



605 Port Street Easton, MD 21601

November 11, 2020

The regular meeting was called to order by President Phil Starkey at 1900 hours at Easton Volunteer Fire Company.

Roll call of Officers: President present, Vice President was present, Treasurer absent, Secretary was present, Chief's Committee was absent, R&R Committee was present, and DES was present

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

President Starkey asked for the minutes of the previous meeting to be read. Dan Mautz, Station 40, motioned to waive the reading of the minutes as everyone received them via email prior to meeting, Debby Sweet, Station 70 seconded members voted motion approved.

## **SPECIAL GUESTS**

### ***Emergency Services – Clay Stamp***

- Longevity program – County Council approved use 2019 as a base for Longevity program when submitting required information for active year certification for 2020. Whatever list you provide will be certified. As a point of clarification this (Longevity program) has nothing to do with the State Tax Incentive points.
- With the companies struggling this year because not able to derive revenue and that has an impact. Working with the County Finance Director to recognize the fire companies as businesses and make sure they have criteria to be able to provide grants to fire companies. They will have to demonstrate if they are having difficulty paying a utility bill or your payment on a fire truck (these are just examples). President Starkey and Clay will meet with Angela, the Finance Director.
- Working with Tim and Dan for the Hall of Fame Ceremony. Will be having a rehearsal on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Tax Incentive – Ken Busch***

- There was a question from the State Association about how the County's are looking at their Tax Incentives. Ken had a question as to how Talbot County was going to handle it. He was given a copy of the minutes from the Presidents meeting where this was discussed. Talbot County's plan is to look at how many points were earned in 2018 and 2019 in the same timeframe as the pandemic in this year. Average the points for each category and then give those number of points for this year in the same categories. Then each company's Board of Directors make the final decision on a case by case basis to award said points.
- They will be looking for the list in February for the members that qualify.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

R&R	\$40,000.00
Career Tech	\$ 5,000.00
Foam	\$ 5,000.00
Training	\$20,000.00
Admin	\$ 1,500.00
Checking:	\$10,631.84
CD	\$15,028.58

## **COMMITTEES**

### ***Chief Committee – Sonny Jones***

- Sonny was working tonight and so unable to be present he did however pass along an invoice for the Got Big Water Drill to be paid. The total bill is \$1,025.
- President Starkey said he was made aware that Grauls Market and Chesapeake Landing provided food for those in attendance of the drill at no charge. The Association will send them both a letter of thanks.

### ***R&R – Danielle Hayes***

- Nothing to report.

### ***Hall of Fame – Tim Boyle, Station 20***

- Two members being inducted this year, one from Station 20 and one from Station 40. They will be staggering times starting at 6:00 p.m. Tim will contact the families of those being inducted and let them know.
- Will be doing a rehearsal of the event next week.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Tax Referendum passed; it was a strong statement from the public. This will allow the Council to continue to supply funding to public safety which includes the fire companies.
- President Starkey asked Clay if Danielle Diefenderfer has received all the 2019 LOSAP reports yet, Clay stated as of last week she has not. TCVFRA will reach out to Danielle and send a reminder to the companies.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Station 70 was discussing how to handle their banquet and the company requested that their Delegate ask at the association meeting how other companies were going to handle this. Below are ways that companies are looking to do their banquet in 2021.
  - Hold their banquet but it will be members only.
  - Postpone the banquet till a later time.
  - Cancel banquet and just have someone from the State present at a meeting in January to swear in new officers.
- Vice President Keswick asked Clay about the email received today regarding COVID antibody testing. He specifically wanted to know if it was something each department needed to sign up for or is it the association that needs to move forward on? Clay stated he couldn't really speak to this but could only comment to when he looked into it before for his staff he did not move forward with it because that test does not really tell him anything that is helpful. While it's nice to know if

somebody has the antibodies for COVID, but if they do then they have to have another immediate test to determine if they have the active virus.

### **GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- 20- November 13<sup>th</sup> drive up Oyster Dinner.
- 30- November 22<sup>nd</sup> Chicken sale 40 lbs. boneless breast meat for \$55; 40 lbs. boneless thighs \$45; and 40 lbs. leg quarter \$25; from 10-12 am; pre-order only; will have a cake sale as well.
- 40- Nothing to report.
- 50- Everything is on hold; Unfair Fair went very well.
- 60- November 22<sup>nd</sup> Chicken BBQ.
- 70- November 21<sup>st</sup> Chicken BBQ; pre-order.
- 80- November 22<sup>nd</sup> Drive Thru Dinner– preorder, Turkey and all the trimmings; Selling tickets for a Gun Lottery to be held in February 2021; Facebook Raffle – theirs a private Facebook page you can request to join and we will be adding one item per day that you can request to bid on by purchasing a number, after the item sells all the numbers needed to the winner will be chosen on that Sunday by spinning a virtual wheel on Facebook live. This will go on for one month until December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Captain Judy Micheliche an employee with DES developed a headache had it checked out and found she had a brain tumor. She has a tough diagnosis and a long recovery, please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Clay said they are all appreciative of the help and donations through the GoFundMe page.

Mr. Earle Dawson Jr, Life Member with 66 years of service with Station 50 passed away on November 2, 2020.

There being no further business Dan Mautz, Station 40 motioned to adjourn, Tim Boyle, Station 20 seconded.

Hall of Fame induction will be held virtually on December 2, 2020.

The next meeting will be a regular meeting on 12/09/2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Oxford. Elections will be this night.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dawn Lange*

Dawn Lange  
Secretary, TCVFRA