

# Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

*"In Union For The Safety Of All"*



March 20, 2019

## **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on March 20, 2019 at the Elwood Volunteer Fire Company by President Charles E. "Chick" Kisby III. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Deacon Rich Maxwell. President Kisby then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

## **Special Presentation**

Rob Winkler welcomed and introduced Lou Raniszewski, Assistant Chief for AtlantiCare EMS Operations and Rev. Juliann Henry, Manager for AtlantiCare Pastoral Care. Rob reported that he has been trying to gather information about Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) programs available to the fire service when needed. Asst. Chief Raniszewski and Rev. Henry work with AtlantiCare's in-house critical incident stress management team. Rev. Henry provided an overview presentation about critical incident stress management. Rev. Henry offered to provide training to county firefighters to be peer supporters within the CISM program and potentially enable them to work with seasoned CISM team members. It was recommended that all responders attend pre-incident CISM training so that they may be aware of what they may be exposed to and what reactions they may experience and when they should seek help. It was noted that all CISM discussions, either individual or group, are confidential. It was noted that any agency could contact Asst. Chief Raniszewski or Rev. Henry via AtlantiCare MedCom and they will assist with CISM support when needed. Asst. Chief Raniszewski reported that AtlantiCare is looking into a formalized team that would be available for the local public safety community. Rev. Henry reported that there are two CISM courses available at two days each. Rev. Henry is willing to donate her time the cost of book and certificate would be approximately \$27.50 per student.

## **Introduction of Host Chief**

President Kisby introduced Chief Anthony Tomasco of the Elwood Volunteer 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.

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 42 of 176

Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 22 of 44

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the February 20, 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

**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. Howard Berchtold and President Kisby are working on recommendations for appointment.

**Executive Committee** – Chairman Howard Berchtold summarized the minutes from the meeting of the committee held on March 1, 2019 in Cardiff. There was discussion about how well the annual memorial service went. The committee discussed the upcoming Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition ceremony scheduled to be held at the April meeting of the association. It was asked that the Dempsey, Wagner, and Rosemont families be kept in thoughts and prayers as they continue to grieve after the loss of loved ones. It was reported that Joy Swartz had to have surgery after suffering a broken femur but no update on her status was available. There was discussion about the double fatal MVA in Egg Harbor Township and how they provided CISM for the responders. That discussion prompted the reaching out to AtlantiCare for a CISM presentation at an association meeting. Also being researched for future firefighter health and wellness presentations are the topics of firefighter suicide, traffic safety, and aircraft incident safety. Charles Macintosh and Chris Kislow are working on collecting information from county departments concerning excess equipment they may want to sell or give away. A committee will be formed to research and collect information about firefighter funeral planning. Treasurer Mellon reminded all that NJ sales tax exemption form ST5 should be utilized when making purchases on behalf of the association. The committee also discussed and recommends that the association continue with an annual donation to the New Jersey Firemen’s Home Golf Tournament in the amount of \$200 to sponsor a hole at the bronze level. Howard challenged to all continue seeking more representation at the association meetings from all county departments. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for May 3, 2019 in Longport.

**Excess Equipment** – Charles Mackintosh presented the plan for collecting information from county departments concerning excess equipment they may want to sell or give away. Charles distributed a flyer requesting information that would then be shared on the website.

**Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition** – Dave Buzby reported that there will be five honorees for having served fifty years in the fire service.

**Training** – President Kisby reported that Director Corbo was absent but sent a brief report. Two students have dropped out of Firefighter I. One due to military deployment and one due to regular school grades being affected negatively. Firefighter II is running with sixteen students and Fire Inspector is running with fifteen students. Rob Winkler reported that the printed copy of the course book has been mailed out.

**Fire Coordinator** – Fire Coordinator Lefty Clayton reported that Tender Task Force Alpha (TTF-A) has a drill scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> in New Gretna for drafting and shuttle operations. Lefty also reported that the Atlantic City Airport is scheduled to conduct their triennial drill on May 18<sup>th</sup>. There was an extended discussion about drills and paid EMTs.

## Communications

A letter of appreciation was received from the Humane Society of Atlantic County thanking the association for the donation in memory of Firefighter Natalie Dempsey.

## Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act upon.

## New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association sponsor the New Jersey Firemen’s Home 2019 Golf Outing at the bronze level with a \$200.00 donation, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

President Kisby reported that he will recommend that the county appoint Rob Winkler to represent the association on the Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board.

President Kisby appointed Tom Hunter, Bill Donath, and Wayne Dilks to the Audit Committee.

President Kisby reported that he is appointing Dennis C. Sharpe, of the Farmington Volunteer Fire Company, to the vacant position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for the remainder of the year.

**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**

Dennis Sharpe reported that he spoke with Joy Swartz's granddaughter and that Joy has been released from Betty Bacharach and will continue her recovery at home.

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

**Adjournment**

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Dcn. Rich Maxwell. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:10. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on April 17, 2019 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center and hosted by the Margate City Fire Department. This meeting will include the "Harold J. "Whitey" Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition" program.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

**Fire Department/Company/Association Events**

Sat. Mar. 30, 2019	09:00	New Greta VFC, Burlington Co.	Tender Task Force Alpha (TTF-A) Drill @ Wading River Bridge
Fri. Apr. 12, 2019	17:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	8th Annual Firehouse Fish Fry Dinner
Sat. Apr. 13, 2019	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Fri. Apr. 26, 2019	18:00	Five Points Inn Restaurant	Beef & Beer to Benefit East Vineland VFC
Sun. Apr. 28, 2019	07:00	Landisville VFC	Annual Breakfast
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 11, 2019	11:00	Mizpah VFC	Sub Sale (11:00 - 17:00)
Sun. May 12, 2019	07:00	Nesco VFC	Mother's Day Breakfast
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
Sat. Jun. 1, 2019	15:00	Gabriel Field, Galloway NJ	1st Annual Natalie Dempsey Memorial Game & Spaghetti Dinner (benefits Mizpah VFC & AC Humane Society)
Sun. Jun. 2, 2019	12:00	Dorothy VFC	62nd Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 - 18:00)
Sat. Jun 15, 2019	11:00	Bayview VFC	First Annual Cornhole Tournament (6th Ave. Station)
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. Aug. 18, 2019	10:00	Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center, Millville, NJ	39th Annual Glasstown Antique Fire Brigade and Fire Fighter's Family Day
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
Sun. Sep. 29, 2019	10:00	NJFM, 4 Polhemustown Rd, Allentown, NJ	NJ Fire Museum 4th Annual Open House (10:00 - 15:00)
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
Aug. (TBD), 2020	19:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
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. 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. 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. Apr. 10, 2019	20:00	Cardiff VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. May 8, 2019	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Jun. 12, 2019	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Jul. 10, 2019	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Aug. 14, 2019	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Sep. 11, 2019	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Oct. 9, 2019	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Nov. 13, 2019	20:00	Linwood FD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
Wed. Dec. 11, 2019	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
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Tues. Jan. 28, 2020	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs 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