



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

March 19, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Roberts, Chairman
Alan Robinson, Jr., Vice Chairman
Ron Marvel
Lynn Truitt
William C. Kelly
Joseph J. Leonetti, Sr.
Richard T. Perillo - Absent

ALSO PRESENT

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

Bradley Gosch, American Legion Ambulance 64
W. Mike McMichael, DSEMSA
Anthony Spiezio, DTI
Bill Betts, DVFA
Michael Chionchio, Office of State Fire Marshal
Warren Jones, DVFA
Herb Netsch, Delaware City Fire Company

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REGULAR BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 19, 2019 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Truitt, and seconded by Vice Chairman Robinson that the minutes of the February 19, 2019 Commission meeting be approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Truitt to revert from the regular order of business for the purpose of swearing in newly appointed Commission William C. Kelly. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

OATH OF OFFICE

Chairman Roberts presented the swearing in for Oath of Office for newly appointed Commissioner William C. Kelly. Commissioner Kelly has been appointed by Governor Carney as an Industry Representative from Kent County. Commissioner Kelly was welcomed by all.

It was moved by Commissioner Truitt, seconded by Vice Chairman Robinson to return to the regular order of business. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Personnel Items

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the Office Manager Position interviews will be conducted on March 20, 2019 in the Kent County office. April 1st is the anticipated date for a new hire.

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that Deputy Fire Marshal II Michael Pfaffenhauser has been scheduled for surgery on April 1st and is anticipated to be out on medical leave for an extended period of time. A staffing plan has been put in place for coverage.

DTI – Program Update/Computer Deployment Updates/Office 365

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the new computers have been deployed and the old computers are being removed.

Office 365 is anticipated to begin in the near future.

The agency program continues to move forward, but at a slower pace than the agency needs it to be. The improvements that have been made have helped a lot, but still not in a good position with the reporting portion of the system.

FY 2020 Capital Bond Bill Budget Hearing

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the FY 2020 Capital Bond Bill Budget Hearing is scheduled on April 3, 2019. His agency does not have any request, but he will be in attendance to support the Fire School in their request.

New Castle County Gate

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the gate at the New Castle County site is inoperable. It is being worked on, but not sure when it will be in working order again.

Division of Forensic Science

The Division of Forensic Science has received accreditation and certification for doing fire debris testing. The Office of State Fire Marshal was able to assist them in purchasing the necessary equipment.

Major Incident Investigations

February 19, 2019 – Carlisle Fire Company was dispatched just after 4:00 PM to the 100 block of Columbia Avenue for a house fire. Upon arrival they encountered a burn victim and a small fire that caused minor damage. The victim was a 14 year old and was attempting to play the “Hand Sanitizer Game”. The victim covered his hands with rubbing alcohol and ignited the same with an open flame causing a small fire and minor fire damage to the occupied single family dwelling. The victim received second degree burns to the right facial cheek, right hand, right abdominal area and left upper lip. Juvenile was referred to the Juvenile Intervention Program.

February 25, 2019 – Port Penn Fire Company was dispatched to a fire on the Fort DuPont Nature Trail. Upon arrival two Historic Buildings were found to be on fire. One building was the Cleaver Muskrat Shack which was destroyed by fire. The other building was the Floating Cabin which received severe fire damage. Fire was extinguished quickly by the Fire Department. The buildings date back to the late 1850's and were the last known of their kind. The damage was estimated at \$20,000.00, however the historical value of the buildings is undetermined. Deputy Fire Marshals worked collaboratively with the Department of Natural Resources Park Police determining the fire to be arson and were able to develop a suspect. A 17 year old firefighter was arrested and charged with Arson II, Attempted Arson II, and Criminal Mischief which are all felonies. The suspect was arraigned in court and released on his own recognizance to his parents pending trial.

March 14, 2019 – The Mill Creek Fire Company was dispatched to a fire in the 3200 Block of Mill Creek Road, shortly after 8:00 AM. Upon arrival there was heavy fire and smoke coming from the rear of the residence. A Mayday was declared when a firefighter fell through the floor and was removed by other firefighters on scene. The injured firefighter was treated at the scene by New Castle County Paramedics and transported to Christiana Care by Fire Department BLS with severe burns. The firefighter was stabilized at Christiana Care then transported to Crozer Chester Burn Center for further treatment of his injuries. He is reported in critical but stable condition. Deputy Fire Marshals determined the fire had originated in the first floor laundry room of the residence and was caused by an electrical/mechanical malfunction in the dryer. Estimated damage is \$250,000.00 and the Red Cross of Delmarva was called to the scene to assist the residents. The home was unoccupied at the time of the fire.

March 17, 2019 – Just after 9:30 AM Lewes Fire Department responded to a structure fire in the 29000 block of West Mill Run in the Overbrook Shores neighborhood. On arrival there was heavy smoke showing from the attached garage of a single family dwelling. Fire heavily damaged the house and was extinguished by the fire department with no reported injuries. Damages were estimated at \$250,000.00. Deputy Fire Marshal's responded to the scene for an investigation and determined the fire originated inside a motor vehicle parked in the attached determined the fire originated inside a motor vehicle parked in the attached garage. A mechanical malfunction occurred with the vehicle sparking the fire.

Out of State

Fire Marshal Ingle will be out of the state from April 9th – 12th to attend FDIC in Indianapolis. He will be in Washington D.C. from April 24th – 26th attending the CFSI Conference. Assistant State Fire Marshal Chionchio will be the agency contact during Fire Marshal Ingle's absence.

DFIRS Incidents Received

TOTAL STATE PARTICIPATION IN COMPLIANCE
74 %

DELINQUENT DEPARTMENTS

New Castle County	
Cranston Heights	December (2018) – January
Five Points	December (2018) – January
Minquadale	November – December (2018)
Port Penn	January
Kent County	
Bowers	January – December (2018), January
Cheswold	September – December (2018), January
Clayton	January
Dover	January
Farmington	January
Felton	December (2018) – January
Harrington	December (2018) – January
Houston	January
Marydel	January
Sussex County	
Bridgeville	January
Frankford	December (2018)
Roxana	February – August (2018), October – December (2018)

OVERDUE REPORTS BY DAYS

30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	90+ Days
7	5	1	3

Source: DFIRS Incidents received as of 3/05/19.

REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Director

- Met with Instructor Aides – March 2nd, to discuss expectations and duties
- Bond Bill Hearing scheduled for April 3rd at 1130
 - Rescue Tools (Recommended) 19 companies for 150k
- Program Presentations at Staff Meetings – review information
- Fire Service Financial Overview - To provide the Elected and Appointed Officers a detailed understanding of their roles, responsibilities and to ensure that proper procedures are established ensuring the accurate financial management of the Company. Announcements and Registration forms out this week.
 - New Castle Division – May 8th Sussex Division – May 15th Kent Division – May 22nd
- Sprinkler Burn Trailer – Demonstration, Wednesday March 28th, 1000.
- Voluntary Firefighter Injury Review & Education Program – recommendation was submitted to the Commission for review.
- Student Injury – twisted ankle – in-service F.F. Survival training – New Castle Division

Staff Activities

- Drone Conference – Virginia March 3-6 – Senior Instructor Dempsey
- AFG Grant Review participant – Senior Instructor Lowe
- Wilmington Fire Department recruit class – Senior Instructor's Ingram, Gajdos
- WFD – Fire Instructor I program and DSFS Instructor orientation – Senior Instructor's Baker, Ingram, Brennan
- WFD – Fire Officer I program – Senior Instructor Dempsey
- SERT response – 109 CenterPoint Blvd. Tesla Industries 03-14-19 – Senior Instructor Gajdos

Programs/Courses

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

- Current Month
 - Crew Leader – 34 students (33)
 - Vehicle Rescue – 15 students (27)
 - Basic Fire Fighting Skills – 82 students (118)
 - Fire Instructor I – completed course – 11 student, Pro-Board Certified

- Hazardous Materials Response Skills – 51 students (74)
- EVO – Sussex Division, 33 students (18)
- Basic Brigade – 33 students (15)
- Divisions Usage
 - NCD – 13 classes, KCD – 4 classes, SCD – 5 classes

EMS

- Current Month
 - CEU programs – 12 programs scheduled (11)
 - EMT – Refreshers,
 - KCD – 16 students (weekend) 17 students (weekday) 20 students (weekday) 36 students (weekend)
 - Reciprocity – 8 students
 - EMR – Refresher – 8 students (weekday)
 - EMR – Refresher – 4 students (weekend)
 - BLS CPR Provider – 5 students (weekday)
 - First Aid and CPR - 4 students (weekend)

Public Education and Injury Prevention - Activity Report

- Current Month
 - Fire Safety Programs – 3 programs scheduled (5)
 - Fire Safety Displays – 2 events scheduled (2)
 - Injury Prevention Programs – 2 programs scheduled (8)
 - Injury Prevention Events – 3 events scheduled (5)

Maintenance – Building and Grounds

- Video Cameras and alert systems completed at the Divisions
 - Looking to relocate one NC and add 2 for gate/grounds view
 - Change view of grounds camera in Sussex
- Conference Equipment room 7 completed
- HVAC project – remaining area Kitchen, scheduled for last two weeks in May.
- Roof Project – on schedule to begin end of August with completion in November.
- Rest Rooms – waiting on final drawings, then to bid – looks to be 160K over budget
 - Project now includes an upgrade to well and adding a water storage tank

- Shed roof over pad – NC County requiring lines and grades – working with engineering firm
- Sidewalk repairs – tree removal – New Castle Division, pricing

Financial

- Past Due Billings
 - 30 days – 74,710.00
 - 90 days – 35.00
 - 20678 Tuition Fund – 558,692.00
 - Accounts receivable – 102,385.00
 - Revenue Comparison
 - Tuition – 2019 – 48,144.00, 2018 – 25,757.86
- 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.

Staff and Office Staff Meeting Minutes

Staff and office staff meeting minutes were submitted for Commission review.

Personnel Issues

- 25 years of State Service, service with DSFS 07/1998 – Mike Lowe
It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Truitt to recognize Mike Lowe for his 25 years of state service. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
- Mike Chillas will be out on medical leave from March 29th to April 11th.

REPORT OF THE BLS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dr. Matthews reported that the toxicology report has been finalized on Opioid deaths in 2018. There were 419 overdose deaths due to opioid which is up 21% from last year. This is a dangerous trend upwards and shows the state of the epidemic. OEMS continues to have an ample stock of Narcan at this time.

The flu is in week nine and is slowing in Delaware. There are more than 4,500 confirmed cases in Delaware this year. There have been 13 flu related deaths statewide. EMS is encouraged to document flu like illnesses for surveillance purposes. There may be a spike in Influenza B in the next several weeks.

Dr. Matthews reported on the Naloxone project. It shows that patients being provided Naloxone on average of 7 minutes faster through BLS is beneficial in patient care.

Dr. Matthews expressed concerns with regard to reports of the CPR Assist Device (Lucas Device) not being used properly in Delaware, which causes it to migrate off of site. It has been discovered that not everyone has remembered to use the stabilization strap. If the Head/Neck strap is not utilized as required or if it is missing, the device will migrate offsite. Misuse of this strap may cause movement of the compression cylinder, which will in turn give improper CPR compressions. He will put together an educational memo for distribution as a reminder of the importance of proper use and skill of using this device.

Commissioner Marvel expressed his ongoing concern with Nanticoke Hospital going on divert for as long as 10 hours at a time. Dr. Matthews suggested that he express his concerns with the County Medical Director to follow up on a possible path of correction.

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATOR/COMPLIANCE OFFICER

20 Annual Ambulance Unit Inspections

1 New Unit Inspections

4 Complaints Received

3 Arrest Notifications were received.

0 New Investigations

Mr. Truax presented Case No. 1826 for closure. It was moved by Commissioner Leonetti, seconded by Vice Chairman Robinson to close Case No. 1826. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

The Commission reviewed Case No. 1816 Consent Agreement. It was moved by Commissioner Marvel, seconded by Vice Chairman Robinson to accept the consent agreement as presented. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS

Fire Prevention Matching Funds

It was moved by Commissioner Marvel, seconded by Commissioner Truitt, to accept the 2019 Fire Prevention Matching Fund distribution list as presented by the DVFA. The distributions will be made to the individual departments by the Commission. The amount of total distribution is \$74,999.47. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Mill Creek Fire Company Correspondence

Chairman Roberts reported on receiving an email from Mill Creek Fire Company that contained a letter that they received from the Office of Emergency Medical Services. The letter was in reference to policy issues that they see with driving Paramedic vehicles to the hospital. Chairman Roberts will contact OEMS and gather further information for review.

GENERAL INFORMATION

DVFA Comments

Warren Jones of the DVFA reported that he has been researching the Safe Harbor Law and has found that nothing is stopping or prevents the one on one exchange of BLS items with the hospitals. He has reached out to the hospital administrators without a response to date.

New Members

Chairman Roberts welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Bill Kelly and Deputy Attorney General Joseph Handlon.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

None

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS

Vice Chairman Robinson

Vice Chairman Robinson reported that he attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, Kent County Volunteer Firefighters Association Meeting, Magnolia Fire Company Banquet, Citizens Hose Fire Company Meeting and DVFA Executive Meeting.

Commissioner Ron Marvel

Commissioner Marvel reported that he attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, Seaford Fire Department Meeting, Sussex County Fire Chiefs Meeting, Sussex County Firefighters Meeting, CFSI Meeting in Washington, Blades Fire Company Meeting, DVFA Executive Meeting, and New Castle Firefighters Association Meeting.

Commissioner Lynn Truitt

Commissioner Truitt reported that she attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, and Seaford Fire Department Banquet.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

April 16, 2019 – 9:00 AM
Commission Chamber
Delaware Fire Service Center
1463 Chestnut Grove Road
Dover, DE 19904

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, and seconded by Commissioner Truitt that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry R. Lambertson

Sherry R. Lambertson
Executive Specialist

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