

VIRGINIA FIRE SERVICES BOARD
February 26, 2010

A regular meeting of the Virginia Fire Services Board was held at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia Beach, VA at 9:00 am. Mr. Michael Reilly served as Chair.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Reilly – Full VFSB Chair – Virginia Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

Richard E. Burch Jr. – Committee Chair – Virginia Fire Services Council

Kenneth J. Brown - Vice Chair & Burn Building Subcommittee Chair – Virginia State Firefighter’s Association

Ed Altizer – Virginia State Fire Marshal

Bill Kyger – Association of Counties

Joe Wilson – Industry (SARA Title III & OSHA)

Elaine Gall – Virginia Fire Prevention Association

Ken Jones – Virginia Fire Chiefs Association

Mike Armstrong – VA Chapter of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Tom Moffett – Virginia Professional Firefighters Association

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Carl Garrison – Virginia State Forester

Felix Sarfo-Kantanka, Jr. – General Public

Robert Scott – Insurance Industry Representative

Kaye Brown – Virginia Municipal League

Vacant – Virginia Board of Housing & Community Development

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT

Billy Shelton

Dave Jolly

Christine Lopilato

Brook Pittinger

GUESTS PRESENT

Kurt Kight

Gary Brown – OEMS

Ed Rhodes

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chair asked if there were any additions and/or corrections to the minutes from the December 2009 meeting. With no changes to the minutes the December 4, 2009 meeting minutes were approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

CHANGES IN THE AGENDA

Unfinished Business:

- A. Update on Fire & EMS Studies
 1. County of Louisa

New Business:

- A. Virginia Public Safety Foundation – Overview by Hadden Culp
- B. Committee Assignments
- C. Position Letter from the VFSB
- D. Future Meeting Events

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Flippo introduced Tim Welsh who is the new Fire Chief in Fredrick County.

Dennis Mitchell and Thomas Fuqua, previous VFSB Chairs, were recognized by the Board.

COMMENTS FROM THE VDFP LIAISON VDFP Executive Director

The following report was provided by Billy Shelton:

- ATL for FY 09 is 99.3% disbursed with 4 months to go. Four (4) jurisdictions pending forfeiture.
- ATL for FY 10 is 79.4% disbursed
- New 90/10% distribution formula for FY 11 ATL
- Pro-Board Registrations for last quarter were 2,315
- VFIRS Report through 12-31-2009 (Much improvement since 2008)
 - Total Incidents - **623,365**
 - Fires - **25,508** (4.1%);
 - EMS - **410,428** (65.8%)
 - Total Fire Dollar Loss - **\$270,252,295** (\$270 Million)
 - Residential structure fires account for \$165M.
 - Civilian Fire-Related Casualties - **446** (Injuries = 379, Deaths = 67)
 - Fire Service Casualties (All Incident Types) = **326** (Injuries =- 324, Deaths = 2)
 - The Top Three Residential Structure Fire Causes were Heating (15.5%), **Cooking (33.2%)**, and Unknown (29.1%).
- Two mobile fire trainers have been awarded and delivery is expected in six (6) months on the first unit in September and the second one in October. A third unit is in the procurement process.

- Three more new fire training facilities are expected in the near future (Fauquier, Montgomery, and Franklin). Shenandoah is the only renovation project pending.
- The new Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighter simulator purchased through the Department of Aviation with Federal Stimulus Funds is progressing very well. Delivery is anticipated in August 2010.
- New programs have been added to the Knowledge Center including the Adjunct in- Service, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Firefighter I & II T-T-T plus many more opportunities.
- FY 11 Budget will be a challenge for all state agencies; VGA is in session now.
- 86% OF Virginia's Fire Departments reported under the Needs Assessment for 2009 that closed on 11-16-09. Copies were provided to the VGA on the first day of the session. Copies of the report are available on the web site; no hard copies will be provided due to printing restrictions. The projected need for Virginia's Fire and Emergency Services is \$604 million.
- VDFP has been very active in the VEOC staffing the ESF-4 and ESF-7 positions.
- Marla Decker is the new SPS and John Buckovich is the DSPS; both have pledged to continue to work with the VFSB, VDFP, and the Fire & Emergency Service Community to enhance Public Safety.
- Governor's Awards: We need to do a better job marketing the awards. Thanks to VFSB Chairman Reilly for some last minute action when the Governor expressed concern on two of the eight with no nominees.
- Training and Operations Branch and Training and Technical Services Branch have reported **NO** backlog in certificate issuance. Our goal is to have all certificates in and out the door in < 10days.
- All of Firefighter I has been modularized. The program has four (4) components to accommodate the needs of the Fire Service.

COMMENTS FROM THE VFSB CHAIR

Mike Reilly encouraged the Board members to continually be engaged in the codes and standards process. Mike encouraged the Board members to attend the joint VFSB and BHCD Code development meetings so that we can continue as an equal partner in the code development process.

Mike also reminded all Board members that the Governor's Fire Service Awards will be presented on Saturday, February 27th at 8 am.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON FIRE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The following topics were discussed at the Fire Education & Training committee meeting.

- **Status of the Mobile Burn Building procurement process:**
Christine Lopilato, VDFP, stated that the IFB closed on 1/27/10 and there were two (2) bidders: Kidde and Fireblast.
 - From a pricing perspective, Kidde's price is a bit better than the previous bid - \$560,500 for the fire trainer and \$7,315 for the technical support service agreement. Fireblast 451's price is \$394,937 for the fire trainer, with technical support service agreement for the first year included in the bid price.
 - Both bidders had deviations. The Agency has completed its review of the two bids and DPS is still completing its evaluation.
 - Kidde's bid deviations are the same as last time, and are deemed acceptable in meeting our minimum specifications; however, Kidde did not offer the \$23,000 discount previously offered.
 - Fireblast has several deviations from the specifications that cause concern for safety and operations. Our concerns have been reported to DPS; DPS has advised that it will complete its evaluation by Monday, 2/18.
 - DFP is waiting for final response from DPS, which should occur the week of 2/22/10.

- **5 Year Training Plan Update:**
 - On Wednesday, November 5, 2009 members of the VFSB and the Agency held a workgroup to begin the development of the Board's 5 Year Training Plan. At the conclusion of the meeting, the notes from the workgroup were sent to the committee members and the Agency for their review and comments.
 - It was requested that the notes from the November 5th meeting be sent to each Board member for distribution to their respective organizations. Ken Jones was the POC to receive comments.
 - The next 5 Year Training Plan meeting is schedule for Friday, February 26, 2010 at 2 pm in Room 4B of the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

- A review of the **VDFP Quality Assurance Program & Medal of Valor Board Overview** was also provided to the committee.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The following topics were discussed at the Fire Prevention and Control committee:

- A review of the **Codes & Standards Subcommittee** actions were provided to the Committee.

- The next **Codes & Standards Subcommittee** meeting is schedule for Thursday, March 4, 2010 beginning at 10 am at the VDFP Headquarters office in Glen Allen.
- A review of the **2010 Virginia General Assembly bills** was provided by VDFP.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION, POLICY & FINANCE

The following topics were discussed at the Administration, Policy & Finance committee meeting.

Topic: ICC Hearings

Motion: [To] Approve funds to send one FSB member to attend the ICC hearings in Dallas, TX.

Discussion:

Mike Reilly requested that the Agency seek approval for at least one Board member to attend the ICC hearings in Dallas, Texas.

It was noted that a current change in the ICC requirements only allows voting members to vote if their trip is paid for by the organization in which they represent. If a voting individual is on the trip at the expense of an organization that the individual is not a member of, they will not be allowed to vote.

Ed Altizer stated that he has contacted the ICC to determine if the new ruling regarding trip sponsorship will apply to the VFSB since they are a Governor appointed Board within Virginia.

Vote: Unanimous

Action: Carried

Topic: Burn Building Policy Revision

Motion: Concurrent with the submission of the valid building permit, the grant recipient will also provide VDFP with two (2) original copies and one (1) CD Rom version of the construction building drawings, including specifications.

Discussion:

There was no discussion on this motion.

This motion is a house keeping item.

Vote: Unanimous

Action: Carried

The next Burn Building Subcommittee meeting is schedule for Wednesday, March 3, 2010 beginning at 10 am at the VDFP Headquarters office in Glen Allen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Topic: Update on Fire & EMS Studies

Motion: NA

Discussion: NA

Board Studies Update:

- Louisa County – The committee conducted its site visit January 27th to 29th. The committee will be meeting, via phone conference, on 3/2 to review the site notes and once the notes are finalized a summary will be sent to each Board member. The committee was able to gather valuable information during the site visit and we are striving to have the study finalized by April 2010.
- Based on comments at the Administration, Policy & Finance Committee meeting the Agency will develop an after study questionnaire that will be sent to each locality approximately one year after the completion of their Board study. The after action questionnaire will solicit constructive feedback to allow the Board to continue to develop and tailor the usefulness and successfulness of the Fire & EMS Studies.

Vote: NA

Action: NA

NEW BUSINESS

Topic: Virginia Public Safety Foundation – Overview by Hadden Culp

Motion: NA

Discussion: NA

Hadden Culp & Polly Hansen provided the Board with an overview of the Virginia Public Safety Foundation. Enclosure 1

For additional information on the foundation, please visit their website:
<http://www.vpsf.us/index-2.html>.

The VPSF also handles the Medal of Valor awards for the state. The members of the Board were encouraged to solicit nominations for the Medal of Valor awards.

Vote: NA

Action: NA

Topic: Committee Assignments

Motion: NA

Discussion:

Mike Reilly has made the following committee reassignments.

Mike Armstrong has been appointed as the Training & Education Committee Chair.

Vote: NA

Action: NA

Topic: Position Letter from the VFBS

Motion: NA

Discussion:

The Board has written a letter requesting the BHCD remove the SFMO fee setting program structure to remove it from the code development cycle and realign it with the budget development cycle. The VFBS has endorsed the letter, which will be sent to DHCD by the Agency.

A copy of the letter will be sent to each Board member.

Vote: NA

Action: NA

Topic: Future Meeting Events

Motion: NA

Discussion:

Rick Burch queried the Board to see if the members would be interested in a seafood cook out during the April Board meeting. The cookout would be after the Board meetings in April and no official business will be conducted during the after hours cookout.

Vote: NA

Action: NA

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 10:32 am

Clerk of the Committee
Brook M. Pittinger

REVIEWED BY:



W. G. Shelton, Jr.
Executive Director

February 26, 2010

Date

Enclosures:

1. Virginia Public Safety Foundation Information