

# PNCFCA

*Piedmont North Carolina Firefighter's Association*

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## Quarterly Association Meeting

April 23, 2014

6:30 pm

Reidsville Fire Department

Brian Cox welcomed everyone to Reidsville. Thanks to Chief Bracken for hosting our meeting tonight. Our meal tonight is sponsored by the LGFCU Commercial Lending.

Invocation given by Ron Fowler.

Meal – Sponsored by LGFCU – Sherrod from LGFCU introduced his staff that were present. President Cox thanked the LGFCU staff for what they do for the fire service.

A signup sheet was circulated

President Cox introduced board members:

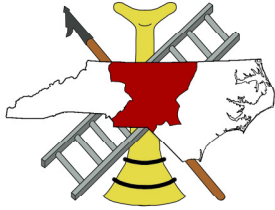
Brian Cox – President  
Steve Neal – 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Chris Langham – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP (absent)  
Ed Brinson – Treasurer  
A.C. Rich – South Director  
Chris Davis – North Director  
Ron Fowler – Past President  
Kathy Weatherspoon – Executive Secretary

Approval of minutes from January 22, 2014 – Minutes of meeting were distributed to everyone for review. Motion made by John Gentry and seconded by Dan Curia to accept as submitted. Passes.

Treasurer's Report – Ed gave report that was distributed for review. Motion to approve made by Tommy Reid and seconded by Len Needham. Passes.

Association/Agency Reports:

1. NCSFA – Tim Bradley reported. NCSFA and NCAFC want to remind everyone that May 28<sup>th</sup> is Legislature Day in Raleigh. Lunch will be provided to those who attend. We have received 235 scholarship applications and will have the results by May 1. Annual SAFRE in Raleigh is earlier this year. Conference dates are July 24-26. John



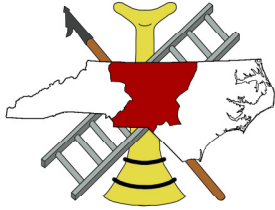
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- Sulka, FDNY will be keynote speaker. A small member benefit has been added to the MetLife Prescription Card. We have introduced another benefit ID Theft Defender Program. NCFFF Memorial Service is May 3. Please come and support the families and departments. Tim gave update on Legislative issues for this year. Retirement Program going great. Federal legislation also updated.
2. NCAFC – Steve Neal gave report. Midwinter Conference was a great success. Keeps getting bigger every year. Working on membership drive right now. Just switched over to electronic membership application this year. If you have not joined, please do so. New line of apparel is on line. Fire Prevention school just completed in Ft. Fisher. Great success. NC Legislature Day is coming up in May. Will also be participating in legislature day in DC the end of April.
  3. NC Emergency Management – Steve Powers gave report. Big news for them – snow and ice storms. Several counties declared disasters. Working on US Open in Pinehurst. There will be heavy participation there with fire, EMS, and police. Couple of upcoming exercises. Hurricane exercise completed today. A couple of more scheduled.
  4. OSFM – Update was given on lots of organizational changes at OSFM. Check out their website for changes. Lots of schools coming up.
  5. NCFFF – Robert Templeton reported for the NCFFF. A new NCFFF pamphlet was distributed. Our store is now up and running on our website. Memorial Service will be in Raleigh on May 3, 2014 at 1:00pm. We will honor 11 firefighters this year. Parade will be at 10:00am. Please join us. Expo plans are in the work. July 24, we will be doing a corn hole tournament and will be selling BBQ during the BBQ cook-off. We will also hold a Memorial Service and candle light service on Thursday. If you would like to join the Logistical Support Team, please let him know.
  6. NC Community College – Chris Raynor gave report. Several meetings coming up. Western Piedmont sponsoring a gas class in June.
  7. NC Society of Fire Instructors – Jimmy Barrow reported. Conference coming up in Wilmington. Registration for hotels is closed but he is holding a couple of rooms if anyone interested in attending. Any questions, please let him know.
  8. South Eastern Association of Fire Chiefs – Ron Fowler reported. Conference is in Knoxville, TN. If any questions, let him know.
  9. Volunteer Workers Comp – Mike Hill gave report. Number of claims are down, but price of claims has risen – especially lifting injuries. New initiative that will include three classes to help decrease number of injuries in the fire service.
  10. NFFF – Greg Bridgers, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, spoke about the golf tournament that will be held in Raleigh. He is seeking support from each county to help the foundation and sponsors for the golf tournament.



# PNCF A

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### Old Business –

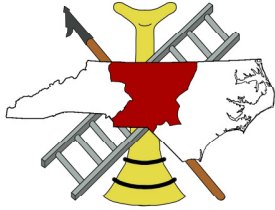
1. Scholarship deadline has passed. They will be reviewed and winners will be notified.
2. Sponsorship – deadline for Brooks/Ward Sponsorship is June 1.

### New Business –

1. Board members will be visiting all county associations in the Piedmont over the next two years. Please let us know and we will be glad to schedule and come to your meetings. Please let us know if you would like us to do presentation.
2. We have decided to start a firefighter and officer of the year from the Piedmont. Applications are on line and hard copies are available tonight. Deadline this year is June 1.
3. The Executive Board has selected A.C. Rich to serve on the NCSFA Board. Nominations were opened on the floor. Ed Brinson made motion to close nominations. Motion was seconded by Tommy Reid. Passes. A.C. Rich will represent the PNCF A on the NCSFA Board.

Program: Tim Bradley, Director, NCSFA, gave presentation on the Legislative Overview for the State of NC. He explained briefly the legislative process. There will be a short session this year. There is a huge amount of fire issue going on that need to be addressed during this short session. There are four studies affecting the fire service this year. Overview of gross premium tax and how it is used:

1. Relief Fund - issues they want addressed include we are not spending money, no minimum or maximum, no adequate local oversight, reporting and records are not adequate, misuse of local funds, no definition of destitute and local bills conflict with the intent. They recommended putting all funds in one state fund or improve oversight and define minimum and maximums, regulate investments, define destitute and actuarially sound, improve efficiency, increase oversight by NCSFA, improve report coordination between NCSFA and DOI, require local audits.
2. VSWCF concerns – fund is not adequately funded. Needs more DOI oversight, board needs to track more date and have better back to work programs and suggested premium increase almost two-fold.
3. Pension fund concerns – The Annual Required Contribution exceeds the GPT proceeds this year. Assumptions made by State Treasurer is wrong. Members not paying timely costs the state over the past 9 years. Inconsistent application of the separation requirements for career personnel and PED feels the DST is working to resolve most of these concerns.
4. Grant study concerns – DOI did not use correct amounts in awarding grants and there is a \$7 million dollar surplus. Need to disperse the surplus by changing match to 75/25, or increasing to \$50k, or give to workers comp, pension, or general fund. Make fire departments rating a qualifier instead of population, such as no better than a Class 6 to be eligible.



# PNCEFA

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His best guess on what legislation may come out and NCSFA objectives. We may have to give a few things to accomplish a few things. All, any, or none of this may occur. It won't go away if nothing happens. It's had too much attention.

1. There will be a push for a min and max on relief funds.
2. We are pushing to keep all GPT in the fire service programs, but our mandate by the GA is to figure a way to pay for all fire service programs with the GPT and no GF money.
3. Some increase in uses such as firefighter physicals, due, WC funds, etc.
4. Destitute will be defined
5. Actuarially sound will be defined
6. Some changes to local bills such as moving money to another fund, interest only spending, etc. will be removed from local bills
7. We may be required to cover all NC FF's with LODD and A&D regardless of membership
8. We hope to get the separation requirement for career personnel removed for pension.
9. The VSWCF will get 20% of GPT, but members will have to cover the rest of the cost through premiums. That means over time, premiums will go up or down depending on how well we prevent injuries.

Next meeting will be July 30, 2014. Location will be decided later.

Motion to adjourn made by Jerry Brooks.