

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



February 20, 2019

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on February 20, 2019 at the Longport Volunteer Fire Department by President Charles E. "Chick" Kisby III. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of all fallen firefighters and military personnel. President Kisby then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Kisby introduced Chief Levon "Lefty" Clayton of the Longport Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Clayton welcomed all to Longport and introduced his officers in attendance.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 36 of 176 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 19 of 44

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2019 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 on the annual reorganizational meeting of the committee held on January 4, 2019 in Pomona. Howard asked all to continue keeping the Dempsey family, and the Mizpah Volunteer Fire Company membership, in their thoughts as they continue to heal after the loss of Firefighter Natalie Dempsey on Christmas morning. Howard reminded all that John V. Wagner recently passed and asked all to keep his family in their thoughts also. John was a past Estell Manor Fire Chief, a past ACFFA Fire Instructor, and a past ACFFA Executive committee member. Howard reported that the memorial service held at the January meeting went very well. Howard congratulated all those that were reelected and welcomed Christopher Kislow and Charles J. Mackintosh to the Executive Committee. Howard thanked R. Thomas Hunter Jr. for his eleven years on the Executive committee and Oscar Dutch Jr. for serving twenty-nine years, eleven of those years as Vice-Chairman, on the Executive Committee. Howard thanked Amor "Skip" Portale for having served eleven years as President and congratulated Charles E. "Chick" Kisby for taking over as the new President. Howard thanked the Executive Committee for reelecting him as Chairman and electing Lefty Clayton as Vice-Chairman. Howard summarized the minutes from that meeting and reported on the recommendations that the association adopt the 2019 Atlantic County Fire Academy Training Budget Proposal of \$26,000 and Capital Purchase Proposal of \$25,000. Also recommended for adoption are the 2019 Public Relations Budget Proposal of \$2,500, the 2019 Administrative Budget proposal of \$4,200,

and the 2019 Administrative Capital Purchase proposal of \$1,300. Howard noted that the budgets are available for review when requested. Howard reported that the firefighter health and wellness initiative has been well received and new presentations are being researched for 2019. Howard reported that the committee reviewed the preparation for the annual memorial service. Howard noted that they had hoped to recognize Congressman Frank Lobiondo (ret) for his years of service and friendship to the fire service at the January meeting, but he was not able to attend. The plan is to recognize him at the April meeting, if his schedule allows. The Executive Committee has also recommended that the association donate \$150, from the 50/50 fund, to the Humane Society of Atlantic County in memory of Firefighter Natalie Dempsey. Howard reported that Skip Portale recommended that the association start a newsletter or list of equipment held by county fire departments that they are not using and would consider selling or donating to another department that has use for the equipment. Charles Mackintosh will take the lead on this project and start contacting fire chiefs to inquire about any available equipment. Howard requested that all departments select three delegates that will be able to attend at least a few of the association meetings along with the Chief, whom is the default fourth delegate. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for March 1, 2019 in Cardiff.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the fire training advisory board is on April 15, 2019 at the training center and noted that this will be a reorganizational year with the county appointing membership to the board based on recommendations from the county fire service associations.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Lefty Clayton that he sent out information to all Fire Chiefs concerning the need to update department information on the NJ DFS website via the Fire Department Survey link. Updated information is required for the NJ DFS to reach all departments when seeking or sharing information. The NJ DFS is currently seeking data on how much of the older firefighting foam is currently in the field due to current information attributing polluted water tables to this foam. Lefty reported that Tender Task Force Alpha (TTF-A) has scheduled a drill for Saturday, March 30th in New Gretna, Burlington County.

Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reported that the NJ DFS fire prevention poster contest is currently underway, and submissions are due to his office by March 15th.

Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition – Billy Merola reported that a valor committee meeting will be scheduled soon to review the received nominations.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that Firefighter I class has started with thirty students, twelve of whom are from out of county. Firefighter II is scheduled to start on Wednesday, March 13th. Mike reported that the course book has been emailed, posted online, and printed copies will soon be mailed out. Mike reported that the Firefighter I graduation ceremony held on January 28th was so well attended that it was held at the Egg Harbor Township Community Center. Egg Harbor Township provided use of the community center gratis. Graduation ceremonies may continue at the community center since the room size and layout are much better for larger capacity attendance. Firefighter Natalie Dempsey was posthumously presented her NJ DFS Firefighter I certification and her brothers accepted for her. Mike reported that he recently attended the Gift from Captain Buscio cardio-pulmonary physical in Newark instead of Deborah Heart & Lung Hospital. Mike noted that the physical in Newark is much more detailed than at Deborah. This may be a better choice for those that can make the trip. It is highly recommended that all firefighters take advantage of this program at either location that works best for them. Mike reviewed the Atlantic County Fire Academy classes scheduled to start soon. Mike reported that the Kean University Fire Training course book is scheduled to be posted on February 26th with registration starting on March 6th. Mike reported that the “Ted Reinhard Award” for most improved student and the “Don DaGrossa Award” for highest scholastic average appears to have helped push the recent class to push themselves. Only six students failed their first attempt on the exam and overall test scores during the class were much better than prior classes. The recipient of the “Ted Reinhard Award” for most improved student had lost over one-hundred and fifty pounds during his extended journey to successfully complete Firefighter I training.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association – Butch Kienzle reported on the January 22nd meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association held in Absecon. NJ State Fire Marshal and Director of the NJ Division of Fire Safety, Richard J. Mikutsky was in attendance as he is trying to get out to all counties and meet with the local fire service to build better relationships. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association will be 8:00 PM on March 13, 2019 at the Minotola Volunteer Fire Company.

NJ Firemen’s Home – Oscar Dutch reported that all is going well at the home. They recently had a Superbowl party for the guests that was enjoyed by all. Oscar reported that contractor bids for the expansion are due in April. Oscar reported that the home now has a waiting list due to seven guests being moved out of the residential wing due to the pending construction. It is expected that the wait list will continue until construction has been completed.

NJ State Firemen's Assn. – Executive Committeewoman Cindy Badger reported that she sent out emails recently and some are not being received. Cindy requested that all locals make sure that she has current emails for their officers. Cindy reported that all county locals are scheduled for a NJSFA audit on April 23rd in Egg Harbor City. The state office will be setting up an appointment schedule for the evening and all relief applications, and supporting documentation, will be taken to the state office for review before being returned. Membership reports are due by February 28th, local relief reports are due by April 30th, delegate reports are due by May 1st, and IRS 990 filings are due May 15th. Cindy reported that Gloucester County is hosting a local officer workshop on February 28th and anyone that is interested should contact her. Cindy reported that the 2019 Atlantic County Caucus is scheduled for Monday, August 5th at 7PM in Egg Harbor City and the 2019 convention is scheduled for September 13th and 14th in Wildwood. Cindy reminded all that the current relief application is REV 1-18.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act upon.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2019 Atlantic County Fire Academy Training Budget proposal, with a total of \$26,000, and the 2019 Atlantic County Fire Academy Training Capital Purchase proposal, with a total of \$25,000, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2019 Administrative Budget proposal, with a total of \$4,200, and the 2019 Administrative Capital Purchase proposal, with a total of \$1,300, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2019 Public Relations Budget proposal, with a total of \$2,500, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association donate \$150, from the 50/50 fund, to the Humane Society of Atlantic County in memory of Firefighter Natalie Dempsey, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association, along with the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association, purchase of a full-page ad in the 200 Club of Atlantic And Cape May Counties Memorial Service Ad Book in memory of Firefighter Natalie Dempsey for \$225.00. The Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association will reimburse for half the cost.

Butch Kienzle reported that the Press of Atlantic City recently published an opinion article citing the expansion of central dispatch in Cape May County and the failure of Atlantic County to start central dispatch when it was being worked on.

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

Cindy Badger reported that Joy Swartz was recently transported to the hospital with a broken femur from a fall. She is currently scheduled for surgery.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:50. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on March 20, 2019 in Elwood.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Fri. Mar. 1, 2019	18:00	Fred & Ethel's Lantern Light Tavern,	Beef & Beer to Benefit Oceanville VFC
Sun. Mar. 10, 2019	10:30	St. Nicholas Church (10:30) & Tropicana	200 Club of Atlantic & Cape May Counties - Memorial Service (10:30) & Brunch (12:00)
Fri. Mar. 15, 2019	19:00	Minotola VFC	Training - Captain Bobby Eckert Presents: For the Men, For the Mission - \$20pp
Sat. Mar. 30, 2019	09:00	New Gretna VFC, Burlington Co.	Tender Task Force Alpha (TTF-A) Drill @ Wading River Bridge
Sat. Apr. 13, 2019	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sun. Apr. 28, 2019	11:00	Richland VFC	5th Annual Chicken BBQ (Takeout Only)
Sat. May 4, 2019	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner (16:00 - 19:30)
Sat. May 18, 2019	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Sat. May 18, 2019	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner (15:30 - 19:30)
Sat. Jun. 1, 2019	13:00	Collings Lakes VFC	55th Anniversary and New Truck Housing
Sun. Jun. 2, 2019	12:00	Dorothy VFC	62nd Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 - 18:00)
Mon. Aug. 5, 2019	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Thurs. Aug. 8, 2019	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 9, 2019	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 9, 2019	19:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Firefighter Competition
Sat. Aug. 10, 2019	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Sun. Oct. 6, 2019	10:00	NJFM, 4 Polhemustown Rd, Allentown, NJ 08501	NJ Fire Museum 4th Annual Open House (10:00 - 15:00)
Fri. Sep. 13, 2019	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 14, 2019	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Nov. 9, 2019	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
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Sat. Apr. 4, 2020	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Fri. Sep. 18, 2020	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 19, 2020	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Nov. 14, 2020	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com

ACFFA Meetings**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association**

Wed. Mar. 20, 2019	20:00	Elwood VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 17, 2019	20:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Annual Valor Awards Presentation
Wed. May 15, 2019	20:00	Germania VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 19, 2019	20:00	Milmay VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 17, 2019	20:00	Linwood FD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 21, 2019	20:00	Mizpah VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 18, 2019	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 16, 2019	20:00	Dorothy VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 20, 2019	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 18, 2019	20:00	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 15, 2020	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 19, 2020	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Mar. 1, 2019	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 3, 2019	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 5, 2019	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 6, 2019	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 1, 2019	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 4, 2020	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Apr. 15, 2019	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 15, 2019	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Oct. 21, 2019	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 13, 2020	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Mar. 13, 2019	20:00	Minotola VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Apr. 10, 2019	20:00	Cardiff VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. May 8, 2019	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jun. 12, 2019	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jul. 10, 2019	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Aug. 14, 2019	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Sep. 11, 2019	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 9, 2019	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 13, 2019	20:00	Linwood FD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 11, 2019	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
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Tues. Jan. 28, 2020	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
February 2020-----	-----	-----	NO MEETING-----

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 25, 2019	19:30	Port Republic VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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Thurs. Jan. 23, 2020	19:30	Bargaintown VFC Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 23, 2020	19:30	Linwood FD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association