

# Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President  
Amor "Skip" Portale  
Vice President  
Ellsworth Ott  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Charles "Chuck" Kisby



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

October 19, 2011

## Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on October 19, 2011 at the Dorothy Volunteer Fire Company 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

President Portale introduced Chief Gibney of the Dorothy Volunteer Fire Company. Chief Gibney welcomed all to Dorothy, thanked the Dorothy VFC Ladies' Auxiliary for assistance with refreshments, and wished all a Happy Halloween.

## 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 September 21, 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 \$120,550.39, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / ING Direct / Parke Bank  
Checking: \$55,325.36 / Savings: \$2,099.62 / Savings: \$40,047.60 / 13 Month CD: \$23,077.81  
/ 1.35% - Due 5/6/2012

## Committee Reports

**Executive Committee** – Vice Chairman Oscar Dutch Jr. reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 4, 2011 in South Egg Harbor at 19:30. The committee will meet at the South Egg Harbor firehouse at 17:00 or the Never There Gun Club, Hammonton, at 17:20 for the spaghetti and crab sauce dinner at the gun club. All are welcome to join the committee for dinner.

**Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board** – Oscar Dutch Jr. reported that the next meeting of the board is scheduled to be held on November 14, 2011.

**Fire Coordinator** – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent thanked Lefty Clayton for the draft letter shared with county departments for support of the NJ Division of Fire Safety in its current state. Ed reported that any talk of the breakup of the NJ DFS is

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currently only talk and no current plans have been presented for a breakup. The letters of support should keep it that way. Ed reported that the Tender Task Force drill scheduled for Oct. 22 in New Gretna has all final approvals and will commence at 08:00 as a real time dispatch drill. Ed reported on the details of drill and some of the issues encountered by the planners of the drill. Ed highlighted the importance of mutual aid from Atlantic and Ocean Counties provided to this section of Burlington County due to the remoteness from the remainder of Burlington County. Ed reported on the current status of the Homeland Security Grants either received by, or being planned for, Atlantic County. The FY2009 and FY2010 grants need final purchases made before the FY2011 grant spending plan can be finalized. The FY2012 grants are still awaiting federal approval. Ed will be attending a planning meeting for the FY2012 grant application preparation and needs all departments/companies to submit a wish list of items with current pricing to possibly be included in the application. Ed reported that Tender Task Force Bravo has a drill scheduled for Nov. 13, 2011 and that details will be released shortly by the task force coordinator. Ed reported on the Fire Coordinator/Deputy Fire Coordinator responses to county incidents including the Oct. 18, 2011 fire in Hammonton. Ed reminded all Deputy Fire Coordinators to sign on with District 25 when responding, work with the Incident Commander, keep District 25 up to date with incident, and to notify the NJ DFS when an incident escalates to a multi-alarm incident. Ed reported that he has a meeting scheduled with the Atlantic City FD to review their mutual aid plan and dispatch protocols. Ed reminded all Deputy Fire Coordinators to submit any mutual aid updates from their assigned departments/companies by the end of November. Ed thanked all of the departments/companies that provided cover-up details to the Cape May City FD and West Cape May FD during the funeral of Lt. Andrew Boyt. Those departments/companies were Absecon FD, Atlantic City FD, Cologne FC, Linwood FD, Mays Landing FC, Northfield FD, Pleasantville FD, and Somers Point FD.

**Training** – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that he had to cancel the SCBA Competency class due to low enrollment and that the November RIT class would also have to be canceled since the SCBA class is a prerequisite. Mike reported that other classes including Modern Vehicle Extrication and the QTO/QSO/ODI classes have also been canceled. Mike reported that the Firefighter I and II classes are running well. Mike reported that the NJ Training & Education Committee is submitting new guidelines for RIT training to the state for approval. Mike reported on the requirements for a department/company to host live burn training at the training center. A Level II Instructor is required to be in charge and EMS must be available on scene (minimum EMT with training center provide trauma bag). All live burn participants must be NJ Firefighter I certified and should be non-injured and currently approved for active firefighting. Debate concerning approved for active firefighting ensued as to relation to physical condition and/or age. Mike reported that there is no set training center definition and that each individual firefighter, department/company, and/or municipality should have their own definition of active firefighter. Mike reported on the remaining classes scheduled for the 2011 Fall Semester including the Nov. 13, 2011 Firefighter II challenge exam. This may be the last scheduled challenge exam in the state for 2011.

**Library** – Ron Bird reported that due to the library being housed in a classroom that is scheduled out often, it is best to contact the training center, who then can contact Ron, and arrange for a mutually convenient time to access the library resources. Ron reported that he will be in the library on Oct. 19, 2011 if anything is needed.

**Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association** – Chick Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on November 29, 2011 in Linwood and that the Chief's Association has recommended that the county keep Ed Vincent on for another term as Atlantic County Fire Coordinator.

**NJ Firemen's Home** – Oscar Dutch Jr. reported there are seventy-two guests in the home after thirteen new admissions and a waiting list has been established for future admissions. Oscar reported that the Board of Managers held a reorganization meeting and Oscar has been reelected and will continue to serve as Chairman. Oscar reported that a joint meeting has been scheduled with the NJ State Fireman's Association.

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## Communications

There were no communications to report.

## Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

## New Business

There was no new business to act on.

## Bills

The bills, totaling \$827.59, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Jaime Mellon - \$44.00 (postage) / Whitey Swartz - \$40.00 (ACFFA share of 9/11 Ceremony Wreaths) / Lowes - \$196.75 (workshop materials) / Staples - \$32.09 (training office supplies) / Witmer Public Safety Group - \$267.00 (training capital - 6 bar twisted rack) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$247.75 (training food)

## Nomination of Officers

The first of two rounds of nominations was held. Those nominated are as follows:

President (1)	Amor "Skip" Portale
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President (1)	Ellsworth Ott
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (1)	Charles "Chick" Kisby
Secretary (1)	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer (1)	Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sec./Trea. (1)	Cindy L. Badger
Chaplain (1)	Rev. Thomas Sweeny*
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)	Charles Harlan, William Thomas Hand, Wayne Dilks
Executive Comm. (9)	Howard Berchtold Jr. *, Ronald Bird Jr., Rick Coraluzzo Sr. *, Oscar Dutch Jr., James Garth Sr., Charles J. Guenther, R. Thomas Hunter Jr., Ted Reinhard*, C. Robert Winkler III, Levon "Lefty" Clayton

\*have not yet formally accepted nomination and must do so before elections.

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## **Applications for Membership**

There were no applications for membership.

## **Good of the Order**

Oscar Dutch reported that Atlantic County Communications Supervisor Mike Bradeis will be at the November 29, 2011 Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association meeting.

Thank you to the Dorothy Volunteer Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:55. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on November 16, 2011 at the Somers Point Vol. Fire Department Sta. 2.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary



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## Date Clearing

October Fri. Sat., & Sun.	18:00	Scullville VFC	Haunted Hayride at Flemings Junkyard (Firefighter ID gets \$1 off Sep. 30 Opening Night)
October Fri., and Sat.	19:00	Nesco VFC	Haunted House and Haunted Hayride 19:00-23:00 Oct. 7,8,14,15,21,22,28,29
Fri. Oct. 21, 2011	16:30	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner
Sat. Oct. 29, 2011	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Craft & Home Show
Sat. Oct. 29, 2011	13:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Craft Beer Fest
Fri. Nov. 4, 2011	06:00	Farmington VFC	Bus Trip to 9/11 Memorial in New York - \$25pp - Call (609)641-3951
Sat. Nov. 5, 2011	15:00	Mays Landing VFC	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Sat. Nov. 12, 2011	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Wed. Nov. 16, 2011	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Tues. Nov. 29, 2011	20:00	Linwood FD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Dec. 10, 2011	19:00	Hammonton VFD	Annual Christmas Parade & Block Party - Reg. @ 17:30, Parade @ 19:00
Wed. Dec. 21, 2011	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 18, 2012	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 26, 2012	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Tues. Jan. 31, 2012	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Feb. 15, 2012	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

(Please email your event info to [robert.mellon@atlanticcountyfireassoc.org](mailto:robert.mellon@atlanticcountyfireassoc.org))