



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

January 18, 2006

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:10 on Jan. 18, 2006 at the Egg Harbor City Vol. Fire Company by President R. Thomas Hunter Jr. The meeting was opened with the flag salute, followed by an invocation offered by Rev. Thomas Sweeny, Chaplain of the Association.

In Attendance

Roll call was taken by Secretary Robert A. Mellon who reported a quorum was present.

President Hunter welcomed and introduced guests; Congressman Frank LoBiondo, Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson, Atlantic County Freeholders: Frank Sutton and Chairman Joseph Silipena, Atl. Co. Administrator: Jerry DelRosso, Atl. Co. Director of Public Safety: Rick Mulvihill, Atl. Co. Fire Marshall: Harold "Whitey" Swartz, Atl. Co. Deputy Director of Emergency Management: Ed Conover, Director of Atlantic County Fire Academy Training: Michael Corbo, NJ State Firemen's Assn. Atlantic County Executive Committeeman: Henry Schoenstein, Egg Harbor City Mayor: Joseph Kuehner.

Opening Remarks

Chief Russell Fenton, of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department, welcomed the membership and guests to Egg Harbor City. Chief Fenton then introduced the line officers of the fire department as well as introducing Egg Harbor City Mayor Joseph Kuehner who extended a warm welcome to all.

Executive Committee Asst. Chairman Amor "Skip" Portale extended apologies for Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr.'s absence as he had another unbreakable commitment that required his attendance. Skip Portale then welcomed all those in attendance to the annual meeting and memorial service on behalf of the Executive Committee.

Dispensing of Regular Business

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to dispense with the regular business except for the paying of the bills.

Paying of Bills

The bills were read by Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Stacey Wellington. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.



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Annual Memorial Service

The annual memorial services were conducted by the Memorial Committee with Chaplain Reverend Thomas Sweeny giving the homily with the memorial candles being lit by First Vice President Dennis Sharpe and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Stacey Wellington, and the bell being tolled by Charles J. Guenther as Secretary Robert A. Mellon read the roll of the Firefighters of Atlantic County who answered their last alarm during the past year.

Firefighters of the Final Roll were:

John T. Kerns Jr.	Atlantic City	Charles P. Calimer Sr.	Germania
Joseph P. Reilly	Atlantic City	William Rodio	Hammonton
Wilson G. Manley	Atlantic City	Walter J. Buzby II	Linwood
Paul Carr	Atlantic City	William Conover	Linwood
David O'Keefe	Atlantic City	Richard DePamphilis Sr.	Lonport
Joseph McVey	Atlantic City	Francis Ciraolo Jr.	Minotola
John Gifford	Atlantic City	Clarence H. Hoover	Minotola
Joseph Stern	Atlantic City	Michael D. McGrath	Margate
Anthony Roberts	Atlantic City	Charles Sander	Oceanville
Matthew Fox	Absecon	John W. Cornew	Pleasantville
Harry C. Bingenheimer Sr.	Bargaintown	Edward Bennett Sr.	Pleasantville
Donald Hand	Bayview	Howard R. Guenther	Pomona
George Wessler	Bayview	Jacob Pendola	Richland
Robert Hagelin	Egg Harbor City	Norman E. King	Scullville
Frank Pratzner	Egg Harbor City	Howard Dunphey	Sweetwater
James Habermehl	Farmington	Lawrence Ermillo	Sweetwater

“Taps” was played by Bugler Joseph Ward, followed by the playing of “Amazing Grace” by the Sandpipers.

Committee Reports

Mike Corbo, Director of Training, reported that the spring Firefighter I class will start on Feb. 14, 2006. He will soon schedule an introduction class for all Company and Department Chiefs to learn about the new Flashover Simulator training to be offered.

Mike also reported on the “Gift from Capt. Buscio” program that offers cardio-pulmonary physicals to firefighters in New Jersey. Mike feels that this is a worthwhile program and all should take advantage of it.



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Installation of Officers for 2006

All of the invited guests addressed the membership and expressed their appreciation for all that the firefighters do for their local communities and for Atlantic County.

Congressman Frank LoBiondo installed the following into office for the year of 2006:

President	R. Thomas Hunter	Executive Committee:
1 st Vice President	Dennis Sharpe	Ronald Bird Jr.
2 nd Vice President	Kathleen Dierwechter	Rick Coraluzzo Sr.
Secretary	Robert A. Mellon	Oscar Dutch Jr.
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer	Stacey Wellington	James Garth Sr.
Chaplain	Rev. Thomas Sweeny	Charles J. Guenther
Sergeants-at-Arms	William Thomas Hand	Amor "Skip" Portale
	Charles Harlan	Ted Reinhard
		Gilbert Zonge Jr.

Those not present were:

Treasurer	Lou Raciti
Sergeants-at-Arms	Chester P. Crowell
Executive Committee	Howard Berchtold Jr.

Special Resolution

Executive Committeeman Skip Portale reported on the history of the annual meeting and memorial service in Egg Harbor City and the recent additions of the new Field Communications Unit and Flashover Simulator at the Fire Training Center. Skip spoke of the vast amount of work that has been accomplished by this association over many years and that so much was done by Howard R. Guenther in his many years as Secretary.

President R. Thomas Hunter and Executive Committeeman Amor "Skip" Portale presented a resolution in honor of Howard R. Guenther to his family. Howard served as Secretary of this association from 1978 until 2005 when he answered his last alarm. Howard will be deeply missed by all. A copy of the resolution will hang at the Fire Training Center. The typewriter that Howard did all his work will also be put on display.

Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson presented a proclamation in memory of Howard R. Guenther to his family. All those that had the honor of working with Howard on the many county projects he was involved with will deeply miss him.



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Good of the Order

President Hunter reported on the upcoming Cape/Atlantic Memorial Service and Breakfast to be held on Mar. 26, 2006. Tickets are \$25.00 each with tables of either ten or twelve available.

President Hunter wished all a healthy and safe new year on behalf of the association officers and executive committee.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:15. The next meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Feb. 15, 2006 at the Longport Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Mon. Jan. 23	19:00	Training Ctr.	Firefighter I Graduation
Fri. Mar. 10	18:00	Somers Pt.	ACFFA Dinner at Crab Trap Restaurant
Sun. Mar. 26	10:30	Atlantic City	Cape/Atlantic 200 Club Memorial and Breakfast
Sun. Jun. 4	12:00	Dorothy	Chicken Barbecue @ Dorothy Fire Co. 12:00-18:00