

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

**ROLL CALL**

**Date: 7/13/2022**

20	Richard Smith	60	Tim Knotts
30	Shirley Quidas, Bobby Quidas	70	Patty Anderson
40	Holley Guschke, Dan Mautz	80	Danielle Starkey
50	Megan Thorton	DES	Brian LeCates
Association	Bill Keswick, Steve Mroczek, Dan Tarrant and Holley Guschke	Chief's Committee	Sonny Jones
Guests	Justin Jones, Station 60	R&R	Danielle Starkey

President Keswick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge and prayer by Chaplin Fred Bahr

President Keswick asked for the minutes from the June meeting to be read. Secretary Holley Guschke read the minutes from the June meeting. Motion made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the June meeting minutes.

President Keswick advised the letter of support was written and delivered for Station 30. Also, President Keswick reiterated the primary purpose of this group is to help secure funding, through the Council for all Talbot County Fire Departments.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

R&R	\$6,653.74
Career Tech	\$ 4,500.00
Foam	\$ 449.20
Training	\$ 681.06
Admin	\$ 1,852.33
Checking:	\$10,079.40
CD	\$15,215.51

Dan Tarrant read the Treasurer's Report.

Lawyer Fee for Brad Pinkskey in the amount of \$5,500 has been paid in order to host an upcoming class for the Chiefs Committee

The cost for Flow Nozzles for the County has been paid in the amount of \$2,390

Foam has been purchased, and has been paid in the amount of \$1,710

Graves bill paid for badges for \$449// badges have been located and received.

New budget for fiscal year began on July 1, 2022.

## **DES**

Brian LeCates, Director

- File Cabinet, Computer, Desk, Phone are now located in the back office for the TCFRA to use
- Emergency Management is working on an after actions COVID plan
- Recently there was an ICS 300 class held, will be looking to host an ICS 400 as well
- EMS Division and 911 Division are currently going through the hiring process
- Call volume for this year is up 7.3% overall
- There will be a cut over for NG911 sometime in October, more info to follow

## **COMMITTEES**

### ***Chief Committee –***

Sonny Jones, Station 60

- The County Council has approved the budget for the Foam removal for all County Fire Departments. Will follow up with the Chiefs Committee and move forward with dates and times for disposal.

### ***R&R –***

Danielle Starkey

- There will be an R&R meeting on 9/7/2022 at 7:00 p.m. at DES. Any companies that have a representative please be sure they are aware of the meeting.
- Still waiting for 2 companies to receive money from the R&R money. Also, St. Michaels FD requested funds from last years R&R as well.

***Hall of Fame-*** Nominations for Hall of Fame need to go out soon. President Keswick asked for volunteers for the committee. Richard Smith, Dan Mautz, and Sean Gilligan were selected to be on the Hall of Fame Committee for 2022.

***Queen Contest-*** Discussion was held in reference to moving forward with the County Queen contest. At this time only two companies are currently having Queen Contest, Cordova and Tilghman. Due to the lack of participation, motion was made by Phil Starkey and second by Tim Knotts to suspend the program for one year. 20-Y, 30-Y, 40-Y, 50-Y, 60-Y, 70-Y, 80-Y

***Career Tech-*** Richard Smith talked about the history of the TCPS Career Tech Program. This year Justin Jones from Easton Volunteer Fire Department has volunteered to be the liaison for TCFRA and be in charge of the Program. As of right now, there are currently 3 students enrolled into the program. 2 from Easton FD, and 1 from Cordova FD. The following items were given to each student during the course of the Career Tech Program. 2 Short Sleeve T-Shirts, 2 Long Sleeve T-Shirts, 1 Winter Jacket, \$500 for gas/mileage in December and in June. The money would be paid based off the attendance of being in class, and not based off mileage and receipts. There was a discussion if students can ride together in private vehicles, or if they need to be a vehicle from the fire departments. Also, if the program falls below the amount of students required, who pay the \$10,000 fee MFRI requires. At this time, President Keswick stated due to obligations the school has committed to, he feels the school would be responsible for paying the fee but would follow up and report back with information. There are still a lot of T-Shirts for Career Tech available, and TCFRA should not need to buy any for the upcoming year. Tim Knotts made a motion, with Dan Mautz 2<sup>nd</sup>- to give all students 2 Summer Shirts, 2 Winter Shirts, 1 Winter Jacket and a \$500 stipend to be paid in December and again in June for attendance of class. 20-Y, 30-Y, 40-Y, 50-Y, 60-Y, 70-Y, 80-Y.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- President Keswick spoke with County Manager Clay Stamp in reference to the 1<sup>st</sup> time home buyer assisted program. County currently has this program set up for County employees, to include a \$5,000 closing cost. Would need to set guidelines and put into the budget for next year. County is in favor of participating in this program.
- R&R purchased 180 radio spots on the local radio station. There was discussion about hearing the ads being played, and they committee can provide a printout of all the times the radio spots were played with dates and times. Also discussed the R&R meeting from June. 2 people showed up and were waiting in the conference room, and the Chairperson didn't think anyone was here and left the building. Next meeting will be 9-7-22

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Under the budget guidelines, when making purchases the Association needs to make every effort to categorize items in the correct budget line item. There is not a large fund of disposal funds, and need to be careful on how the money is spent. This is one reason the association tried to raise the dues to \$200, but failed to do so. Also, stated the TCFRA should not be participating in fundraising events, as it takes away from other fire departments in the County who are having events, as well as manpower issues, and could also take away fundraising ideas other departments could be having. It was also stated TCFRA is not a 501C3 and was operating under various departments umbrella, which muddies the water with financing situations.
- MSFA Memorial Gala will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> in Elkton. Association will have 10 tickets, and Richard Smith will bring the tickets once he receives them.
- MSFA Convention Committee is in desperate need of help on the committee. Especially setting up and breaking down at the event. MSFA does pay for hotel.
- Queen Anne Hillsboro will be hosting an Administrative & Leadership Class on some Mondays in September and October. Info can be found on the MFRI website
- R&R advised with the closing of the Talbot Business Center, the red trailer will go back to TCDES and Brian LeCates is aware.
- The burn trailer is now located in Delaware. Talbot County will still own it, but it will remain in Delaware for an undetermined period of time.
- At the last legislative session in Annapolis, a Delegate asked how many fire department in the County had Gear washer and dryers. They were going to work on getting grant funding to provide them for the County, however program never got off the ground. This time the Delegate would like to meet with the MSFA again, to work on possibly providing 2 sets of turn out gear to each member of the department. The meeting will be held late in August and will provide more information when available.
- Due to not having a meeting in August, President Keswick advised we need to be able to pay any corporate bills that come about. Dan Mautz made motion, Tim Knotts 2nd motion// 20-Y, 30-Y, 40,Y, 50-Y, 60-Y, 70-Y, 80-Y

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- 20- Breakfast will be held on Sunday 8/14
- 30- Will be having a Fall Festival in October
- 40- Nothing
- 50- Annual Fair will be held August 4-5-6 with Parade being held on Aug 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 60- Golf Tournament on 9/10/22  
Beer Fest on 10/1/22  
Making progress on the 2 engines that have been purchased
- 70- Bingo on 7/20/22 and Family Bingo on 7/24/22
- 80- Grocery Bingo on 7/25

The next meeting is a regular meeting will be September 14, 2022, at Talbot Center

Tim Knotts motioned to adjourn; Dan Mautz seconded; meeting adjourned 8:32PM

Respectfully Submitted,

*Holley Guschke*

Holley Guschke  
Secretary, TCVFRA