire fatalities in 2019. Two of these fatalities did not have a working smoke alarms. The fire with a working smoke alarm had other circumstances involved that didn't allow the victim to escape the structure. All of these incidents remain under investigation at this time.

### JFC Public Budget Hearing

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the Joint Finance Committee Public Budget Hearing went well. His agency accepted the budget as it was proposed. The funds were not allowed for the Sales Force program and he mentioned that in his presentation to the committee.

### Hardwired Smoke Detector Program

The Hardwired Smoke Detector Program is currently inactive and will remain this way for an indefinite period of time. It has taken more than 15 years to utilize the funds of \$500,000 for the program. It is currently at a low balance and will not be sustainable at this time.

### Delaware Apartment Communities

Chief R. T. Leicht and Assistant Chief of Technical Services John Rudd made a presentation to the Delaware Apartment Community. The presentation was made to over 55 people in attendance with regard to the Carbon Monoxide Law. It was a good presentation with good dialogue. This is one of the many community outreaches that will be done within the apartment community.

### National Fire Academy

The week Rebecca Legar is attending a Youth Fire Prevention Program class at the National Fire Academy.

### 4455 Delaware Regulations Governing a Detailed Plumbing Code

Fire Marshal reviewed a proposed updated to the DHSS Division of Public Health 4455 Delaware Regulation governing a detailed plumbing code.

Major Incident Investigations

January 15, 2019 – Mill Creek Fire Co. responded to a large commercial building fire at the 700 block of Stanton Christian Road. Upon arrival had heavy fire showing. Fire operations became defensive. Estimated damage \$250,000.00. One firefighter received an injury when that firefighter slipped on the ice. The fire occurred at 9:07a.m. and remains under investigation.

January 26, 2019 – Aetna HH&L responded to a single family dwelling fire at 247 Oakfield Dr. around 4:00 p.m. with fire showing from the porch on the C side of the dwelling. One occupant was transported to CER. Damage is estimated at \$150,000.00 and the fire remains under investigation.

January 26, 2019 – Volunteer Hose Co. of Middletown responded to a structure fire in the 1200 block Choptank Rd. at approximately 5:51p.m. The fire was in a detached garage causing extreme fire damage to the garage. Damage is estimated at \$150,000.00 and the fire remains under investigation.

January 27, 2019 – Milton Fire Co. responded to a structure fire in the 26000 block of Prime Hook Rd. at 9:41 a.m. Upon arrival there was heavy smoke and fire showing from the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of a two story single family dwelling. Two occupants escaped from a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window and were treated for non-life threatening injuries at Bayhealth Hospital Sussex Campus. One occupant was found during fire suppression operation deceased on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. No working smoke alarms were present and damage is estimated at \$50,000.00. The incident is under investigation by the M.I.R.T. of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

January 28, 2019 – Volunteer Hose Co. of Middletown responded to a structure fire at 5:36 a.m. in the unit block Fairview Ave., Villages at Fairview Farms. Heavy fire conditions on arrival in the two story single family dwelling. The damage estimated at \$250,000.00 and remains under investigation.

January 29, 2019 – Millsboro Fire Co. responded at 4:26 a.m. to the 28000 block of Harmon's Mill Rd. for a mobile home fire. Upon arrival there were heavy fire condition. One occupant escaped the mobile home and was treated at Beebe Hospital for non-life threatening injuries. One occupant was found deceased in the mobile home during fire suppression operations. No smoke detectors were present and the incident remains under investigation by the M.I.R.T. of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The estimated damage is \$30,000.00.

January 31, 2019 – Good-Will Fire Co. responded to a structure fire at 6:22 a.m. in the unit block of Bunker Hill Rd. Upon arrival smoke and fire showing from the basement on the C side of the two story dwelling. Two Mayday's were called at the incident, and seven firefighters were treated and released for various injuries. Two of those as a result of slip and falls on the ice. Damage was estimated at over \$200,000.00, three occupants of the home escaped due to smoke alarms. The house was condemned by NCC Building Official. The incident remains under investigation.

January 31, 2019 – Odessa Fire Co. responded to a report of a house under construction on fire in the Ponds of Odessa at 8:10 p.m. Upon arrival of the fire company, the house was fully involved. The incident remains under investigation.

February 3, 2019 – Delaware City Fire Co. responded to the Delaware City Refinery with a large fire in the Refinery Crude Unit #2. The cause of the fire remains under investigation. The Fire Marshal Office continues to work with DNREC on the investigation.

February 6, 2019 – Brandywine Hundred Fire Co. responded to a commercial structure fire in the 100 block Amer Rd., Recycling Resource Management. Upon arrival they had heavy smoke and fire conditions in the inside of the building causing extensive damage inside of the structure. The damage is estimated at \$200,000.00 and the incident remains under investigation.

February 7, 2019 – Carlisle Fire Co. responded at 11:27 p.m. to a structure fire in the 4300 block of McColley Rd., off Cedar Beach Rd. Upon arrival of the fire company, heavy fire was showing from the two story structure. One occupant escaped the structure received 1<sup>st</sup> degree burns to hands and face and two firefighters received minor injuries during fire suppression operations. All were treated and released from Bayhealth Hospital Sussex Campus. The fire was the result of a failure of an operating liquid fueled space heater. Unknown if any smoke detectors were present. The damage was estimated at \$70,000.00.

February 10, 2019 – Ellendale Fire Co. responded prior to 8:00 a.m. to the 10000 block of Greentop Road for a camper on fire. Four occupants of the camper escaped from the fire. One adult male received smoke inhalation, one adult female received 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns and smoke inhalation. One male child and one female child were evaluated and released from Bayhealth Hospital Sussex Campus. The two adults were transferred to Crozier Hospital in stable condition.

February 18, 2019 – Bridgeville Fire Co. was dispatched to a house fire at 1:25 p.m. in the unit block of Oak Street. Upon arrival they found a wood frame single family dwelling with heavy fire showing. Two adults of the residences were transported to Nanticoke Memorial Hospital to be evaluated for non-life threatening injuries. Deputy Fire Marshal’s determined the fire originated in the living room and was caused when a cigarette lighter malfunctioned igniting light weight combustibles. The damage was estimated at \$35,000.00 and the Red Cross was notified for assistance with housing for the victim’s.

DFIRS Incidents Received

<b>TOTAL STATE PARTICIPATION IN COMPLIANCE</b>	
72 %	

**DELINQUENT DEPARTMENTS**

<b>New Castle County</b>	
Cranston Heights	October - December
Five Points	December
Minquadale	November - December
<b>Kent County</b>	
Bowers	January – December
Cheswold	July – December
Farmington	December
Felton	December
Harrington	December
Hartly	October – December
Magnolia	December
South Bowers	December
<b>Sussex County</b>	
Delmar	December
Frankford	December
Georgetown	November – December
Indian River	December
Lewes	December
Roxana	February – August & October - December

**OVERDUE REPORTS BY DAYS**

<b>30 Days</b>	<b>60 Days</b>	<b>90 Days</b>	<b>90+ Days</b>
10	2	2	3

Source: DFIRS Incidents received as of 2/06/19.

## **REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

### **Director**

- DSFS one of 15 (of 73) entities approved for accreditation in 1072 at Awareness, Operations, and Technician
- Joint Finance hearing held on February 11<sup>th</sup>
- Capital Budget (Bond Bill) scheduled for April 3, 1130. The Fire School will ask for the pass through funds for the rescue tool program.

### **Staff Activities**

- Attended Operations Section Chief training – DEMA, Senior Instructor Gajdos
- Reviewer for AFG Grants – Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> – Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> – Senior Instructor Lowe
- NFPA – Public Education Network 2019 representative – Senior Instructor Lowe
- Burn Camp – next meeting February 19<sup>th</sup>, meet and greet at Grottos in Dover on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>
- DelDot Train the Trainer -Wire Rope Median Barrier rescue course – Senior Instructor Wilson
- Meeting St. Francis EMS – EMT Recruit Training 2/19-3/15 – Senior Instructor Gajdos. This class is being run for the new hires of the Dover division of St. Francis EMS.

### **Programs/Courses**

#### **Figures in red are reference to last year's comparison of class attendance.**

- Current Month
  - New Castle Firefighter Recruit class – 17 students (25)
  - EVO – New Castle – 24 students (17)
  - Fire Instructor I class – 12 students
  - Fire Officer II class – 22 students
  - Woman's Empowerment Seminar – 65 attendees (60)
  - High Rise Seminar – Wind Driven – 26 students (27)
  - Administrative Seminar – Financial Responsibilities – This class was cancelled due to lack of attendance. It is being considered to hold this seminar at the regional centers in an attempt to get a better attendance.
  - ICS – 400 – 2 students (8) – *cancelled* – Conducting two programs in-service
  - Blue Card ICS training – 10 students (5)
  - NFA – Fire Chief II – 4 students (8)
  - Marine Firefighting Awareness/Operations at NCD – 33 students

- Additions – Revisions
  - Wire Rope Median Barrier training and props – Wilson working with DELDOT

### **EMS**

- Current Month
  - CEU programs – 12 programs scheduled (17)
  - U of Delaware accelerated program tested 30 students
  - EMT Refresher – 25 students, NCD, 21 students, KCD, 7 students, SCD (10-22-12)
  - EMT Refresher – Kent Weekday, 18 students (19)
- Students in Sussex using the high fidelity manikins with great success.
  - Practice vital signs, lung sounds, CPR with feedback and airway management
  - Working with Kent - New Castle instructors to incorporate into the lessons

### **Public Education and Injury Prevention - Activity Report**

- Current Month
  - Fire Safety Programs – 3 programs scheduled (2)
  - Injury Prevention Programs – 1 program scheduled (2)
  - Injury Prevention Events – 1 program scheduled (2)

### **Maintenance – Building and Grounds**

- Mike Chillas – attending Scott SCBA servicing training
- HVAC is in the final stage in the gear room. They will return in May, 2019 to complete the Kitchen area. – Roof replacement will begin in August. – Rest Room drawings have not been received to date, and are expected this year.

### **Financial**

- Past Due Billings
  - 30 days – 930.00
  - 60 days – 1,135.00
  - 90 days – 4,570.00
  - 120 days – 100.00
  - 20678 Tuition Fund – 564,081.00
  - Accounts receivable – 142,400.00



- Revenue Comparison
  - Tuition – 2019 – 50,732.00, 2018 – 52,982.00
- Special Funds Summary – The Special Funds Summary report was submitted to the Commissioners for review.
- Expenditure Report – The Expenditure report was submitted to the Commissioners for review.

### **REPORT OF THE BLS MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Dr. Matthews reported that the preliminary report on Opioid deaths is higher this year. Totals are anticipated to be higher when toxicology reports are finalized. OEMS continues to have an ample stock of Narcan at this time.

The flu is in week six and is wide spread in Delaware. Most cases have tested positive for Influenza A at this time. There have been 13 flu related deaths statewide. EMS is encouraged to document flu like illnesses for surveillance purposes.

Dr. Matthews presented information regarding Delaware's EMS system at the National Association of EMS Physicians meeting.

### **REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATOR/COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

18 Annual Ambulance Unit Inspections  
1 New Unit Inspections  
3 Complaints Received  
3 Arrest Notifications were received.  
0 New Investigations

Mr. Truax presented Case No. 1822 and 1830 for closure. It was moved by Commissioner Truitt, seconded by Commissioner Leonetti to close Case No. 1822 and 1830. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

**ACTION ITEMS**

Review Quarterly Scratch Report

It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Truitt, to accept the Quarterly and Year End Scratch Report for 2018. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Fire Marshal Findings – Appeal Review

After review of the appeal from BJs Wholesale Club, it was moved by Commissioner Marvel, seconded by Commissioner Perillo to send the appeal request back to the City of New Castle. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Truitt -	Yes
Commissioner Marvel -	Yes
Commissioner Sharp -	Absent
Commissioner Leonetti -	Yes
Commissioner Perillo -	Yes
Vice Chairman Robinson -	Yes
Chairman Roberts -	Yes

EMT Hearing – Case No. 1817

A formal hearing for Case No. 1817 began at 10:00 a.m. and ended at 10:53 a.m. Deputy Attorney General Mulveny began with opening arguments. The EMT in question was not present at the hearing. She was properly notified of the complaint and hearing, yet did not respond. The following individuals testified at the hearing: Sherry Lambertson, Executive Assistant, David Truax, Investigator, Sheri Camp, Witness and Dr. Matthews, BLS Medical Director. Deputy Attorney General moved to closing argument after all testimony was completed.

After deliberation it was moved by Commissioner Leonetti, seconded by Vice Chairman Robinson to revoke the EMTs certification based on the violations, and if she wants to return as an EMT, she will be required to appear before the Fire Prevention Commission. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Truitt -	Yes
Commissioner Marvel -	Absent
Commissioner Sharp -	Absent
Commissioner Leonetti -	Yes
Commissioner Perillo -	Yes

Vice Chairman Robinson - Yes  
Chairman Roberts - Yes

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Deputy Attorney General Joseph C. Handlon**

Chairman Roberts introduced and welcomed the incoming Deputy Attorney General Handlon to the Fire Prevention Commission.

#### **Deputy Attorney General Patricia Davis**

Chairman Roberts thanked Deputy Attorney General Davis for her years of service to the Fire Prevention Commission on behalf of the entire Commission. She has been an asset to the agency and will be missed. She was congratulated on her new endeavors and wished her well.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

None.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

### **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

None

### **REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS**

#### **Vice Chairman Robinson**

Vice Chairman Robinson reported that he attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, Citizens Hose Fire Company Board Meeting, 60<sup>th</sup> B-Day for Marvin Sharp, DE State Fire Prevention Awards, Citizens Hose Fire Company Meeting, Hartly Fire Company Banquet, Citizens Hose Fire Company Board of Directors Meeting, Kent County Vol. Firefighters Meeting, and Ambulance 63 Banquet.

#### **Commissioner Ron Marvel**

Commissioner Marvel reported that he attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, Kent County Firefighters Meeting, Sussex Fire Chief's Meeting, Lewes Firefighters Banquet, Sussex County Firefighters Meeting, Seaford Fire Company Meeting, Delaware State Chief's Meeting, Rehoboth

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Beach Firefighters Banquet, Sussex Callboard Meeting, Councilman George Cole Retirement, Seaford Fire Company Banquet, Meeting with Bill Webb of CFSI, Dover Joint Finance Committee Hearing, and New Castle County Firefighters Meeting.

Commissioner Lynn Truitt

Commissioner Truitt reported that she attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, Lewes Fire Company Banquet, and Interviews for the Office of State Fire Marshal.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

March 19, 2019 – 9:00 AM  
Commission Chamber  
Delaware Fire Service Center  
1463 Chestnut Grove Road  
Dover, DE 19904

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Commissioner Perillo, and seconded by Commissioner Truitt that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sherry R. Lambertson*

Sherry R. Lambertson  
Executive Specialist

sl/