

# 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 "Chick" Kisby



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

September 16, 2015

## **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:05 on September 16, 2015 at the Hammonton Volunteer Fire Company Sta. 1 by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Reverend Thomas Sweeny. Reverend Sweeny reported that Executive Committee Member, and Past Chief Galloway Fire Dept., Charles J. Guenther has gone home to be in God's hands. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

## **Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief**

President Portale announced that services for Charlie Guenther are scheduled for the evening of September 20<sup>th</sup> and the morning of September 21<sup>st</sup>. President Portale introduced Hammonton Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Michael Ruberton. Chief Ruberton welcomed all to Hammonton.

## **In Attendance**

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 38 of 176      Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 15 of 44

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2015 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 \$113,454.84, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Capital One 360 / Parke Bank  
Checking: \$31,987.37 / Savings: \$5,006.88 / Savings: \$52,593.47 / 13 Month CD: \$23,867.12  
/ 1.01% - Due 6/13/2016

## **Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee** – Vice-Chairman Oscar Dutch summarized the minutes from meeting of the Executive Committee held on September 4, 2015 at the Absecon Fire Department. Oscar noted that Charlie Guenther was in attendance at this meeting and was warmly welcomed back after his medical absence. Oscar reported that a presentation is being scheduled to release the central dispatch conceptual drawings to all Mayors and First Responders. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for October 30, 2015 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.

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**Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board** – Dave Buzby reported on the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Advisory Board. The county is still working on the title, registration, and tags for the Northfield engine. The burn building door replacement project is under way with the plans to begin installing new doors in November with a December completion at a cost to the county of approximately \$143,000. Oscar Dutch reported that an electrical issue has been causing the damage to the hydrant pumps in the pit. There was discussion about the pump issues and the cost the county is incurring when fixing or replacing them. Oscar also reported that a donation of a full frame car is being sought for the propane training pad. The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for November 9, 2015 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center.

**Fire Coordinator** – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent thanked all of the Fire Departments/Companies that supported the Atlantic City Fire Department with apparatus during the air show including Scullville VFC, South Egg Harbor VFC, Somers Point VFD, Air National Guard FD, SJTA Atlantic City Airport FD, Avalon VFD, and Green Creek VFC. Ed reported that the September 10<sup>th</sup> drill for Tender Task Force – Alpha (TTF-A) was canceled due to weather and a new date is being looked into. Ed reported that the FY2014 Homeland Security Grant still has some monies left and that task force equipment has been identified for purchase. The FY2015 Homeland Security Grant spending plan has been approved and will be executed in 2016. Ed reported that the new five year mutual aid agreement has been sent out to all twenty-three municipalities with a request to pass a resolution authorizing the signing of the agreement. Ed stressed the importance of signing the agreement to prevent the potentially high reimbursement costs when utilizing mutual aid without an agreement in place. Ed reported that he needs to keep the Mutual Aid Plan up to date and file those updates with the NJ DFS in 2016. Ed requested that anyone with new apparatus or equipment, retiring apparatus, or have new officers should inform him of those updates as soon as possible via either phone or email before the end of the year. Ed reported that there will be a Fire Coordinators meeting in Wildwood at 10:00 AM on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Training** – Fire Marshal, and Fire Instructor, Dave Buzby reported that the Fall 2015 Firefighter I is running with twenty-three students and that the Fall 2015 Firefighter II is running with fifteen students.

**Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association** – Chick Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association will be 8:00 PM on October 14, 2015 at the East Vineland Volunteer Fire Company.

**NJ Firemen's Home** – Board Manager Oscar Dutch reported that the next meeting of the Board of Managers is in October, but they will also meet in Wildwood prior to the NJSFA convention. Oscar noted that Sandy Weinberg will be retiring from the NJSFA secretary position to run for president.

**Atlantic County Central Dispatch** – Oscar Dutch reported on plans to schedule a presentation, at the Atlantic County Institute of Technology, to reveal the conceptual drawings and plans for central dispatch to all local mayors and fire responder agency representatives. Oscar reported that a cheaper model of portable radio that is available will only work with P25 phase 2 and that it will not work on the county system until the switchover is complete. Oscar checked with Vince Jones about the anticipated switchover and learned that the goal is to switch the county system over to P25 phase 2 in March/April of 2016. There was discussion about the P25 and EDACS radio systems and concerns about whether all municipalities will be off EDACS by 2017. There were some concerns that some municipalities will still be on EDACS and that dual radio systems may be needed until the transition to the P25 system.

## Communications

There were no communications to report.

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## Deferred Business

Secretary Robert Mellon reminded all to return the IRS Form W-9, Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification, if one was received, as this is important to this association's 501(c)(3) application.

## New Business

A Resolution to accept the Estell Manor engine from the County of Atlantic was introduced. Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association adopt the resolution (Resolution 2015-002).

A Resolution to authorize the President to dispose of the Estell Manor engine, received from the County of Atlantic, for the best possible financial consideration was introduced. Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association adopt the resolution (Resolution 2015-003).

A Resolution of Sympathy in remembrance of Charles J. Guenther was introduced. Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association adopt the resolution (Resolution 2015-004).

## Bills

The bills, totaling \$7,410.28, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds. There was a question concerning the auto insurance. The policy covers any member/officer for expenses beyond their primary auto insurance coverage and related to an incident occurring when on official association business, such as attending a meeting.

Bills --- Defender Emergency Products - \$3,871.50 (thermal imaging camera) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$182.55 (graduation food) / Thomas Sweeny - \$170.00 (Wildwood parade trophies) / Business Management Daily - \$96.00 (executive leadership subscription) / Brown & Brown - \$2,546.72 (general liability and auto insurances) / Jaime Mellon - \$49.00 (roll of stamps) / Med-Tech Resource - \$494.51 (training equipment)

## Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership.

## Good of the Order

President Portale wished all safe travels to the NJSFA convention on behalf of himself, the association officers, and the executive committee.

Howard Berchtold reported that he had spent much quality time with Charlie Guenther over the last couple of weeks. Howard drove Charlie to the September 4<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting in Absecon and reported that Charlie was thrilled to get back out to a meeting. Howard noted that he had a good talk with Charlie that evening about the fire service that Charlie so greatly loved. Tom Sweeny also reported that he had spent some quality time with Charlie and reflected on that time. All agreed that Charlie was a good man and will be dearly missed.

Thank you to the Hammonton Volunteer Fire Company Sta. 1 for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

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## Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny. 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 October 21, 2015 at the Port Republic Volunteer Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary





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## RESOLUTION NO. 2015-003

### RESOLUTION OF THE ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY INC. AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF ONE FIRE ENGINE

**WHEREAS**, the County of Atlantic, a body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey (hereinafter referred to as the "County") and the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association of the State of New Jersey Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "Association") in the year 1992 entered into an agreement titled "Atlantic County Training Center Agreement" (hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement provides ownership, and all maintenance and repair there to, of the Atlantic County Training Center to the County and charges the Association with the educational activities, materials, and equipment associated with the training of paid and volunteer firefighters; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has since agreed to also own, insure, and maintain the motor vehicles (fire pumper, ladders, etc.) deemed necessary, by the county and the association, for the training of paid and volunteer firefighters; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has transferred ownership of a retired fire pumper, deemed to be no longer needed, to the Association by a resolution passed by the Board of Chosen Freeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Association has no need to retain ownership of a retired fire pumper; and

**WHEREAS**, the fire pumper currently owned by the Association is as follows:

1. Make: Ford / Grumman
2. Model: Heavy Duty 8000 Series / Fire Apparatus
3. Body Type: Heavy Duty Truck / Fire Pumper
4. Body Color: Red/White
5. Year: 1982
6. Miles: 19,909
7. Vehicle Identification Number ("VIN"): 1FDYD80U6CA37162
8. Pump: Waterous, Model CMYB, Manf. Date - 8/80, Ser # 60964, 1000GPM

### NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY INC.:

**SECTION 1.** The Association hereby finds that the property described above in this Resolution has been obtained by the Association from the County after the Association donated to the County a suitable replacement fire pumper.

**SECTION 2.** The President of the Association is hereby authorized to dispose of said fire pumper by the best possible means in order to obtain the best possible financial consideration for the association.

Adopted this 16th day of September, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amor "Skip" Portale, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

STATE OF NEW JERSEY	>	>	SS
COUNTY OF ATLANTIC	>		

I, Robert A. Mellon, Secretary of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association of the State of New Jersey Inc., certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association, at a regular meeting held on the 16th day of September, 2015, by the membership in attendance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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## *Atlantic County Firefighters' Association Resolution of Sympathy*

*Whereas, it has pleased the Divine Providence in His everlasting wisdom to remove from our midst our faithful comrade,*

*Charles J. Guenther*

*Whereas, through his death this Association has lost an earnest co-worker and devoted friend,*

*Therefore be it Resolved, that the heartfelt sympathy of this Association be extended to his bereaved wife and family, and*

*Be it further Resolved, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes and a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of our departed comrade,*

Resolution No. 2015-004

Adopted this 16th day of September, 2015.  
Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Amor "Skip" Portale – President

Robert A. Mellon – Secretary

ATTEST:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

STATE OF NEW JERSEY >

>

SS

COUNTY OF ATLANTIC >

I, Robert A. Mellon, Secretary of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association of the State of New Jersey Inc., certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association, at a regular meeting held on the 16th day of September, 2015, by the membership in attendance.

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing      [http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA\\_Date\\_Clearing.htm](http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm)

## Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Fri. Sep. 18, 2015	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 19, 2015	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 26, 2015	10:00	Dorothy VFC	1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Car Show
Sat. Oct. 3, 2015	10:00	Historic Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries)
Sat. Oct. 3, 2015	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 4, 2015	10:00	Epiphany Lutheran Church, Pleasantville	First Responders Appreciation Sunday
Sun. Oct. 4, 2015	10:00	Historic Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries)
Sun. Oct. 4, 2015	13:00	Dover International Speedway, DE	8 <sup>th</sup> Annual NFFF Firefighter Appreciation Event & NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Race
Mon. Oct. 5, 2015	19:00	Ocean County. Library - Long Beach Island Branch	Fire Prevention Week - FDNY Presentation
Sat. Oct. 10, 2015	08:00	Elwood VFC @ Mays Landing Country	14th Annual William Kennedy Memorial Golf Tournament
Sat. Oct. 10, 2015	09:00	Oceanville VFC	Ladies Auxiliary Yard/Craft Show
Sat. Oct. 17, 2015	08:30	New York City	ACFFA Bus Trip to 9/11 Memorial and NYC Fire Museum
Sat. Oct. 17, 2015	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner (15:30 - 19:30)
Sat. Oct. 24, 2015	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	Fall/Christmas Craft, Art, & Home Show
Sat. Oct. 24, 2015	11:00	Mt. Carmel Carnival Grounds, Hammonton	Operation Vets Chili Challenge
Sat. Oct. 31, 2015	11:00	Landisville VFC	Annual Beef BBQ
Sat. Nov. 14, 2015	15:00	Scullville VFC	Fall Fundraiser Beef & Beer
Sat. Nov. 14, 2015	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. Dec. 5, 2015	11:00	Cardiff VFC	Open House with Santa Claus (11:00 - 15:00)
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Fri. Mar. 18, 2016	17:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	5th Annual Firehouse Fish Fry Dinner
Sat. Apr. 2, 2016	18:30	Mays Landing Country Club	Annual ACFFA Dinner (RSVP by March 18 <sup>th</sup> )
Sat. Apr. 9, 2016	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. May 7, 2016	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. May 14, 2016	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Sat. Oct. 8, 2016	08:00	Elwood VFC @ Mays Landing Country	15th Annual William Kennedy Memorial Golf Tournament
Sat. Nov. 12, 2016	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com

## Regional Drills/Training

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Sat. May 14, 2016	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill



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## ACFFA Meetings

### Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Oct. 21, 2015	20:00	Port Republic VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 18, 2015	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 16, 2015	20:00	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 20, 2016	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 17, 2016	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

### Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Oct. 30, 2015	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 8, 2016	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

## Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

### Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Nov. 9, 2015	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 4, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

### Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Oct. 14, 2015	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 11, 2015	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 9, 2015	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
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Jan. 2016	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Feb. 2016	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

### Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

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Thurs. Jan. 28, 2016	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 28, 2016	19:30	Oceanville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association