

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 504 • New Kensington, PA 15068-0504
Phone: (724) 339-1017 Fax: (724) 339-0445
Homepage: <http://www.wpfa.org>
E-Mail: office@wpfa.org

John Charles Tedorski, Executive Director

129th Annual Convention
Somerset, PA

Friday, August 5, 2022

The 129th Annual Convention of the Western PA Firemen's Association was called to order by President James Bungard. An opening prayer was conducted by Chaplain Larry Abel followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Local welcome was given by Henry Cook, President of Somerset Fire Department, Jim Clark, Fire Chief of Somerset Fire Department, and Randy Cox, Police Chief of Somerset Fire Department. Response for the Western was given by Past President Bruce Davis.

Senator Pat Staffano was introduced and provided comments and an update on legislative action in Harrisburg. Appointment of Sergeants at Arms: Martin Wetmore and Wilford Torrence.

President Bungard opened nominations. The following nominations were made:

Chris O'Leath nominated Donald Ferrante for President
Harold Whyel nominated James Eley for 1st Vice President
Tom Shank nominated Dennis Remich for 2nd Vice President
Bruce Davis nominated Bruce Crivaro for 3rd Vice President
Harold Whyel nominated Sherry Eley for 3rd Vice President

Chris O'Leath nominated the following to a two-year term on the Executive Committee: William Weber, William Cornell, Ruth E. Hereda, Wilmer Shaner, and Don Brady.

William Weber nominated Arnold to host the 2023 Convention.

President Bungard appointed the following to the election board – Chairman Larry Abel, Wilford Torrence, Tim Gorencic, Harold Whyel, and Amie Shank.

President Bungard appointed the following Resolution Committee: Tom Foster, Richard Grove, and Martin Larry Abel.

The election will be held in the fire department meeting room beginning at 10 a.m.

President Bungard announced a recess until 2:30 p.m.

Friday PM Session, August 5, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

President Bungard called the afternoon session to order at 2:30 p.m. Roll call of officers was taken by Executive Director/Secretary Tedorski.

Executive Director/Secretary's Report

Executive Director/Secretary Tedorski presented the following report:

Executive Director/Secretary's Report

August 5, 2022

2022-2023 Dues as of 8-1-20

2021-2022 Dues Paid After 8-1-19

Companies	283	Companies	63
Members @ \$6	<u>3,602</u>	Members @ \$6	<u>825</u>
	3,885		888

Total 2021-2022 Company Membership: 358 Individual Membership: 4,834

Investment Balances as of July 31, 2022

Benjamin F. Edwards

Jennison Utilities Fund Class A	\$ 112,973.83
Jennison Natural Resources Class A	72,826.52
Invesco American Franchise	71,409.32
Dow Target 10 9523	57,762.94
Dow Target 10 9781	48,829.54
Jennison Value	117,821.60
Franklin Income Fund	103,077.41
Franklin Rising Dividends	199,415.93
First Trust DSIP 9683	64,008.65
Prudential Global Real Estate (Dryden Global)	22,272.40
Jennison Focused Growth Fund (20 20 Fund)	21,469.12
Pacific Life Income Fund	66,920.40
Washington Mutual Investor Fund	338,840.51
Money Market	221,293.28
Jennison Money Market	<u>5,393.32</u>

\$1,524,314.77

PNC Checking 41,192.13

TOTAL \$1,565,506.90

Motion by Harold Whyel and Chris O'Leath to accept the Executive Director/Secretary's report. Motion carried.

Executive Director/Secretary thanked Tom and Amie Shank for their help in the office during the past year. He also explained that our financial advisor, Michelle Stuban, is not able to attend the convention due to family circumstances.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Schaeffer explained that there is no monthly report at this time due to being so early in the month and we do not have bank statements yet for July. The July report will be included in the report at the next regular meeting. Treasurer Schaeffer reviewed our investment performance for the past fiscal year. Motion by Elmer Bailey and Harold Whyel to accept the report and refer it to audit.

Payment of Bills

Executive Director/Secretary Tedorski presented the following bills. Motion by Chris O'Leath and Harold Whyel that the bills be paid. Motion carried.

EXPENSES			-12,317.97	
Awards Expense			-1,600.00	
	8/5/2022	George G. McMurtry Fire Dept. Vandergrift No. 1	2022 Fire Prevention Award	-500.00
	8/5/2022	Dauntless FC	2022 Fire Prevention Award	-250.00
	8/5/2022	New Kensington Fire Dept	2022 McEntire Award	-500.00
	8/5/2022	Arnold Fire Department	2022 McEntire Award	-250.00
	8/5/2022	Penn Hills FD	2022 McEntire Award	-100.00
Copier Service Contract				-383.48
Other Copier Service Contract				-383.48
	7/18/2022	Toshiba Financial Services	Copier Service Contract	-383.48
Election Board				-40.00
	8/5/2022	Larry Abel	2022 Election Board	-10.00
	8/5/2022	Tim Gorencic	2022 Election Board	-10.00
	8/5/2022	Aime Shank	2022 Election Board	-10.00
	8/5/2022	Marty Wetmore-- VOID	2022 Election Board	0.00
	8/5/2022	Harold Whyel	2022 Election Board	-10.00
Office Supplies				-50.82
	7/18/2022	PNC Bank		-50.82
Past Pres Gift				-300.00
	8/5/2022	James Bungard	2022 Past President Gift	-300.00
Safe Deposit Box Rental				-61.00
	7/15/2022	PNC Bank	Safe Deposit Box Rental	-61.00
Scholarship Payment				-7,400.00
	7/29/2022	Tyler Metz	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
	7/29/2022	Brode Moriconi	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
	7/29/2022	Pat Huber	2021 Scholarship	-1,000.00
	7/29/2022	Ashley Scanga	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
	7/29/2022	Brianna Scanga	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
	7/29/2022	Madison Corna	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
	7/29/2022	Alexandria Corna	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
	7/29/2022	Faith Remich	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
	7/29/2022	Paige Remich	2021 Scholarship	-800.00
Travel				-589.22
Other Travel				-589.22
	7/29/2022	Richard Grove	State Meeting	-253.19
	7/29/2022	Richard Grove	State Meeting Lewistown	-336.03
Utilities				-272.90
Utilities:Telephone				-272.90
	7/18/2022	PNC Bank		-136.80
				-136.10
Web Hosting				-1,620.55
	7/18/2022	PNC Bank		-1,620.55

Executive Committee Report

William Weber commended Somerset for arranging the Flight 93 Memorial tour. He said that it was excellent.

Law and Legislative Report

Harold Whyel said that the speaker this morning covered legislation.

Publicity Committee

Executive Director/Secretary Tedorski reported that we received very good convention coverage from the local newspaper

Membership Committee

Chairman Tom Foster proposed memberships for 185 members from 48 companies. Motion by Tom Foster and Bruce Davis that we make them members of the association. Motion carried.

Fire Prevention

Chairman Martin Wetmore encouraged the membership to get into the schools to push the program.

Memorial Committee

Harold Whyel said that the memorial service went well, but he was disappointed in the attendance.

Scholarship Committee

Tom Shank reported that the scholarships have been selected and are ready to be awarded at the banquet this evening.

Sports Committee

Bob Paterson reported on the battle of the barrel which will be held on Saturday.

Parade Committee

Chairman Chris O'Leath reported that arrangements for the parade are all set. He traveled the route yesterday.

Awards Committee

Tom Shank reported that everything is ready to go for the awards and scholarship banquet and program which will be held this evening beginning with dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Finance and Investment Committee

Executive Director/Secretary Tedorski presented the proposed budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year. Motion by Harold Whyel and Chris O'Leath that the budget be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Report of the Election Committee

Election Committee member, Martin Wetmore, read the results of the annual election.

There were a total of 711 votes cast. Results were as follows:

President – Donald Ferrante, 711 votes; 1st Vice President – James Eley, 711 votes; 2nd Vice President – Dennis Remich, 711 votes; 3rd Vice President – Bruce Crivaro, 450 votes; Sherry Eley, 217 votes, Amie Shank, 44 votes; Executive Committee – William Weber, 708 votes; William Cornell, 644 votes; Ruth E. Hereda, 710 votes; Wilmer Shaner, 711 votes; Don Brady, 645 votes; Place of Convention for 2023 – Arnold, 685 votes; Place of Convention for 2024 – Leechburg, 21 votes.

Motion by Harold Whyel and Bruce Davis that we accept the report of the election board and destroy the ballots. Motion carried.

President Bungard recessed the meeting until 6:30 p.m.

Friday Evening Session, Friday, August 5, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

President Bungard welcomed everyone and asked Chaplain Doug Abel to present the invocation.

A delicious meal was served.

President Bungard introduced Tom Shank who presented the following awards:

The Albert E. Wicks Service Award was presented to Emma Bettinelli of Lower Burrell VFC #3. The WPGA Political Award was presented to Senator Pat Stefano. The Harry “Leonard” Lunch Service Award was presented to Raymond Eicher of Fairchance VFD. The Ruth N. Hereda Service Award was presented to Steve Nosseck and James Potlas of Washington Twp. VFC Westmoreland. The Bender-Weber Service Award was presented to James Bungard. The T.F. Hereda Service Award was presented to Mark Trenker of Dunbar VFD. The Russell Davis Valor Award was presented to Jeff Swartz of Greensburg No. 1. The J. Edward Saliba Valor Award was presented to J. Edward Saliba II of New Kensington No. 3 and Flight Nurse Alice Hulett. The Awards Committee Choice Valor Award was presented to John Stillwagon of the Bullskin Twp. VFC. The Provident Agency Valor/Service Award was presented to New Kensington Detective Sgt. Sam Long, Assist. Chief John Shirey of New Kensington No. 1, Paramedica Matt Stewart of New Kensington Ambulance and Lighthouse Marina employee Butch Hurley. A second Provident award was presented to Lt. Tanner Michael and Zachary Wilhem of Springdale VFD and Lt. Joe Flanick of Oakmont VFD. The Nova Insurance Valor Award was presented to New Kensington Police Officers Christain Leonarski and Jerry Hobeck and Asst. Chief Willliam Kersey of New Kensington No. 2. The WPGA Most Active Award was presented to Wayne Harris of Arnold No. 1. The WPGA Fireperson of the Year was presented to William “BJ” Kersey” from the New Kensington Fire Department.

President Bungard introduced Harold Whyel who presented the following scholarships:

Last Name	First Name	Fire Department	Area of Study	Amount
Coran	Madison Paige	Vandergrift No. 1	Liberal Arts	\$1,000.00
Davis	Karli	Alum Bank CFC	Nursing	\$1,000.00
Ireland	Kayden J	Arnold No. 2	Computer Science	\$1,000.00
McHattie	Sage Marie	Center Twp. VFD	General Studies	\$1,000.00
Metz	Tyler A	New Kensington No. 2	Safety Health Studies	\$1,000.00
Neighbors	Patyn Mary	Point Marion VFD	Nursing	\$1,000.00
Patterson	Sierra F.	Dayton District VFD	Nursing	\$1,000.00
Rainey	Luke Joseph	Cherryhill Twp. VFC	Political Science	\$1,000.00
Rainey	Trey Richard	Cherryhill Twp. VFC	Accounting	\$1,000.00
Remich	Paige E.	New Kensington No. 3	Business	\$1,000.00
Scanga	Ashley Noel	Vandergrift No. 1	Architecture	\$1,000.00
Sprumont	Daniel J	New Kensington No. 3	Engineering	\$1,000.00
Wuckovich	Breanna	Conemaugh Twp FD	Psychology	\$1,000.00

President Bungard called on the chairman of the Resolution Committee, Tom Foster, who read the resolution. Motion by Amie Shank and Richard Grove that the resolution be adopted. Motion carried.

President Bungard gave a short address where he thanked everyone for their help throughout his term as President.

At this time, all newly-elected officers were sworn in by Senator Pat Staffano. President Ferrante presented James Bungard with his past-president gifts.

Motion by William Weber and Harold Whyel that we give Somerset a rising vote of thank for their hospitality. Motion carried.

Closing prayer by Chaplain Larry Doug Abel.

Motion by Amie Shank and Wayne Harris move that we adjourn sine die. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Session, August 7, 2022, Board of Control

The meeting was called to order by Past President James Bungard with the opening prayer by Chaplain Doug Abel, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Bills were read for the convention. The bills were as follows:

Monthly Expense Listing	
2022 Convention Board Meeting	
Convention Expenses	12,000.00
Banquet Expenses	4,000.00
Meetings	4,000.00
Parade Bands	4,000.00
Total	12,000.00

C. O'Leath stated that Somerset made all the requirements for the parade. Past camp boss William Weber stated that Somerset made all the requirement for payment for meetings and other activities. Motion by Harold Whyel and Bruce Davis that all convention expenses, including banquet, be approved for payment. Motion carried.

Tom Shank made a motion and seconded by Larry Abel to approve the purchase of a table

Chris O'leath reported that the President's Trophy is missing and he made a motion that we have a plaque made for the Parade President's Prize. The trophy has been missing since Vandergrift, and he suggested that we just have a plaque made. Seconded by Harold Whyel and carried.

Reorganization

The meeting was then turned the meeting over to newly-elected President Don Ferrante who conducted the annual reorganization of committees and other appointments.

Motion by W. Weber and Dennis Remich that we adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Charles Tedorski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

John Charles Tedorski
Executive Director - Secretary