

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

March 16, 2011

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on March 16, 2011 at the Folsom Vol. Fire Dept. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

Chief Smith of the Folsom Volunteer Fire Company was introduced. Chief Smith welcomed all to the Borough of Folsom. Chief Smith reported on current news about the Borough of Folsom and the Folsom Volunteer Fire Company.

In Attendance

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the Feb. 16, 2011 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer, totaling \$132,568.75, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / ING Direct / ING Direct /
Checking: \$98,506.84 / Savings: \$5,560.63 / Savings: \$22,838.72 / 12 Month CD: \$5,662.56 /
/ 1.25% - Due 10/12/2011 /

Special Presentation

A presentation was made by Glenn Liepe, Div. C Warden NJ Forest Fire Service, on the current operational plans for this fire season. Glenn also reported on the available grants, the NJ Forest Fire radio frequency reallocation, and the current schedule for the availability of aircraft during the 2011 fire season. Glenn reported that the NJ Forest Fire service is committing to more detailed investigations and will investigate all reported fires with the increased use of the K9s when required. Glenn reminded all that the fire companies should do their best to preserve evidence on fire scenes and to take note of anything, or anyone, of potential interest to an investigation. Fire investigation brochures are available for the fire companies.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the Mar. 4, 2011 meeting of the executive committee. Howard thanked Ron Bird and the Somers Point Fire Company #1 for hosting the Executive Committee meeting. Howard reported that Ted Reinhard has not been doing well and was unable to attend the Executive

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Committee meeting and is also not in attendance at this meeting. Howard asked all to keep Ted in mind and to send him well wishes. Howard reported that Mike Corbo has managed to collect the majority of the outstanding tuition and continues to work on getting all tuition paid to date. Howard reported that Mike Corbo presented a detailed report to the Executive Committee on the need for new Fire Instructor turn-out gear. The report included the current condition of all gear, the immediate needs for replacement gear, the amount of assistance being provided by Atlantic County government, and the projected allotment needed from this association for new gear. The Executive Committee agreed that the association needs to allocate funds and to work with Atlantic County government to provide the Fire Instructors with the proper gear and will recommend that the association provide said funds under new business. Howard reported that Treasurer Jaime Mellon reported to the Executive Committee that the 501(c)3 application is moving forward, a date will need to be set for the June 2011 graduation ceremony so that insurance forms can be provided to whatever facility will be used due to the training center not having a large enough room for the event, and a recommendation that the current accountant be retained until all current business for the 501(c)3 application and the 2010 taxes are completed satisfactorily. Howard reported on the recommendation from the Executive Committee that the association make a \$200.00 donation to the New Jersey Firemen's Home Golf Outing for sponsorship. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on May 6, 2011 at Whitey Swartz's South Jersey Fire Museum.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold Jr. highlighted some of the details from the Mar. 14, 2011 meeting of the board. Howard reported that the meeting was brief and the Whitey Swartz and Mike Corbo are working on cleaning up the training center. Many repairs are being completed on the training center buildings. Plans are being laid out to start the process of getting training center expansion plans back on the county agenda. There is a possibility of getting a new shed placed on the training center grounds. The next meeting of the board is on May 9, 2011.

Fire Coordinator – Oscar Dutch reported for Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent. Oscar reported that the radio policy committee will meet on Monday night in Egg harbor city. Oscar reported that Ed has updated the old policy and it is ready for committee review and discussion. Oscar also reported that work is continuing on the Homeland Security grants.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported on the continuing upgrades and repairs at the home. Oscar reported that the Rockaway River near the home was recently at very high levels. Oscar reported that the home's annual Golf Outing is scheduled for May 10, 2011.

Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz reported that any updates to the information book need to be submitted before the end of March.

Public Relations – Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz reported that Valor Awards Committee will meet tomorrow and review six potential valor applications. Whitey reported that he has also received five applications for 50+ years of active service members. Whitey reminded all that recognition for 50+ years of active service must be submitted by the chief of a department. Whitey reported that the Cape/Atlantic 200 Club Memorial Service & Brunch is scheduled for Apr. 10, 2011. Whitey reported that any submissions from the schools for the NJ Fire Prevention Poster Contest will be judged on the second Tuesday in April and then submitted to the state.

Training – Director of Training, Mike Corbo reported that the six QTO, QSO, ODI classes that have already run had minimal attendance. More will be scheduled and all chiefs will be notified. It is imperative that certain personnel from all departments, that will utilize the training center for department training, attend this class. Mike reported that the FFI class is running with fifty-seven students and the FFII class is running with twelve students. Mike reported that the FFII class has 1200 training scheduled for Apr. 3, 2011 at 08:30 and any county firefighter may also attend without fee. Mike reported that

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the NJ weekend is scheduled for June 10, 11, and 12 at the Nation Fire Academy in Maryland. The \$30.04 cost is for food and registration is first come, first served. Mike reported that he is now a full time employee of Atlantic County as the Director of Fire Training. Mike reported that he will normally be in the office from midday through the evening. Mike reported that he will start putting out a fire academy newsletter in the near future. Mike reported on the scheduled classes. Truck Company Operations is full and has a waiting list. Basic PowerPoint is on March 30 and will utilize the computer lab in the Emergency Operations Center. Leadership Class on April 1. Fire Officer I starts on March 28. The Fire Instructor I course starts on April 5 and the cost is covered by the NJ DFS. Incident Safety Officer on April 9 and 10. I400 on April 9 and 10. Confined Space Operations on April 15, 16, and 17. Flashover Awareness and Simulator on April 28. Mike reported on the Asbury Park Fire Captain who may have been caught in a flashover back in December 2010. The captain is still in an induced coma and has not yet been able to make a statement about the incident. Mike stressed that the Flashover Simulator can help all firefighters recognize the signs of a potential flashover. Mike reported that a new mannequin is in the shed and equipped with turn-out gear. It is for rescue training and should not be exposed to the possibility of burning. Mike reported that the donated engine from the Wagner family is on the Atlantic County Freeholder Board agenda. The repair of the current engine is on hold until the new one is placed in service.

Library – Ron Bird reported that some books have been returned after having been checked out for over three years. Ron reported that there has also been a donation of books for the library.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Charles "Chick" Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on Mar. 31, 2011 in Minotola. Chick reported that NJ PEOSHA visited the Linwood Fire Department in February for an unannounced inspection. Chick will present details of the inspection at the chief's meeting.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that a convention expense increase has been approved. Henry reported that the food and fuel expense categories will remain the same but the lodging expense has been increased by \$25.00 and that expenses will be calculated per convention session instead of per night. The Atlantic County Caucus is on August 16 at the Egg Harbor firehouse. The convention is on September 16 and 17 in Wildwood.

Audit Committee – Wayne Dilks reported that the Audit Committee met on March 9 and all records were found to be in order.

ACFFA Dinner – Wayne Dilks reported that the dinner is scheduled for 18:30 on Friday, March 25, 2011 at Careme's, Atl. Cape Comm. College. Payment is due for the dinner at tonight's meeting. Wayne reported that a sizable group will be attending and an excellent dinner is planned.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

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New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to allocate up to \$6,000.00 for fire instructor turn-out gear as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to sponsor and donate \$200.00 to the NJ Firemen's Home Golf Outing as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$8,031.58, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Liberty Mutual - \$1,002.00 (workers comp. ins.) / Treasurer State of NJ (DFS) - \$1,200.00 (Fire Insp. Books) / Robert Mellon - \$209.85 (2,000 blank membership cards) / Witmer Public Safety Group - \$1,708.79 (rescue randy x2) / This & That Uniforms - \$1,690.25 (127 FFI shirts) / International Code Council - \$1,477.00 (11 NJ Fire Code books) / Staples - \$111.99 (office supplies) / MES - \$267.00 (flow test SCBA) / This & That Uniforms - \$38.00 (1 Instructor uniform shirt) / Levon Clayton - \$42.71 (binders for I-300 class) / Mike Corbo - \$29.99 (propane for forklift) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$54.00 - Instructor Lunch FFI) / NJ Firemen's Home - \$200.00 (donation sponsor golf outing)

Applications for Membership

Michael Romanelli and Mark Kienzle of the Egg Harbor City Fire Dept.; Marc Ginsberg and Carl Wentzell of the Linwood Fire Dept. were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Oscar Dutch reported that Jeff Ciccone would like to apply for a regional grant for RIT interoperability and that the Absecon Fire Dept. would sponsor the application.

Oscar Dutch reported that the county is actively working on central dispatch and has been reviewing possible locations.

Mike Corbo reported that the NJ DFS classes are available to firefighters at no cost and that registration is only available online through the "myNewJersey" tab on the state website at www.state.nj.us

Thank you to the Folsom Vol. Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:10. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Apr. 20, 2011 at the training center and hosted by the Margate City Fire Department in cooperation with FMBA Local 41. This meeting will include the annual valor awards and recognition of those achieving fifty plus years of active service.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing

Fri. Mar. 18, 2011	19:00	Scullville VFC	Beef & Beer for FF Frank "Wagonmaster" Riley
Fri. Mar. 25, 2011	18:30	Careme's @ <u>Atlantic Cape Community</u>	Atl. Co. Firefighters' Assoc. - Annual Dinner (RSVP Soon)
Sat. Apr. 9, 2011	09:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Ctr.	Turbo Draft Demo – Contact Asst. Chief Chip Stockton 609-517-4427
Sat. Apr. 9, 2011	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sun. Apr. 10, 2011	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community Breakfast - All You Can Eat (08:00-12:00)
Sun. Apr. 10, 2011	10:30	St. Nicholas Church & Borgata	Cape Atlantic 200 Club Annual Memorial Service (10:30) & Brunch (12:00)
Tues. Apr. 12, 2011	11:00	Nesco VFC	Italian Hoagie Sale (11:00-16:00)
Sat. Apr. 16, 2011	09:00	Germania VFC	Atl. Co. Foam Trailer Demo – Contact Asst. Chief Chip Stockton 609-517-4427
Sat. Apr. 16, 2011		Charlie's Bar, Somers Point	Beef & Beer for Somers Point VFC #2
Sat. Apr. 30, 2011	19:30	Hammonton VFC #2	Comedy Night with Dinner Buffet
Sat. May 7, 2011	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Tues. May 10, 2011	08:30	Neshanic Valley Golf Club	New Jersey Firemen's Home 2011 Golf Outing
Sat. May 14, 2011	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest (Foot-Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries) (10:00 - 17:00)
Sun. May 15, 2011	07:00	Minotola VFC	Minotola Fire Company Breakfast (07:00-12:00)
Sun. May 15, 2011	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest (Foot-Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries) (10:00 - 17:00)
Sat. May 21, 2011	09:00	Nesco VFC	Craft & Vender Show
Sat. May 21, 2011	11:00	Hammonton VFC #2	4th Annual Second-2-None Motorcycle Run
Sun. Jun. 5, 2011	12:00	Dorothy VFC	54th Annual Chicken BBQ 12:00 -18:00
Sat. Oct. 1, 2011	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot-Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries) (10:00 - 17:00)
Sat. Oct. 1, 2011	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 2, 2011	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot-Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries) (10:00 - 17:00)
Sat. Nov. 12, 2011	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner

(Please email your event info to robert.mellon@atlanticcountyfireassoc.org)