

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

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



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

May 16, 2012

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on May 16, 2012 at the South Egg Harbor Vol. Fire Co. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of all fallen firefighters and military personnel. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

Chief Gill of the South Egg Harbor Vol. Fire Co. was introduced. Chief Gill welcomed all to South Egg Harbor and Galloway Township.

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 Apr. 18, 2012 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 \$132,387.36, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America	/	Bank of America	/	ING Direct	/	Parke Bank	/	Parke Bank
Checking: \$63,829.23	/	Savings: \$2,100.70	/	Savings: \$20,159.30	/	12 Month CD: \$23,063.91	/	13 Month CD: \$23,234.22
					/	1.10% - Due 10/30/2012	/	1.01% - Due 5/6/2013

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the May 4, 2012 meeting of the executive committee. Howard remarked that he had thanked the officers and executive committee for their thoughts and condolences after the passing of his father, Howard Berchtold, Sr., and he also wanted to thank all of the county firefighters that were able to attend the services. Howard had also thanked Whitey at the Executive Committee meeting for finding the photographs of the original communications van that his father was instrumental with the specification of. Howard read both Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz and Director of Training Mike Corbo's reports to the Executive Committee due to their not being able to attend tonight's meeting. Mike is attending the graduation ceremony of his daughter from Monmouth College. The next meeting of the executive committee is on Jul. 6, 2012.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – (Read from May 4, 2012 Executive Committee Minutes by Chairman Howard Berchtold) Whitey Swartz reported that the Valor Awards went well. The World Trade Center steel display was unveiled after the Valor

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Awards and was appreciated by the county leadership in attendance. A timer will be installed for the lighting in the display. Whitey reported that he would like to design a hands on fire prevention expo for the public in October instead of the fire expo of past years. One possibility is to provide proper fire extinguisher use. Howard thanked Whitey for spearheading these types of programs on behalf of the association. Whitey reported that the Atlantic County Fire and Arson Investigators Association has fewer members than in the past. The Juvenile Firesetter program is part of that associations mission. The Atlantic County Fire Prevention Association is going to assist the Atlantic County Fire and Arson Investigators Association with keeping the Atlantic County Juvenile Firesetter program running. There is no reliable source of funding for the program nor is there a static location for recordkeeping. Whitey has requested that the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association provide room in their office for one file cabinet and allow this program the use of the office to occasionally conduct business. Whitey has also requested permission to use some of the public relations budget to provide some funds to this program for basic supplies. Whitey has cleared this plan with county government leadership and they have no objections. Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. and the Executive Committee agreed to provide the space and assistance needed.

Whitey reported that a large piece of World Trade Center steel will be delivered to his museum on May 20, 2012 and an escort may be provided from the Garden State Parkway to the museum by the Bayview Vol. Fire Company. All are invited to attend."

Training – (Read from May 4, 2012 Executive Committee Minutes by Chairman Howard Berchtold) Director of Training Mike Corbo distributed and reviewed the Tuition Outstanding report. Mike distributed and reviewed the Spring 2012 Semester Recap report. Mike reported on the 2012 capitol purchases. A diamond blade, with a free Maxiblade, was purchased for \$260 and simulation software was purchased for \$775. Mike reported that he will create a mini demonstration of the Digital Combustion simulation software for a future association meeting. Mike reported on the status of the fire academy. The Mack engine is still in use until the county finalizes the papers for the Oceanville engine. Work on the Ford engine will continue after the Oceanville engine is in service. The workbench electrical has been completed and the rope rescue storage boxes are finished. Mike reported on contacts made at FDIC. A free set of turnout gear has been ordered for Hancock from Alliance Gear for a wear test. There were approximately 29,400 attendees at FDIC. Mike has a contact that will provide approximately \$2,000 worth of Turtle Cribbing for only \$200. West Virginia University would like to partner with this association to provide alternative fuel training. WVU would seek a federal grant for the training and \$2,500 may be available. WVU would provide the funding and ACFFA instructors would conduct the training. Mike is also working on the possibility of obtaining an electric fan from Ventry Solutions at no cost.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. reported on the May 14, 2012 meeting of the executive committee. Howard reported that Mike Corbo is working on the needs, wants, and requirements of the training center expansion proposal and will coordinate with the police and EMS training directors. Howard also reported that there was a discussion about the training center trucks.

Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent reported that there will be a Burlington County Haz-Mat drill at Viking Yacht in New Gretna on Oct. 20, 2012. A preliminary planning meeting has already been held and another meeting is scheduled for Jun. 2, 2012. Ed reported on the TTF-B drill in Dorothy and the LDH Strike Team drill in Oceanville, both held on April 29. Oscar Dutch reported on a dispatch issue during the LDH Strike Team drill that delayed the response of the Somers Point units. Ed reported that there was a pre-drill communication lapse and the Sheriff's Department was never notified that there would be a drill. Ed will make sure that District 25 (County Sheriff Dispatch) is kept informed of all scheduled drills from now on. TTF-A is currently in the planning stages of a future drill that may be held at the Pilgrim Academy in Galloway Township. Ed reported on the spending plans for the FY2009 and FY2010 Homeland Security Grants. Also on the proposals being considered for the FY2011 grant which is now moving forward. There is no word yet as to the status of FY2012 grants.

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When the grants and spending plans are approved, two years is allowed to complete the purchases. Ed reported on the plan that will allow all Deputy Fire Coordinators to receive text alerts from the county. Any coordinator that changes their mobile number or carrier should keep Ed informed of the change. Ed gave an update on the fire coordinator turnout gear acquisition. The original contracted company has gone out of business and the contract is now with Nat Alexander. This has delayed the acquisition of the gear. Ed reported that the NJ DFS wants to know if any departments/companies have been cited by NJ PEOSHA or any other regulatory agencies for turnout gear being older than ten years without visible or obvious degradation. Any departments/companies that have been cited should contact Ed. Ed reported that he is still waiting for three deputy fire coordinators to complete their mutual aid update assignment. Ed reported that the fire companies that are being dispatched by Gloucester County have changed their radio frequencies. Ed has requested a list of Gloucester County frequencies. Ed reported on attending the NJ ESF4 scenario exercises for large scale events such as natural disasters.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Chick Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on May 31, 2012 and is hosted by Northfield Fire Department.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that updates are available for the secretary/treasurer manual. Henry reported on the procedure for filing maintenance forms for the transfer of members between local associations. There are different procedures for qualified and non-qualified members. A non-qualified member who is above the age limit has only ninety days to complete a transfer. Contact Henry with any questions ASAP so no time limits are exceeded.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that the home has applied for a block grant from the City of Boonton. \$40,000 has been received and will be used for engineering work on the boilers. Oscar reported that bids were received for repaving work. The winning bidder has been working all week and should complete work on Friday. Oscar reported that the annual weekend barbecues are now being held for the residents. There is currently sixty-four guests in the home. Oscar reported that solar power options are currently being researched. Oscar reported that the recent golf tournament had 204 golfers and the rain held off until the tournament was over.

ACFFA Dinner – Wayne Dilks reported that the dinner held on Mar. 23, 2012 at Careme's, Atl. Cape Comm. College went well and those that attended enjoyed the food very much. A greater attendance of the ACFFA membership is a goal for next year's dinner.

County Communications – Oscar Dutch reported that a decision about the potential site of a county dispatch facility should be made by June 1st. The two sites being considered are the FAA facility and Stockton College.

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 roll over the CD due at Parke Bank as recommended by the Treasurer and the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to donate \$200.00 to the Sandpipers as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association adopt the resolution (Resolution 2012-001) donating the 1983 Ford/E-One engine, obtained for training purposes, to the County of Atlantic so that the county will maintain and insure the engine as they do the other trucks.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$5,881.16, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Mike Corbo - \$78.20 (tools/propane) / Hughes Farms - \$1,008.00 (straw) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$351.00 (food for training) / Team - \$260.00 (saw blade) / Chris Kislow - \$25.91 (gasoline) / MES - \$216.00 (instructor uniform shirts) / Tom Sweeny - \$80.00 (fifty year member cards) / Modern Gas - \$1,439.45 (propane) / International Society of Fire Service Instructors - \$125.00 (annual renewal) / Digital Combustion Inc. - \$775.00 (training simulation software) / Whitey Swartz - \$253.37 (9/11 Display and Valor Award expenses) / Lowes - \$1,069.23 (materials) / Sandpipers - \$200.00 (donation)

Applications for Membership

Austin Wells, Kirt Zorzi, Nicholas Stewart, Michael Griggs, Justin Copley, Raymond Brophy, and Timothy M. McKenna of the Oceanville Vol. Fire Co. No. 1 and Sandra L. Walczak of the Estell Manor Vol. Fire Co. were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

There was a question from the floor concerning the status of the training center air compressor. It was reported that bids for a new compressor have been received and are being reviewed. There is no firm decision as of yet about what will be done with the old compressor.

Dennis Sharpe reported that the Assistance to Firefighters Grants should open for application on or around June 4th and there will be a short window to apply before the cutoff date. Those applying should do their preparation now.

Oscar Dutch reported that the Oceanville Vol. Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary hosted an excellent lunch after the LDH Strike Team drill.

Lefty Clayton reported that the Longport Fire Company's 100th Anniversary Celebration and Parade will be held on June 23, 2012.

Thank you to the South Egg Harbor Vol. Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

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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 Jun. 20, 2012 at the Collings Lakes Vol. Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing

http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm

Sat. May 19, 2012	10:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	"Second 2 None" Motorcycle Poker Run
Sat. May 19, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Sat. May 19, 2012	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sun. May 20, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Thurs. May 31, 2012	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Jun. 2, 2012	13:00	Cologne VFC	Annual Chicken Barbeque
Sun. Jun. 3, 2012	12:00	Dorothy VFC	Annual BBQ - 12:00 -18:00
Sat. Jun. 9, 2012	18:00	Watering Hole Café, Mays Landing	Weymouth VFC Annual Beef and Beer Fundraiser
Sat. Jun. 16, 2012	13:30	Mays Landing Country Club	Bargaintown VFC 5 th Annual Golf Outing
Wed. Jun. 20, 2012	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sat. Jun. 23, 2012	12:00	Longport VFD	100 th Anniversary and Parade
Wed. Jul. 18, 2012	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jul. 26, 2012	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Tues. Jul. 31, 2012	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Aug. 9, 10, 11, 2012	varies	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair
Fri. Aug. 10, 2012	19:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair – Hosting Firefighter Competition Finals
Tues. Aug. 14, 2012	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting NJSFA Atlantic County Caucus
Wed. Aug. 15, 2012	20:00	Cologne VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Fri. Sep. 14, 2012	13:00	Wildwood, NJ	NJSFA Convention - reg. 09:30 to 12:30 - mtg. 13:00
Sat. Sep. 15, 2012	10:00	Wildwood, NJ	NJSFA Convention - reg. 07:30 to 09:45 - mtg. 10:00
Wed. Sep. 19, 2012	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Sep. 27, 2012	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Oct. 6, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Octoberfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Sat. Oct. 6, 2012	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 7, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Octoberfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Wed. Oct. 17, 2012	20:00	Port Republic VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sat. Nov. 10, 2012	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Wed. Nov. 21, 2012	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Tues. Nov. 27, 2012	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Dec. 19, 2012	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 16, 2013	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 24, 2013	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Tues. Jan 29, 2013	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Feb. 20, 2013	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting