

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 20, 2013

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on March 20, 2013 at the Elwood Volunteer Fire Company by First Vice President Ellsworth Ott. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an moment of silence and reflection to remember Sergeant-At-Arms Wm. Thomas Hand. Executive Committee Chairman Howard Berchtold asked all to remember Tommy Hand's family as they grieve. First Vice President Ott then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

First Vice President Ott introduced Chief Anthony Tomasco of the Elwood Vol. Fire Company. Chief Tomasco welcomed all to Elwood.

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 February 20, 2013 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 \$107,694.08, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America	/	Bank of America	/	ING Direct	/	Parke Bank	/	Parke Bank
Checking: \$35,649.64	/	Savings: \$5,002.41	/	Savings: \$20,235.23	/	12 Month CD: \$23,292.93	/	13 Month CD: \$23,513.87
					/	1.10% - Due 10/30/2013	/	1.01% - Due 5/6/2013

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold summarized the minutes from the meeting of the Executive Committee held at Somers Point Station #1 on March 8, 2013. Howard reported that the Executive Committee is recommending three items under new business. Recommend that the association sponsor the New Jersey Firemen's Home 2013 Golf Outing at the bronze level with a \$200.00 donation, that the association authorize the treasurer to roll over the CD due on May 6, 2013 if an interest rate of 0.50% or greater is available or transfer to savings if CD interest rates are less than 0.50%, and that the association authorize the renewal and payment of the workers compensation insurance in the amount of \$1,452. Howard also reported that Whitey will be working with Mike Corbo on a proposal for an event in the fall to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on May 3, 2013 at Whitey Swartz's Fire Museum.

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Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the board met on March 11, 2013 at the training center. Howard reported that the board is looking at the need to expand the training center and how central dispatch plans may affect, or postpone, expansion at the training center. Howard reported that the Police Academy is leaving the training center for other facilities and that may provide some additional classroom space. Howard reported that Mike Corbo has emphasized to the board that the training center is now twenty years old and still in remarkably good shape for that age but some department/companies utilizing the training center for drills are not keeping up with the required QTO/QSO/ODI recertification. If that training is not maintained by departments/companies, it will be required that staff instructors be present when the training center is used for department/company training. The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for May 13, 2013.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported that he had just attended a planning meeting for the airport drill. He informed that drill organizers that the drill is in conflict with the 100th anniversary of the Absecon Fire Department. Ed reported that those participating in the drill will need proper ID and that the drill will start with check-in at 07:30 on May 11th. The drill is required every three years in order to maintain the airport certification. Ed reported that the SJTA Airport Fire Dept. will move into a new station in June and they will also be switching their communication to the dispatch at the SJTA Farley Plaza. Ed reported on some of the issues from the Meadowview Nursing Home incident. The fire coordinator was not directly informed of the incident at the time. Ed reported on the mutual aid dispatch guidelines and when fire coordinators should be requested. Ed reported on the requirement that fire ground communications never be patched onto the county fire dispatch frequency for any extended period of time. It may interfere with the proper dispatching of departments/companies throughout the county. Ed reported that he will be attending the NJ DFS Shore Regional Coordinator meeting, that he will schedule a meeting with his deputy fire coordinators soon, and the John Yochim will be scheduling a Tender Task Force Alpha (TTF-A) drill in the near future. Ed reported that the Large Diameter Hose (LDH) Strike Team has a drill scheduled for 18:00 April 18th at the training center. Ed reported on the need for all county municipalities to sign the mutual aid agreement. Ed pointed out that Longport is one of the only four municipalities that have signed the agreement. Longport received aid from the county during the Hurricane Sandy event that could have been billable at over \$100,000 if they had not signed the agreement. Ed requested that all county fire chiefs work with their municipal leadership to get the agreements signed with corresponding municipal resolutions. Ed reported on the 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 Homeland Security Grants. The 2009 purchases are complete and the 2010 purchases are finishing up now. The 2011 and 2012 funding has been approved and is open for two years in order to price and purchase all approved equipment. The 2013 grants will be awarded by county and by region. Ed has requested that the 2013 fire service funding for Atlantic County go to the county technical rescue team that is being organized. Ed reported that he and Oscar have inventoried all of the task force and strike team equipment already purchased through the grants in order to determine what final pieces of equipment, such as adapters, are still needed. Ed reported that all equipment will become part of the task force/strike team SOGs and that a barcode system is being researched in order to keep track of the equipment. Ed reported on the NJ Senate bill, S1299, that would move fire district elections from mid-February to the primary election in November. Most fire districts oppose this change and those wishing to voice their concern should contact their state Senator. Ed reported on the NJ Assembly bill, A2593, that would require designated fire command structure including deputy and battalion chiefs. This bill is already on the governor's desk. Ed reported that the Ocean County Fire Coordinator has drafted a letter to the governor informing him of the already required provision of NIMS, and the Emergency Resource Deployment Act that already provide for a command structure. Anyone else opposing the bill, as currently written, need to voice their opposition directly to the governor's office ASAP. Ed reported that the NJ DOT has a traffic safety unit that will respond to any incident or drill on a state highway at no cost 24/7. The number to request the traffic safety unit is (856)486-6650. Ed reported on the recent New Gretna VFC, Burlington County, installation dinner where a thank you plaque was presented to John Yochim and TTF-A for the assistance. John has given the plaque to Whitey for display at the training center. Ed reported that the mutual aid plan needs to be updated, and filed with the state, every two years. Updates include new officers and/or equipment. Ed reported

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that he has been in contact with the NJ Turnpike Authority and has been requested to update them with information about which departments/companies are primary response onto the Garden State Parkway and what mile markers they cover. Ed will compile that information and report back to the turnpike authority.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz reported that requests for valor award nominations and 50+ years of service recognition have been sent to all fire chiefs. Two valor nominations and six 50+ years of service recognition have been received. Whitey reported that this year is the twentieth year that the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center has been in operation and he working with Mike Corbo to plan an open house, or other event, for the public in the fall. Whitey reported that the Cape Atlantic 200 Club has scheduled their annual breakfast and memorial service for June 9, 2013, not April as in years past, and further details will be available at a later date. Whitey reported that he will be sending out requests for updates to the county fire service directory.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – The next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on March 28, 2013 at the Minotola Vol. Fire Company.

Atlantic County Fire Radio Policy Committee / Central Dispatch – Oscar Dutch reported on new positive movement with central dispatch. One possibility is locating it at the training center or at another existing property being researched in Egg Harbor Township. Oscar reported that a radio dispatch survey has been sent out to all fire chiefs. Any questions should be directed to the committee members listed on the survey letter. Oscar reported that the issue of 800 Mhz. patching to the county fire dispatch frequency will be brought up at the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's meeting on March 28 in Minotola.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported the budget for the home has been signed by Governor Christie. Oscar reported that the last wing to be renovated will start in May.

NJ Forest Fire Service – Bill Donnelly introduced the Atlantic County NJFF Fire Wardens in attendance. NJ FF planners, tape measures, and DVDs were available to those who wanted them. Bill reported that the 50th anniversary of the 1963 fires is approaching. Bill had an updated Atlantic County NJ FF warden contact sheet for distribution.

Legislative – John Wagner reported on the NJ Senate bill, S503, that would require oxygen providers to notify local fire departments when medical oxygen deliveries are stopped at an address and all equipment has been removed. This would allow the notation that oxygen is on site to be removed from CAD systems when the equipment is no longer at an address. John also reported on the NJ Assembly bill, A2596, that would remove the requirement that a fire extinguisher be required in a residence.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that there is a new membership application. The new application has a provision that will allow automatic transferring of a member from one local to another. Henry reported that the relief application process is being updated and may possibly be done online.

ACFFA Dinner – Wayne Dilks reported that the dinner was held on Friday, March 15, 2013 at Careme's, Atlantic Cape Community College. The dinner was well attended.

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Communications

A card was received, and read, from The Hand Family thanking the association for the flowers sent to the service for Wm. Thomas Hand.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association sponsor the New Jersey Firemen's Home 2013 Golf Outing at the bronze level with a \$200.00 donation.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association authorize the treasurer to roll over the CD due on May 6, 2013 if an interest rate of 0.50% or greater is available or transfer to savings if CD interest rates are less than 0.50%.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association authorize the renewal and payment of the workers compensation insurance in the amount of \$1,452.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$8,897.35, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Jones & Bartlett Learning - \$1,917.24 (fire officer books) / Fail Safe - \$116.80 (ladder testing) / MES - \$884.00 (voice amps and adapters) / Pocket Full of Posies - \$100.00 (flowers for Wm. Thomas Hand funeral) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$75.00 (training food) / Continental Fire & Safety - \$1,683.40 (rope rescue equipment) / Staples - \$53.97 (training office supplies) / AtlantiCare - \$50.00 (CPR cards) / Hayes Mindish - \$95.00 (ACFFA 2013 schedule cards) / Liberty Mutual - \$1,452.00 (workers comp insurance) / International Code Council - \$811.20 (fire inspector NJ code books) / Landsman Uniforms - \$400.00 (50+ years of service pins) / Careme's - \$1,058.74 (ACFFA annual dinner) / NJ Firemen's Home - \$200.00 (golf tournament donation)

Applications for Membership

John Falciano of the Elwood Vol. Fire Company, Robert Stanton of the NJ Forest Fire Service, Marylynn Graham Egnor and Edward H. Fugee III of the Bargaintown Vol. Fire Company were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Dennis Sharpe reported on the county technical rescue team that Mike Corbo and Vince Jones are organizing. Departments/companies that have specialized training (high angle, water, confined space, etc.) have already had an introductory meeting. Any department/company that is not already part of the process, and is interested, should contact either Mike or Vince for details.

Absecon Volunteer Fire Department now has 100th Anniversary mugs available for purchase.

Thank you to the Elwood 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 21:25. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on April 17, 2013 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale 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 http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Fri. Mar. 22, 2013	17:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 2	Fish Fry
Sat. Mar. 23, 2013	16:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 2	All You can Eat Spaghetti Dinner
Sun. Mar. 24, 2013	07:00	Minotola VFC	Annual Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt
Sat. Apr. 13, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Tues. Apr. 16, 2013	11:00	Nesco VFC	Italian Hoagie Sale
Thurs. Apr. 18, 2013	18:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	LDH Strike Team Drill
Sat. May 4, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Tues. May 7, 2013		Neschanic Valley Golf Club	New Jersey Firemen's Home 2013 Golf Outing
Sat. May 11, 2013	07:30	Atlantic City Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Sat. May 11, 2013	12:00	Absecon VFD	100 th Anniversary
Sat. May 18, 2013	10:00	Oceanville VFC	MayFest @ Historic Smithville & Village Greene (Selling Hot dogs, Hamburgers, and French Fries)
Sat. May 18, 2013	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sun. May 19, 2013	10:00	Oceanville VFC	MayFest @ Historic Smithville & Village Greene (Selling Hot dogs, Hamburgers, and French Fries)
Sun. Jun. 2, 2013	12:00	Dorothy VFC	56 th Annual Chicken BBQ
Tues. Jul. 16, 2013	22:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 2	50/50 Raffle @ 138 th Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Tues. Aug. 13, 2013	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Fri. Sep. 13, 2013	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 14, 2013	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Oct. 5, 2013	10:00	Oceanville VFC	Oktoberfest @ Historic Smithville & Village Greene (Selling Hot dogs, Hamburgers, and French Fries)
Sat. Oct. 5, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 6, 2013	10:00	Oceanville VFC	Oktoberfest @ Historic Smithville & Village Greene (Selling Hot dogs, Hamburgers, and French Fries)
Sat. Oct. 19, 2013	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sat. Nov. 9, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner

ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Apr. 17, 2013	20:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Valor Awards Presentation (Hosted by Margate FD)
Wed. May 15, 2013	20:00	Oceanville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 19, 2013	20:00	Richland VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 17, 2013	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 21, 2013	20:00	Mays Landing VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 18, 2013	20:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 16, 2013	20:00	Estell Manor VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 20, 2013	20:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 18, 2013	20:00	West Atlantic City VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 15, 2014	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service

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Wed. Feb. 19, 2014	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. May 3, 2013	19:30	Whitey Swartz Fire Museum	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 5, 2013	19:30	Landisville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 6, 2013	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 1, 2013	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 3, 2014	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. May 13, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 8, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Sep. 9, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 18, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 13, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

Thurs. Mar. 28, 2013	20:00	Minotola VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Thurs. May 30, 2013	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Tues. Jul. 30, 2013	20:00	Estell Manor VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Thurs. Sep. 26, 2013	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Tues. Nov. 26, 2013	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
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Tues. Jan. 28, 2014	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 25, 2013	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
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Thurs. Jan. 23, 2014	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.