

Oxford Volunteer Fire Company
Trappe Volunteer Fire Company
St Michaels Volunteer Fire Department

Talbot County Volunteer Fire & Rescue
Association

Cordova Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.
Easton Volunteer Fire Company
Tilghman Volunteer Fire Company
Queen Anne-Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Company



605 Port Street Easton, MD 21601

January 8, 2020

The executive meeting was opened by President Phil Starkey at 1900 hours.

Roll call of Officers: All present

Roll call of Companies: Station 20 present, 30 present, 40 present, 50 present, 60 present, 70 present, 80 present.

Pledge to the flag.

Secretary Dawn Lange read the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion by Station 40 and seconded by Station 80 to approve the minutes - approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

R&R	\$36,152.00
Career Tech	\$ 5,000.00
Foam	\$ 5,000.00
Training	\$21,000.00
Admin	\$ 1,500.00

Checking:	\$ 9,903.63
CD	\$14,767.17
R&R Checking	\$ 272.45

Dan Tarrant stated the R&R checking account has been below the minimum amount for the majority of 2019 and therefore the bank has been charging us a fee each month for being below the minimum. Dan recommended closing the R&R checking account and transferring the funds to the Association checking account. Dan Mautz, St. Michaels motioned to dispose of the R&R checking account and transfer the funds in the Association account, Tim Boyle, Oxford seconded. 20-y, 30-y, 40-y, 50-y, 60-y, 70-y, 80-y. Motion passed.

Angela Lane, County Finance Director, contacted Dan Tarrant to let him know that we did not file our 990 last year. Additionally, the bank contacted him and told him our nonprofit is listed as "not in good standing" with the State. We have not updated our information; our last designated person on file is Gary Ball. Corey Pack suggested we get a tax attorney to look at our 990, which is for our non-profit tax status. He suggested that Angela could give us someone to talk to.

COMMUNICATION

None.

COMMITTEES

Chief Committee – Sonny Jones, Chief of Easton, encourage more members to register for the fire class being held at Winterfest this year. Talbot County has paid for 25 people to attend. A couple classes in jeopardy of not taking place if they don't get more registrants: EMT class in Oxford and Firefighter II class in St Michaels. Round 2 of Got Big Water will be in St Michaels in April. Chiefs have gotten along and worked better toward common goals. Next meeting is Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at Talbot Center.

Talbot County Council – Corey Pack, County Council President, congratulated officers. Said anything the County Council can do to please let them know.

Talbot Center – Clay Stamp, Director, congratulated officers. Working to get Active 911 rolled out to all the fire companies. Going to be spending a lot of energy moving towards Next Generation 911 in the next several years, that's moving from old circuit switch telephone technology to internet base which will allow more features for 911. They were able to coordinate with all Counties on the Shore; Nine Counties are collaborating to develop an RFP. Clay spoke of the street lights in Tilghman Island that the fire company used to pay for and then would collect funds to help cover the cost for them; however that is no longer able to happen. Delmarva Power was going to cut off all lights. After a request came to the County Council, they agreed to pay for the street lights and it is included in Talbot Center's budget viewing it as a public safety. Delmarva Power is converting their lights to LED and is requesting to change all the lights on the main road and two of the lights at the Marina.

Memorial Committee – Phil Starkey stated they will try to have a meeting before the next Association meeting.

R&R – Danielle Hayes, Committee Chair, stated that they are looking for a representative from each company to serve on the committee. The next meeting will be the 1st Wednesday in February at 7 pm; she will contact Danielle Diefenderfer about using the meeting room at Talbot Center. The trailer purchased last year will be done this year. The committee has talked to Mr. Redman at the Board of Ed about having a contest amongst the two high schools to design the graphic arts for the trailer. In November Danielle asked for each company to submit the top three for trainings whether it is fire or EMS and so far she's only received Oxford and Cordova. She has sent another email to the chief's and would like for you to take back to your company, the recipients will receive a certificate and gift card. Also remind your company if a member completes a MFRI class of 20 hours or to submit the paperwork for them to receive a gift card.

OLD BUSINESS

Property Tax Referendum – Corey stated that they would like a representative from our association to attend meetings, Phil volunteered. Corey stated the group has met three times already. The committee must have a draft back to the County Council by June, must be to Annapolis by August. Next meeting is January 16th at 4:00 pm at Bay St.

NEW BUSINESS

Documentation – Dan Tarrant recommends purchasing a program like Quicken to better track the finances for the Association. Dan Mautz, St Michaels, motioned to purchase Quicken or a program like that with a cost not to exceed \$100/year, Corky Starkey, Queen Anne-Hillsboro seconded. 20-y, 30-y, 40-y, 50-y, 60-y, 70-y, 80-y. Motion passed.

Committee appointments – Phil stated he would like to have a By Laws Committee, he'd like to have a least five people to serve on the committee and asked if anyone would be interested. Bill Keswick said Sean Gilligan, Easton would serve; Dawn Lange, Queen Anne-Hillsboro said she would. Phil asked the delegates to take back to their companies.

Financial Review – Randy said it was his understanding that there was to be a financial review committee. Phil said he didn't put it on the agenda due to the fact that the Treasurer has gone over all the books, has been to the bank and the officers have met with the Finance Director and as far as we can tell all the funds have been accounted for. Phil asked what the feelings of the association were. Randy, Cordova, said that the association officers should be the committee.

LOSAP – Phil pointed out that the Talbot County LOSAP points system is different than the State points system. Additionally it was brought to his attention that we need to define what a member is, so we make sure all the right people are getting covered This is specifically regarding the Auxiliaries. Are all Auxiliaries fire company members or are they a separate organization under the company's umbrella. Would like for the delegates to take back to their companies and if each of those companies that have auxiliaries could respond to him by email letting him know how they're set up. pdstarkey@atlanticbb.net

Hall of Fame – Phil said that he would like to get the feelings of the companies about in addition to getting a certificate when inducted into the Hall of Fame; he would like to see a badge or ribbon of some sort to be worn on the uniform. There was some discussion and Phil will look into it some more.

Budget meeting – there should have been a budget meeting in December and there wasn't. Phil has scheduled a mandatory budget meeting for January 22nd at 1900 at Easton firehouse. Please let your company President and Treasurer know they need to be present.

August meeting – There was discussion regarding the August meeting, Dan Mautz had stated that it was changed in the By Laws to no longer hold a meeting in August. Dawn Lange said she does not have the minutes showing where that was changed and the copy of the By Laws she has does not say that. Bill said that he does know it was voted on, Randy suggested the By Laws committee can look into that. Dawn will re-do the meeting schedule to say there is no meeting in August.

Corey Pack asked if the Burn fund that was allocated to us was still being used. Sonny Jones stated that was a fund that was allocated per company to prep a building to be burned. The Chief's recommended and the association approved to put those funds all into one allocation for a company to use. Corey said the fund was set up about 5-7 years ago and it was \$10,000 per company for a total of \$70,000. The Council relied on the association to tell them how much it would cost which is how they came up with the \$10,000 per company. If we're using the fund that's great, but if it's not enough we need to present that to them or if we feel the funds can be better used somewhere else let them know that as well. This can be done in during our budget processt. Treasurer asked where those funds are held and Corey stated that they are held by the County Finance Department, Angela would handle that.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 20- Breakfast this Sunday, 1/12/2020.
- 30- Soup 1/13/2020; Banquet 1/18/2020; still doing Sportsman's Raffle for month of May.
- 40- Banquet 2/22/2020.
- 50- Banquet 1/11/2020; Spaghetti Dinner to benefit Easter Shore Fireman's Association 1/24/2020; Sweetheart Brunch 2/9/2020.
- 60- Banquet 2/1/2020.
- 70- Banquet 3/7/2020.
- 80- Crafter's Bingo 1/12/2020; Banquet 2/8/2020.

There being no further business Dan Mautz motioned to adjourn, Randy Satchell seconded.

The next meeting will be a regular meeting in Cordova on 2/12/2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Lange

Dawn Lange
Secretary, TCVFRA