

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
Sandra L. Walczak

June 27, 2018

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on June 27, 2018 at the East Vineland Volunteer Fire Company by 1st Vice President Ellsworth Ott. The meeting was opened with a flag salute. 1st Vice President Ott then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced. Executive Committee Chairman Howard Berchtold pointed out a chair set at the front with flowers for Reverend Tom Sweeny whom answered his last alarm on June 13th. Howard reflected on the loss of Tom and the recent passing of Don DaGrossa, Carmen Merlino III, and Lee Crossman. Howard extended condolences from the Executive Committee and the Association to all the families and respective departments for their loss. A long moment of silence was taken to reflect on all those that have passed on.

Introduction of Host Chief

1st Vice President Ott introduced Chief Marc Corsiglia of the East Vineland Volunteer Fire Company. Chief Corsiglia welcomed all to East Vineland.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 41 of 176 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 21 of 44

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2018 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on July 6, 2018 at the Somers Point Volunteer Fire Company Station 1. Howard reported that there will be discussion on how to recognize those that have recently passed, and he also reminded all that it is imperative that the younger fire service members start representing their departments and get involved with the county association.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for July 16, 2018.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Lefty Clayton reported that Tender Task Force Alpha (TTF-A) held a drill at the airport on June 24th. Lefty reported that the Atlantic City Airshow is scheduled for Wednesday, August 22nd with a practice day on Tuesday, August 21st. The usual departments and companies that provide emergency services support during the

show will again be requested to assist. Lefty reported that the mutual aid departments for Atlantic City were advised of the large influx of visitors expected for the upcoming weekend with a beach concert to be held on Sunday July 1st. Lefty reported with Chief Nelson Wiest of the Atlantic City Int'l Airport Fire Department. They are planning a meeting to introduce all of the Deputy Fire Coordinators to the Chief. They discussed the current communication systems and response plans and the intent to update both.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that the summer Firefighter I class is running with eight students. Four of those students are from out of county departments. The summer Firefighter II class was canceled due to enrollment being below what is required to run the class. Mike reported that he has tentatively set Monday July 23rd for the spring Firefighter I class graduation ceremony. Notice will be sent out once the date is confirmed. Mike reported that the NJ Division of Fire Safety is making major changes to the fire training certifications. Currently the Fire Officer I certification requires three years of service and the successful completion of an exam. The pending certification standard for Fire Officer I would still require three years of service and successful completion of the exam along with having completed other levels of training including Firefighter II, Fire Instructor I, Strategy and Tactics, and Building Construction. THE DFS will also be introducing a non-mandatory certification for Fire Investigator. The Atlantic County 4H Fair Firefighter Competition applications will soon be emailed and posted online. The competition will be held on Friday August 10th at 7 PM. Teams are requested to meet at the fairgrounds at 6 PM. If more than four teams are registered, a preliminary completion will be held 6 PM, Wednesday, August 8th at the training center. The Fall Course Book should be ready for distribution by the August meeting of the association. Mike reviewed the remaining classes scheduled for this semester and emphasized the upcoming Emergency Vehicle Operations class scheduled in August. Mike reported that certificates and remaining invoices will be sent out soon.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association – The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association will be 8:00 PM on July 11, 2018 and will be hosted by Estell Manor Volunteer Fire Company.

Atlantic County 4H Fair – Howard Berchtold reported that the fair is scheduled for August 9th, 10th, and 11th with the Firefighter Competition to be held on Friday August 10th. Howard requested that fire departments consider entering the competition. Howard reminded all that assistance will be needed on August 9th to set up and apparatus will again be requested for display for the length of the fair. An apparatus display application will be distributed and only a few hours will be requested of each display piece. Those displaying apparatus may also run a demonstration evolution and it is requested that they note that on the display application. Howard noted that there is a car show scheduled at the fair on August 9th and he will work with fair officials to ensure there is room for fire apparatus, possibly some antique pieces if someone would like to send theirs. The association booth will have plenty of fire prevention material to share with the public. Howard thanked all those that assist every year and requested that some of the younger generations try to assist this year. Howard reminded all that this is one of the largest county level events to share the fire service mission with the public by showing off equipment and sharing information.

NJ State Firemen's Association – Cindy Badger reported that James Kenny has been reappointed as Field Examiner. Cindy reported that the Atlantic County Caucus has been scheduled for August 14th in Egg Harbor City at 7:30 PM with registration starting at 6:30 PM. The convention is scheduled for 1:00 PM September 14th and 10:00 AM September 15th in Wildwood. The Memorial Service is to precede the convention meeting on September 15th. Cindy reminded all that delegates must attend the caucus and both convention sessions to qualify for full reimbursement. Cindy reported that the death benefit has been increased to \$11,750 and tripled for line of duty death. Cindy also noted that the NJSFA will automatically apply LODD status to any claim that has already been approved as such for the federal public safety officers benefit (PSOB). Cindy reported that current President, Frank Gunson, is not seeking reelection due to health concerns and that Vice President Robert Ordway is running for President. Cindy reported on the other offices and those running unopposed on the ballot. Cindy reported there will be one resolution on the ballot, from Gloucester Township, that seeks to authorize a study concerning the allowance of life members to make motions and vote at local meetings where there may not be enough representatives in attendance for a quorum. It was noted that there would still have to be a 50% +1 of eligible representatives or life members to qualify as a quorum. Cindy reported that construction of the new NJSFA offices is going well and currently planned to be completed by October.

Communications

A thank you note was received from Marianne Cullen for the retirement gift and honorary life membership with the association.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act upon.

New Business

There was no new business to act upon.

Bills

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

Good of the Order

Howard Berchtold reminded all to keep the families and departments of the fallen firefighters in their thoughts and prayers.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:00. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on July 18, 2018 at the Linwood Fire Department.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Sun. Jul. 15, 2018	08:00	Buena Vista Twp. Public Works	Tender Task Force Bravo (TTF-B) Drill (Planning Mtg. 20:00 Thurs. Jul. 12 East Vineland VFC)
Mon. Jul. 16, 2018	22:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Lawn Raffle Drawing at Mt. Carmel Festival
Sat. Aug. 4, 2018	16:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	22nd Annual Spaghetti Dinner (16:00 - 19:00)
Thurs. Aug. 9, 2018	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 10, 2018	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 10, 2018	19:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Firefighter Competition
Sat. Aug. 11, 2018	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Tues. Aug. 14, 2018	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Fri. Sep. 14, 2018	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 15, 2018	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Nov. 10, 2018	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
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Sat. Apr. 13, 2019	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. May 18, 2019	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Sat. Nov. 9, 2019	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com

ACFFA Meetings**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association**

Wed. Jul. 18, 2018	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 15, 2018	20:00	Mays Landing VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 19, 2018	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 17, 2018	20:00	Port Republic VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 21, 2018	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 19, 2018	20:00	West Atlantic City VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 16, 2019	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 20, 2019	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Jul. 6, 2018	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 7, 2018	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 2, 2018	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 4, 2019	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Jul. 16, 2018	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Oct. 15, 2018	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 21, 2019	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Jul. 11, 2018	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Aug. 8, 2018	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Sep. 12, 2018	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 10, 2018	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 14, 2018	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 12, 2018	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
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Tues. Jan. 22, 2019	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
February 2019-----	-----	-----	NO MEETING-----

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 26, 2018	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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Thurs. Jan. 24, 2019	19:30	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 25, 2019	19:30	Port Republic VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association