

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

February 17, 2016

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:05 on February 17, 2016 at the Longport Volunteer Fire Department 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. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Portale introduced Chief Levon "Lefty" Clayton of the Longport Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Clayton welcomed all to Longport and reported that Longport Mayor, and Firefighter, Nick Russo was attending EMT training. Chief Clayton relayed a message from Mayor Russo welcoming all to Longport.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance - 49 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented - 21

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2016 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 \$108,311.55, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Capital One 360 / Parke Bank
Checking: \$26,638.33 / Savings: \$5,007.51 / Savings: \$52,734.55 / 13 Month CD: \$23,931.16
/ 1.01% - Due 6/13/2016

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported on the annual reorganizational meeting of the committee held on January 8, 2016 in Pomona. Howard thanked the Executive Committee for reelecting him as Chairman and Oscar Dutch as Vice-Chairman. Gene Sharpe and Butch Kienzle were welcomed as new members of the committee and a moment of silence was held to honor Charles Guenther. Howard summarized the minutes from that meeting and reported on the recommendations that the association adopt the 2016 Atlantic County Fire Academy Training Budget Proposal of \$25,100 and Capital Purchase Proposal of \$15,000. Also recommended for adoption are the Public Relations Budget Proposal of \$1,815 and the ACFFA Photographer Budget Proposal of \$151.16. Howard noted that the budgets are available for review when requested. Howard reported that the county will once again purchase two sets of instructor turn-out gear and the association will purchase two sets. Howard reported that the committee was informed about eleven of the eighteen students

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failing the Firefighter I and discussing it at length. Howard followed up on the Absecon Fire Department gear damage and the agreement that the association will reimburse them for fifty percent of the replacement costs. Howard noted that moving forward, a policy will be in place about equipment utilized during training and that risks involved. Any incidents of damage will need to be reported immediately and will be presented to the Executive Committee for review. Howard reported that the committee discussed the association finances and that the annual audit has been scheduled for February 25th. Howard also reported that Jim Garth will be researching a portable PA system to be used at meetings. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for March 4, 2016 in Cardiff.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported on the meeting held on January 4, 2016. The burn building door replacement project will be completed soon. The next meeting of the board is on March 7, 2016 at the training center.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported on coordinator responses including fires in Atlantic City and Richland, a 48 inch water main break in Atlantic City, and a mutual aid response for a fire in Sea Isle City, Cape May County. Ed reported that Germania and Mays Landing assisted with the water main break and Somers Point responded to Sea Isle City. Ed reported that the County EOC was activated for Winter Storm Jonas and that the NJ Division of Fire Safety has requested information about any emergency service equipment damaged during the storm for a FEMA report. Ed reported that he filed the updated mutual aid plans with the NJ DFS and that all county municipalities have now signed the 2015-2019 mutual aid agreement. Ed provided an update on the Homeland Security Grants. The FY2014 spending is complete with the remaining \$7 being relinquished. Purchase orders for the FY2015 spending plan will start in two months. The working group will meet soon to discuss the requests for the FY2016 grant. Ed requested that any department/company with FY2017 requests contact him at 609-277-1730. Ed reported that Kevin Stout is the new Fire Coordinator in Monmouth County and Deputy Fire Coordinators Ron Ruggeri, Chip Stockton, and Howard Berchtold attended the NJ DFS coordinator meeting on February 6th. Howard Berchtold reported on some of that meeting including information about responding to railroad emergencies, the NJ DFS has requested that all fire departments review their highway safety plans and training, NJ weekend at the National Fire Academy is set for April 2 & 3, information was provided about terrorism response and active shooter incidents, the American Red Cross provided information about their fire safety training programs, and line of duty deaths (LODD) and critical incident stress debriefing (CISD) procedures were discussed.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reported that the 50+ year member recognition submissions and valor award nominations need to be submitted before March 23rd. It is requested that a chief submit nominations for valor awards and that a chief or president submit the name of those reaching 50+ years of service. Dave reported that the Meadowview Nursing Home has full size nursing home mattresses available to any fire departments/companies. Dave noted that the mattresses may be useful for stations that need bedding for the occasional standby during storms or other events. Anyone interested should contact Fire Marshal Buzby.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that Firefighter I has started with twenty-four students and that is concerning since the spring usually has between forty to fifty students. Firefighter II is scheduled to start on Monday March 7th. Mike reported that the burn building doors have all been installed and are working great. Mike reported on the eleven of eighteen that failed the Firefighter I test and noted that all have now passed after the second attempt. Mike reported that the course book is being printed and has also been emailed and posted online. Mike will be scheduling Fire Inspector and Fire Investigator classes. Mike noted that Kean University will be running Fire Instructor I and II classes in Atlantic County and registration is through the Kean University website for fire training. Mike reviewed several new classes scheduled along with many of the regular classes scheduled. One new class is Evidence Based Firefighting based on NIST/UL studies. Mike reported that he has run this class in Galloway Township and it was well received. Mike reported that NJ has adopted

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NIST/UL standards and this training is also part of the current Firefighter I curriculum. Mike noted that he was initially skeptical about the methods but is now a believer after reviewing the data presented from real world testing used to show modern structures and materials affect the flow paths and intensity of fires. Evidence Based Firefighting is a three hour class and two have been scheduled. It is highly recommended that all firefighters try to attend one. New Jersey is the first state to adopt the new NIST/UL standards into firefighter training. Mike spent some time summarizing some of what is taught in the course. President Portale, also Galloway Twp. Fire Chief, reported that the Galloway Firefighters were captivated by the training and felt it was highly worthwhile taking the time to attend.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association – Butch Kienzle reported on the February 10th meeting when central dispatch was discussed and that the next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association will be 8:00 PM on March 9, 2016 at the Landisville Volunteer Fire Company.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that all is going well at the home, the electrical replacement work is almost complete in the old section of the home, and some interesting old wiring was found during the replacement. Oscar reported that the annual golf tournament benefiting the home is scheduled for May 2nd.

Atlantic County Central Dispatch – Oscar Dutch reported that a meeting was held recently with Stockton University and that he heard that the plans for central dispatch are being put on hold. Freeholder John Carman reported that he was informed by County Administrator DeRosso that only six municipalities returned the request for updated dispatch cost data. Butch Kienzle reported that he has heard that Stockton is now looking into expanding/updating their current police station and that the approx. \$5 million and land offered by Stockton for central dispatch may be lost.

NJ State Firemen's Assn. – Executive Committeeman Henry Schoenstein reported that NJSFA financial reports are due by February 20th and the percentage sheets are due by February 28th. Henry reported that he has just received the packet to be reviewed before the next NJSFA Executive Committee meeting and that it contains proposed changes to the election process at the convention.

Audit – President Portale reported that the audit is scheduled for February 25th in Pomona.

200 Club – Secretary Mellon reported that the 200 Club of Atlantic and Cape May Counties has scheduled the 31st Annual Atlantic/Cape Memorial Service and Brunch for March 13th in Atlantic City. Information and tickets are available at <http://200clubofatlanticandcapemaycounties.org/events.html>

ACFFA Dinner – President Portale reported that the dinner is scheduled for April 2nd and that RSVP with payment is due by March 25th. Checks can be made out to the association.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act upon.

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New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the 2016 Public Relations Budget Proposal of \$1,815, the 2016 ACFFA Photographer Budget Proposal of \$151.16, the 2016 Atlantic County Fire Academy Training Budget Proposal of \$25,100, and the 2016 Atlantic County Fire Academy Training Capital Purchase Proposal of \$15,000 as recommended by the Executive Committee.

President Portale reported that the annual \$200 donation to the Atlantic City Sand Pipers was overlooked in 2015 a recommended adding it to the 2016 donation. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to donate \$400 (\$200 for 2015 and \$200 for 2016) to the Atlantic City Sand Pipers.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$1,021.54, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Mays Landing Country Club - \$300.00 (ACFFA annual dinner deposit) / Lowes - \$167.78 (equipment replacement) / South Jersey Welding - \$14.26 (equipment rental) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$139.50 (food for Firefighter I graduation) / Atlantic City Sand Pipers - \$400.00 (donate \$200 for 2015 and \$200 for 2016)

Applications for Membership

James Sutor of the Linwood Fire Department was accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Longport Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:15. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on March 16, 2016 in Elwood.

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. Feb. 19, 2016	18:00	Fred & Ethel's Lantern Light Tavern, Smithville	Beef & Beer to Benefit Oceanville VFC
Sun. Mar. 13, 2016	10:30	St. Nicholas Church (10:30) & Tropicana Casino (12:00)	200 Club of Atlantic & Cape May Counties - Memorial Service (10:30) & Brunch (12:00)
Fri. Mar. 18, 2016	17:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	5th Annual Firehouse Fish Fry Dinner
Sat. Mar. 19, 2016	18:00	5 Points Inn, East Vineland	Beef & Beer to Benefit East Vineland VFC
Sat. Apr. 2, 2016	18:30	Mays Landing Country Club	Annual ACFFA Dinner (RSVP by March 25th)
Sat. Apr. 9, 2016	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Su. Apr. 24, 2016	11:00	Richland VFC	2 nd Annual Chicken BBQ (11:00 - 17:00)
Sat. May 7, 2016	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Tues. May 10, 2016	08:30	Neschanic Valley Golf Club	New Jersey Firemen's Home 2016 Golf Outing
Sat. May 14, 2016	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Sun. Jun. 5, 2016	12:00	Dorothy VFC	59th Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 - 18:00)
Sun. Jul. 17, 2016	14:00	Pitney Pub, Galloway	Beef & Beer to Benefit Bayview VFC (14:00 - 17:00)
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
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ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Mar. 16, 2016	20:00	Elwood VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 20, 2016	20:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center (Host -Margate FD)	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Annual Valor Awards Presentation
Wed. May 18, 2016	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 15, 2016	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 20, 2016	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 17, 2016	20:00	Weymouth VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 21, 2016	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 19, 2016	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 16, 2016	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 21, 2016	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 18, 2017	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 15, 2017	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Mar. 4, 2016	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 6, 2016	19:30	Firefighters Museum of Southern New Jersey	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 1, 2016	19:30	Landisville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 2, 2016	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 4, 2016	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 6, 2017	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

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Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Mar. 7, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. May 2, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 11, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Sep. 12, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 14, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 9, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Mar. 9, 2016	20:00	Landisville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Apr. 13, 2016	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. May 11, 2016	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jun. 8, 2016	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jul. 13, 2016	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Aug. 10, 2016	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Sep. 14, 2016	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 12, 2016	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 9, 2016	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 14, 2016	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
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Jan. 11, 2017	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Feb. 8, 2017	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 28, 2016	19:30	Oceanville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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Thurs. Jan. 26, 2017	19:30	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 27, 2017	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association