



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
(Conducted by WebEx Meeting)

May 19, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Marvel, Chairman
Alan Robinson, Jr., Vice Chairman
David Roberts
Lynn Truitt
William C. Kelly
Joseph J. Leonetti, Sr.
Bill Betts

ALSO PRESENT

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

GUESTS

Jay Jones, DVFA
W. Mike McMichael, DSEMSA
Warren Jones, DVFA
Richard Toulson, Seaford Fire Company
Patricia A. Fox, DSFS
Diane Hainsworth, OEMS

Guests cont.

Mark Harris, Claymont Fire Company
Tom Dicristofaro, Claymont Fire Company
Michael Chionchio, Assistant State Fire Marshal
Paul Eichler, Delaware Fire Sprinkler Coalition
Richard Perillo, Brandywine Hundred Fire Company
Mike O'Connor, Dover Fire Department
Ed Hassel, Claymont Fire Company

CALL TO ORDER

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF APRIL 21, 2020 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Truitt and seconded by Commissioner Roberts that the minutes of the April 21, 2020 Commission meeting be approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Personnel Items

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that a tentative offer has been made to a qualified candidate that has completed the interview process for a vacant Deputy Fire Marshal I position.

Administrative Specialist I Lavone Brown has received her Service Award for 20 years of State service. Senior Juvenile Intervention Coordinator Rebekah Legar has received her Service Award for 15 years of State service. Deputy Fire Marshal III Robert G. Brode has received his Award for 15 years of State service. Fire Marshal Ingle stated that they are each an asset for the agency. It was moved by Commissioner Truitt, seconded by Vice Chairman Robinson to congratulate these individuals for their years of service.

COVID-19 – Agency Operations

Agency Operations – All Division offices are still operating with limited staffing in the office. Those employees not scheduled to be in the office are telecommuting. The Department of Health (DPH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) protocols are being followed. Wellness checks including temperature checks are being performed on all employees and any personnel entering the building daily. The Office of the State Fire Marshal will continue to operate in this mode through the month of June and evaluate the situation at that time.

Incidents of Interest

Fire Marshal Ingle reported the following incidents.

April 21, 2020 – Just before 9:30 PM Minquadales Fire Company was dispatched to a structure fire in the area of Aquilla Drive. On arrival firefighters found a garage in the rear of the dwelling heavily involved in fire. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire was accidental caused by a welder's torch that ignited flammable/combustible materials in the garage. Damage was estimated at \$50,000. There were no injuries reported.

April 22, 2020 – Just after 4:30 PM Holloway Terrace Fire Company was dispatched to a structure fire in the 3100 block New Castle Avenue. Upon arrival smoke and fire was showing from the one-story structure. Additional automatic aid companies were dispatched on the initial alarm. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. Fire damage is estimated at \$50,000. There were no injuries reported. Incident is under investigation.

April 23, 2020 – Just before 10:00 PM Rehoboth Beach Vol. Fire Co. was dispatched to a structure fire in the 100 block Dickinson Street, Dewey Beach. On arrival a building under construction was well involved in fire. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation as to the origin and cause of the fire. Fire damage is estimated at \$750,000. The incident is under investigation. There were no reported injuries.

April 25, 2020 – Just before 10:30 AM Wilmington Manor Fire Company was dispatched to a structure fire in the unit block Westbury Drive in the development of Chaddwyck. Upon arrival of the first Engine smoke and fire was showing. Firefighters performed fire suppression, search, rescue operations. Additional companies were dispatched for automatic aid on the initial call.

Incidents of Interest cont.

The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire was accidental and caused by an electrical malfunction. Smoke alarms present in the residence did operate and the occupants responded to the notifications. Fire damage was estimated at \$75,000. No injuries were reported.

April 27, 2020 – Around 12:30 AM Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Co. and automatic aid companies were dispatched to a structure fire in the 400 block Benham Court, Clearview Ridge development. On arrival of the first due Engine heavy fire engulfed the townhouse dwelling. Firefighters performed fire suppression, search, rescue operations. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire was accidental and caused by discarded smoking materials on the rear deck. Fire damage is estimated at \$200,000 including the townhouse of origin and exposure to two additional townhouse dwellings. Battery operated smoke detectors were present in the townhouse of origin, however failed to operate. Smoke detectors were present in the exposure occupancies and activated with the residents responding to the activation in one of the exposures, the other exposure was not occupied at the time of the fire.

April 30, 2020 – Just after 7:00 PM Bridgeville Fire Company was dispatched to a building fire in the unit block of Church Street, Bridgeville. Upon arrival of the first Engine firefighters discovered a maintenance garage at Phillis Wheatley Elementary School involved in fire. Firefighters performed fire suppression operations. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire was incendiary and is currently under investigation. As suspect has been developed through the investigation. Damage is estimated at \$80,000. On May 13, 2020 a 14-year old Juvenile was arrested for this incident. The Juvenile was arraigned with the courts and released to parents pending a Family Court hearing. The Juvenile was charged with Arson 2nd degree, Burglary 3rd degree, Criminal Trespassing 2nd degree and Criminal Mischief.

May 2, 2020 – Just after 3:00 PM Felton Community Fire Co. was dispatched to a mobile home fire in the 1400 block Marshy Hope Road, Felton. Upon arrival the first Engine had smoke showing from the D side bedroom of the mobile home. Firefighters performed fire suppression, search and rescue. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire originated in the bedroom of an unoccupied mobile home causing moderate fire damage at \$25,000. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Incidents of Interest cont.

May 3, 2020 - Just after 2:00 AM Clayton Fire Co. was dispatched to a house fire in the 200 block Heather Drive, Clayton. On arrival firefighters discovered a fire in the kitchen. Firefighters performed fire suppression, search and rescue. One victim was treated and transported to Bayhealth – Kent Campus for smoke inhalation. The victim attempted to put out the fire and rescue a K9. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire was accidental caused by unattended cooking materials that ignited causing minor fire damage to the structure at \$20,000.

May 3, 2020 – Just before 6:00 AM Magnolia Fire Co. was dispatched to the 1200 block Birdie Lane, Magnolia for a smoke condition in the dwelling. On arrival the firefighters encountered a victim with smoke inhalation. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. Medical personnel transported the victim to Bayhealth-Kent Campus. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined that the gas operated stove was put in the self-cleaning mode with storage inside of the stove. There was no fire damage.

May 4, 2020 – Just before 7:00 AM Citizens Hose Company, Smyrna was dispatched to a structure fire in the unit block of Pebble Creek Drive, Smyrna. On arrival of the first Engine smoke was showing on the exterior of the structure. Firefighters performed fire suppression, search and rescue. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. The investigation by the Deputy Fire Marshal revealed the fire was accidental, caused by an electrical failure in an exterior security light that ignited nearby combustibles causing minor fire damage of \$20,000 to the occupied residence. Smoke detectors alerted the occupants of the fire enabling them to exit the residence.

May 9, 2020 – Just before 9:00AM Aetna Hose, Hook & Ladder Fire Co. was dispatched to a house fire in the unit block of Carole Road, Chestnut Hill Estates, Chestnut Hills. On arrival firefighter's found smoke and fire showing from the dwelling. Fire suppression, search, rescue was performed by the firefighters. Additional automatic aid companies were dispatched on the initial alarm to assist with the fire. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. Emergency Medical personnel and New Castle County Paramedics treated and transported one victim to the Christiana Hospital for smoke inhalation. The victim was listed in stable condition. No other injuries were reported. Heavy fire damage is estimated at \$50,000.00. Fire is under investigation.

Incidents of Interest cont.

May 10, 2020 – Just after 4:30 AM Roxana Fire Co. was dispatched to a structure fire in the 34000 block Evans Road, Frankford. Upon arrival of the first Engine firefighters encountered an abandoned dwelling involved in fire. Firefighters began fire suppression operations. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. Fire loss is estimated at \$35,000. The fire is incendiary and is under investigation.

May 11, 2020 - Just after 2:30 AM Frankford Fire Co. was dispatched to a structure fire in the 31000 block Gum Road, Frankford. Upon arrival firefighters found a 2-story vacant dwelling involved in fire. Firefighters performed fire suppression operations. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. Fire damage is estimated at \$60,000. The fire is incendiary and remains under investigation.

May 11, 2020 – Around 3:00 PM Lewes Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire in the unit block of Chesterfield Drive, Lewes. Upon arrival of the first Engine heavy smoke was showing from the upper floors of the dwelling. Firefighters performed fire suppression, search, rescue operations. Additional mutual aid companies were requested to respond to the scene for assistance. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene to determine the origin and cause of the fire. The Deputy Fire Marshals investigation revealed that the fire occurred in the attic space and was caused by an electrical malfunction involving the branch wiring. The fire caused moderate damage to the structure and contents estimated at \$175,000. No injuries were reported.

May 11, 2020 – Just after 7:00 PM Christiana Fire Co. and other automatic aid companies were dispatched to a building fire in the 1200 block N. Barrett Lane, Village of Barrett Run Apartments. Upon arrival firefighter's found heavy fire showing from the second floor and roof area. Firefighter's began fire suppression, search, rescue operations. The Incident Commander requested a second and then third alarm assignment to respond to the fire for assistance. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshals were requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. Three firefighters were transported to Christiana Hospital with minor injuries. 21 of 24 apartments were occupied with 52 residents being displaced. The occupants were provided temporary housing in nearby hotels. The fire caused an estimated \$1,000,000 in damages. The buildings were equipped with a fire alarm and sprinkler system that did activate. The fire extended outside into the roof area. Fire is under investigation.

Incidents of Interest cont.

May 11, 2020 – Just before midnight Laurel Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire in the 16000 block Pepperbox Road, Laurel. On arrival firefighters found an abandoned dwelling involved in fire. Firefighter's performed fire suppression operations. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire to be incendiary and caused an estimated \$25,000 in damages. There were no reported injuries. The incident is under investigation.

May 12, 2020 - Just after midnight Gumboro Volunteer Fire Co. was dispatched to a structure fire in the 36000 block Whaley's Road, Laurel. On arrival fire was showing from a mobile home. Firefighter's performed fire suppression, search, rescue operations. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire was incendiary causing an estimated \$5,000 in damage. Fire is under investigation.

May 12, 2020 – Just prior to 1:00 AM Laurel Fire Department was dispatched to fire in the 1400 block Wooten Road, Laurel. Upon arrival firefighters discovered trash and an old fiberglass boat on fire. Firefighters performed fire suppression operations. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined that this fire was incendiary and remains under investigation. Minimal fire loss.

May 13, 2020 – Just before 3:00 PM Wilmington Manor Fire Co. and automatic aid fire companies were dispatched to a house fire in the 200 block West Roosevelt Avenue, Wilmington Manor. On arrival firefighters found smoke and fire showing from the dwelling with a report of subjects trapped. Firefighters began fire suppression, search, rescue operations. Firefighters found no subjects were trapped in the dwelling. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. Fire damage was estimated at \$50,000 and the incident is under investigation.

May 13, 2020 – Just before 9:00 PM Ellendale Volunteer Fire Co. was dispatched to a fire in the 13000 block South Old State Road, Ellendale. On arrival firefighters found a small flash fire with a burn victim. Emergency Medical Care was provided to the burn victim and the victim was flown to Christiana Hospital by DSP Trooper 2. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the victim was working on a motorcycle and when he tried to start the motorcycle it backfired as the fuel pump pushed the fuel and ignited the fuel. The fuel spread all over the bike and onto the victim causing 2nd degree burns to the body and 3rd degree burns to the hands. Victim reported in stable condition.

Incidents of Interest cont.

May 14, 2020 – Just before 4:30 PM Felton Community Volunteer Fire Co. was dispatched to a structure fire in the 10000 block South DuPont Highway, Delaware Auto Exchange. On arrival firefighters encountered smoke and fire showing from the building. Mutual aid companies were dispatched to the scene for assistance. Firefighters performed fire suppression, search, rescue operations. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene for an investigation. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the fire was accidental caused by a subject burning weeds with a gas torch that ignited flammable/combustible materials extending into the building. Damage was estimated at \$10,000. There were no reported injuries.

May 16, 2020 – Just before 9:00 AM Felton Community Volunteer Fire Co. was dispatched to a fire in the 600 block Cabin Ridge Rd., Felton. On arrival firefighters discovered an injured person from attempting a controlled burn. Firefighters and Medical personnel treated the victim. The on-call Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshal determined the victim sustained 2nd degree burns to the face and right arm while attempting to ignite a pile of natural cover vegetation to conduct a controlled burn. The victim was transported to Crozier in stable condition.

May 17, 2020 – Just before 5:00 AM Talleyville Fire Co. and automatic aid fire companies were dispatched to a building fire in the 1600 block Rockland Rd., A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children. On arrival of the first Engine smoke was reported on the 3rd floor. Firefighters began fire suppression operations and looking for the source of the smoke. The on-duty Deputy Fire Marshal was requested to respond to the scene. The Deputy Fire Marshals investigation revealed an accidental fire occurred on the 3rd floor in an office area. The cause was an unknown electrical malfunction with a LED light mounted underneath of a cabinet causing minor fire and smoke damage to the office area. Two sprinkler heads activated and contained the fire to that area. Damage was estimated at \$25,000.

Insurance Reports

ISO Claims Search will be going to an electronic format on their reporting by the end of the year. State Fire Marshal Ingle and Assistant Fire Marshal Chionchio has been granted permission through NICB to access this information.

Financials

At this time the agency is in good financial shape the plan review fees exceed what was collected in the last fiscal year and will still have two months to go. At this time we are not sure about what the future will bring. Will be monitoring closely.

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NFPA Sprinkler Week

A graphic with a link to the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition website has place on our website for the week of May 17-23, 2020 to access the videos and messages regarding home fire sprinklers.

FEMA/NFIRS

Received a notification from FEMA regarding the current NFIRS database being decommissioned in October 2020. This will effect our office and the Fire Companies that utilize the free federal tool. A new e-NFIRS will be available at that time. A program managers meeting is being scheduled for next week. At the end of that meeting we will have more information and will have a better idea of what to expect. Once we have a path forward our office will work with those Fire Companies affected to get them on board.

DEMA & DPH Ride By

The Office of the State Fire Marshal participated in the ride by with our Evidence Unit on May 1, 2020.

DFIRS Incidents Received

TOTAL STATE PARTICIPATION IN COMPLIANCE
77 %

DELINQUENT DEPARTMENTS

New Castle County	
Five Points	March
Minquadale	November – December (2019) January – March
Townsend	March
Belvedere	February - March
Kent County	
Cheswold	September – December (2019) January - March
Dover	March
Houston	August – December (2019) January – March
Little Creek	December (2019) January – March
Magnolia	January - March
South Bowers	March
Sussex County	
Greenwood	March
Gumboro	March
Memorial	January – March
Roxana	March – May, October – December (2019) January - March

OVERDUE REPORTS BY DAYS

30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	90+ Days
6	1	2	5

Source: DFIRS Incidents received as of 5/5/20.

REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Director

- Programs – Classes canceled through June
- FY20 – Budget shortfall in the energy costs (20k) – not unexpected, covered from supply funds
 - OMB sweep of 36.7 from Supply line
- Phase 1 will provide opportunity to complete EMT classes and EMT-Refreshers after June 1st.
- Phase 2 will impact class offerings (limit 50 persons) – require direction on spacing requirements
 - Schools listed as being able to re-open – unknown at this time the requirements.

Director cont.

- Staff reviewing fall schedule for revising and possible canceling of certain classes/programs.
- Camp Fury (*Girls weekend camp*) scheduled for August has been canceled for this year.

Staff Activities

- IFSTA Manual Committee - Fire & Emergency Services Orientation and Terminology, 7th – Senior Instructor Miller
- AFG reviewers – Senior Instructor’s Lowe and Miller (*now completed*)
- DEMA & Public Health ride by – Fire Service – 05-01-20 – DSFS Eng. – Senior Instructor Dempsey
- Submitting environment/historical evaluation for building modifications - washer/dryer NCD – Senior Instructor Dempsey
- UL Fire Behavior Training – online training – Senior Instructor Dempsey (*future make content available to students*)
- Fire Investigation: First Responders offered by National Fire Academy – Senior Instructor Miller
- Press Release pertaining to National Home Fire Sprinkler Week – Senior Instructor Lowe
- DVFA – AFG Grant submittal – Senior Instructor Dempsey

Programs/Courses

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

Programs/Courses

- Additions – Revisions
 - Pearson VUE – approval for proctors – Miller and Gillespie
 - SOP for cleaning/disinfecting of SCBA after training – Ingram
 - DSFS SCBAs will not be available for 150-250 In-service classes (evenings)
 - PPE Inventory program – Instructor PPE uploaded to program – Senior Instructor Baker
 - Alternative Energy Program – updated lesson plan and power point – Senior Instructor Baker

EMS

- Current Month
 - EMT Refresher – to schedule class(s) in June with the Phase 1 opening (10 persons)
 - EMT Division programs – volunteer practice sessions May and Practical Testing, June 1st.
 - Groups of 9 students, 1 Instructor – schedule developed by Program Manager Fox.
 - EMT Accelerated July class – status is currently undetermined

Maintenance – Building and Grounds

- Routine operations

Financial

- Past Due Billings
 - 30 days – 4,160.00
 - 60 days – 1,040.00
 - 90 days – 250.00
 - 180 days - 2,500.00
- 20678 Tuition Fund – 838,858.00
 - Accounts receivable –7,439.00
- Revenue Comparison
 - Tuition – 2020 – 27,125.00, 2019 – 64,537.00
- 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.

Staff and Office Staff Meeting Minutes

Staff and office staff meeting minutes were submitted for Commission review. Sharon Barr received a Service Award for 10 years of State service. It was moved by Commissioner Truitt, seconded by Commissioner Leonetti to recognize Sharon Barr for her years of service. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Scheduled Activities

Director Newnam will be taking annual leave on May 22nd and May 29th.

REPORT OF THE BLS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dr. Matthews reported that the flu has subsided as the COVID virus entered Delaware.

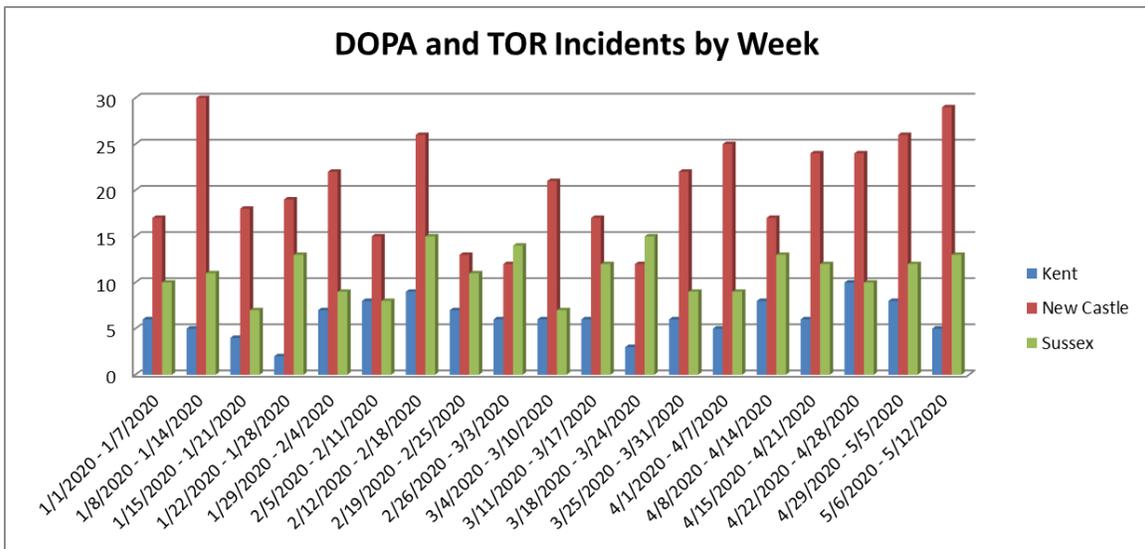
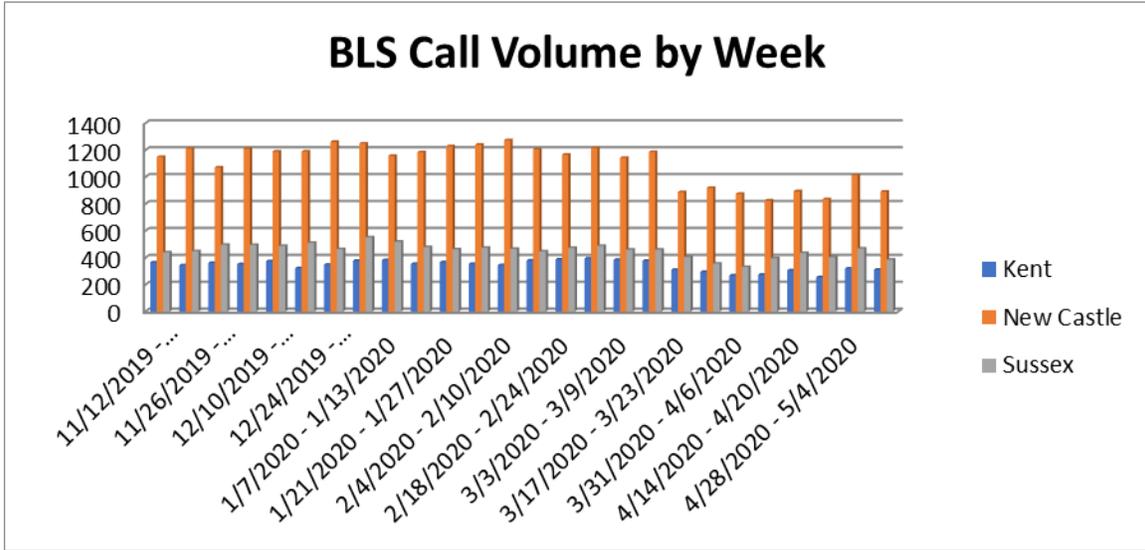
The planned BLS and ALS Protocol committee meetings have been suspended due to the State of Emergency. The BLS Committee has completed their review of the Protocols. The Medical Director review was scheduled to begin April 1, 2020 and being postponed until further notice. If there was an emergent COVID-19 related need to change or amend the Standing Orders, that would be an exception. Once the meeting requirements are relaxed, the Medical Director portion of the review will begin. Dr. Matthews thanked the BLS Committee members that have met numerous times and have come up with great ideas for the Medical Directors to review.

Dr. Matthews reported that the COVID-19 EMS response is starting with dispatch. Statewide the dispatch centers are reporting that things are running smoothly with lower volumes of calls. They are screening callers and alerting providers as needed. Overall response times are good.

Referring to EMS response, Dr. Matthews stated that he continues to stress the importance of properly using PPE to minimize exposure to EMS. It's also important to document all the incidents in order to follow up with providers that were possibly exposed. Any patient that is suspected of or confirmed to have COVID-19, EMS should continue to goal to limit any sort of airilization. Dr. Mathews sent out guidance in April for EMS to follow to help limit airilization of the virus. It is also very important for EMTs to follow a strict guideline of appropriately putting on and removing their PPE in order to limit exposure to others.

With regards to the numbers of patients. Delaware has not had a need for an alternative site or non-transport policies. So far, the numbers have remained manageable. Overall, EMS numbers have remained manageable. Dr. Matthews reviewed the charts below. Since the Commission's last meeting, the COVID numbers have doubled in New Castle County, Kent County has roughly tripled, and Sussex County has almost quadrupled. The hospitalized patients have slightly dropped, ICU treatment is down from 64 to 39 currently. Neither of these graphs are out of range of what would be considered statistically a significant change. These are all consistent with average cardiac arrest data as well as termination of resuscitative efforts. This is good, but it will be interesting to see how overall volumes evolve. The big question is when will we return to normal, where we were before the pandemic emergency.

REPORT OF THE BLS MEDICAL DIRECTOR cont.



REPORT OF THE BLS MEDICAL DIRECTOR cont.

Dr. Matthews stated that it's most important that all EMS Personnel continue to properly use their PPE and monitor supplies. He feels the key to moving forward is keeping open lines of communication the Commission, OEMS, and himself. Anyway that we can support one another will be the key moving forward.

Diane Hainsworth gave the Commission an update on the First Responder testing sites. She stated that hospital numbers are beginning to return to normal, however one of the things being seen is not so much the critically ill COVID patients, but critically ill patients. There is reason to believe that some people are not seeking their normal health care for their current chronic health conditions during the COVID emergency. They are presenting to EMS and to the hospitals sicker than they normally would be. This is referring predominantly to cardiac, stroke, COPD and CHF patients. Although there is a decrease in ICU volumes for COVID patients, they are seeing a significant in overall ICU volumes.

Out of the Healthcare Services branch of the State Healthcare Operations Center to date has processed over 1,500 requests for PPE from the healthcare system as a whole. They still have PPE available with the current minimum standard being a surgical mask, eye protection (preferably a face shield) and gloves for every patient. Not just the suspected COVID patients. You can't tell anymore because of how widespread that it is if someone is infected with the COVID virus. As of May 10th the EMS office has done 1,025 risk and exposure assessments regarding EMS and Law Enforcement. Most of these have been low risk because everyone caught on quickly to wearing the appropriate PPE.

First Responder Testing sites have been distributed by Sherry Lambertson, Fire Prevention Commission and Director AJ Schall of DEMA. Drive up testing has been scheduled in Harrington for May 20th. Over 50 Sussex County Paramedics have been trained to perform the swabs. Sussex County will be scheduled for testing and New Castle County has reported that they are being taken care of. Ms. Hainsworth stated additional testing sites will be set up as necessary. They will predominantly run on Wednesdays. It is there intent to not turn anyone away.

Chairman Marvel thanked Diane Hainsworth and Dr. Matthews for their availability and help during this crisis. They have made themselves available whenever we've had a question. They've responded and done a good job for the Commission.

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATOR/COMPLIANCE OFFICER

- 0 Annual Ambulance Unit Inspections
- 0 New Unit Inspections
- 3 Complaints Received
- 0 Arrest Notifications were received.

Ms. Lambertson has paused the annual ambulance inspections until it is determined it is safe to do so. We will keep discussions ongoing and anticipate them to begin again shortly. All private and volunteer companies have access to the Commission for requests such as adding, replacing or removing ambulance units. Our office continues to fully function except for the annual inspections.

BLS Transports are functioning well in Delaware. The Commission was made aware of a transport concern in Sussex County regarding 9-1-1 were being called at a high rate to transport interfacility calls. Ms. Lambertson reached out to Beebe Hospital to get a better understanding of it being a county wide or local concern. Through some investigation by Ms. Lambertson and Investigator Truax it was determined that it was from a single private company losing a contract. Because they lost that contract, they closed one of two business locations without informing anyone. The Commission was able to address this concern and provide the needed information to assist transports to begin running smoothly once again. A secondary concern was uncovered that has impacted many industries across the United States. This private provider furloughed some of their employees because they lost a contract. When the EMT was offered their job back, they no longer wanted it because they were making more money collecting unemployment and the \$600 essential benefit. This created an employee shortage for some. This is the only major transport concern that has been brought to the Commission's attention to date during this crisis.

Ms. Lambertson worked with East Coast Ambulance and LogistiCare to get additional out of state EMTs certified through the Healthcare Crisis policy during the current healthcare emergency.

Mr. Truax requested to close Cases 1920, 2002 and 2003. It was moved by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Truitt to close Cases 1920, 2002 and 2003. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Truitt -	Yes
Commissioner Roberts -	Yes
Commissioner Kelly -	Yes
Commissioner Leonetti -	Yes
Commissioner Betts -	Yes
Vice Chairman Robinson -	Yes
Chairman Marvel -	Yes

REGULAR BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS

Case No. 1922 – Consent Agreement

Consent agreement for Case 1922 was presented to the Commission. It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Leonetti to accept the Consent Agreement for Case 1922. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Truitt -	Yes
Commissioner Roberts -	Yes
Commissioner Kelly -	Yes
Commissioner Leonetti -	Yes
Commissioner Betts -	Yes
Vice Chairman Robinson -	Yes
Chairman Marvel -	Yes

NFPA Home Fire Sprinkler Wee Resolution

It was moved by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Roberts to accept the NFPA Home Fire Sprinkler Week Resolution and read it into the minutes. A copy will be presented to the Organizations mentioned in the document, Commissioners, and the Governor. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Truitt -	Yes
Commissioner Roberts -	Yes
Commissioner Kelly -	Yes
Commissioner Leonetti -	Yes
Commissioner Betts -	Yes
Vice Chairman Robinson -	Yes
Chairman Marvel -	Yes



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The National Fire Prevention Association Home Fire Sprinkler Week is celebrated this year during the week of May 17, 2020.

WHEREAS, 80% of America's fire deaths occur in the home. A place where the public feels most safe and protected.

WHEREAS, The State Fire Prevention Commission, recognizes that home fire sprinklers automatically activate early during fire development resulting in the quick control of the fire and associated gases thus allowing occupants to leave before being overwhelmed by smoke and heat.

WHEREAS, these systems provide for the life safety, health and welfare of our citizens and firefighters along with enhanced property conservation.

WHEREAS, Fire sprinkler systems reduce the environmental impact to the atmosphere and water by reducing the quantities of smoke gases and water runoff from the fire and help minimize the response of multiple fire companies along with reducing the staffing requirements.

WHEREAS, The National Fire Protection Association along with the Delaware Volunteer Firefighters Association Sprinkler Committee, Delaware Fire Sprinkler Coalition, Delaware State Fire Marshal Office and the Delaware State Fire School work year round to promote and educate the public and firefighters regarding this most important life safety tool. **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT RESOLVED, The Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission wishes to commend and extend sincere appreciation to the National Fire Prevention Association, the Delaware Volunteer Firefighters Sprinkler Committee, Delaware Fire Sprinkler Coalition, Delaware State Fire Marshal Office and the Delaware State Fire School for their efforts with promoting and educating the citizens and firefighters of Delaware with the value of home fire sprinkler use. There can be no doubt that these systems save lives of our citizens, firefighters and visitors to our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be signed by each Commissioner in acknowledgement and appreciation to these organizations during the occasion of the Home Fire Sprinkler Week celebration and that a copy of this resolution be presented to each organization and that this resolution be made a permanent part of the records of the Delaware Fire Prevention Commission.

Ron Marvel, Chairman

David J. Roberts

Alan Robinson, Jr., Vice Chairman

Lynn Truitt

William Kelly

Joseph J. Leonetti, Sr.

W. (Bill) Betts, Jr.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chairman Robinson stated that he wanted to recognize his daughter's birthday (Kimberly O'Malley) that is a Senior Instructor at the Delaware State Fire School.

GENERAL INFORMATION

DVFA Grant Submission

Jay Jones, DVFA President addressed the Commission. He wanted to express his gratitude for the assistance the DVFA received to complete and submit the Regional Grant for the DVFA. Tucker Dempsey of the DSFS and Secretary Warren Jones worked tirelessly on this project. President Jones thanked Director Newnam and Senior Instructor Dempsey for the involvement of the Delaware State Fire School in this project. It could have not been done without them.

Delaware Burn Camp

Commissioner Truitt asked if the Delaware Burn Camp was cancelled this year. Warren Jones stated that he was told it was cancelled.

Chairman Marvel Comments

The last three months have been very trying for the Fire Commission, Fire Marshal's Office and the Delaware State Fire School. They have responded as expected. It's been extremely difficult to adapt to virtual meetings and many other challenges. Each of these people have stepped up to the plate and altered what they do and how they do it. They've kept their employees involved and everyone has been available. The amount of information and online meetings has been tremendous. Dr. Matthews is another person that has been there, and we thank him. He doesn't know if everyone is aware of how much time all of this takes above the norm. He asked that it become part of the record that the Commission recognized all of these individuals stepping up when needed and they are all appreciated. It is hopeful that the Commission will meet in public in June.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Home Fire Sprinkler Resolution Thank you

Commissioner Kelly thanked Paul Eichler, Fire Marshal Ingle, and Director Newnam for all their work involved in the Home Fire Sprinkler Resolution and even more than that, all the hard work that they regularly do supporting life safety in Delaware. Fire Marshal Ingle's staff does a great job collecting data and maintaining reports. This is one of the only ways to continue getting people's attention by making it a highlight of our conversations.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS

No reports due to COVID-19 emergency.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

June 16, 2020 – 9:00 AM
Commission Chamber
Delaware Fire Service Center
1463 Chestnut Grove Road
Dover, DE 19904

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry R. Lambertson

Sherry R. Lambertson
Executive Assistant

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