

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



September 18, 2019

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on September 18, 2019 at the Hammonton Volunteer Fire Company Sta. 1 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 Sean Macri of the Hammonton Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Sean Macri 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 – 39 of 176 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 23 of 44

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the August 21, 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 Marshal – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reported that he has a limited number of smoke detectors available and that any company interested should email him.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Levon "Lefty" Clayton reported that several Atlantic County units responded to Cumberland County for the produce warehouse fire in Deerfield. Lefty reported that he, and several deputy fire coordinators, recently attended a state fire coordinator meeting. They were informed that there is a statewide issue with fire company officers not having the required incident management certifications. All are reminded to only nominate/elect officers that have the required certifications. Lefty reported that the required biennial updates of the mutual aid policies will be due in 2020. Lefty reported that a bulletin concerning Class-B foam has been forwarded to county fire chiefs. If Class-B foam is utilized the local Haz-Mat response team and the NJ DEP are to be notified. An update was received that the FIT-5 fire interruption technology device has had issues with a faulty fuse, and they need to be sent in for service every five years. It was reported that some training/incident terminology changes are being made. Active shooter will now be active assault. They were informed about regional CISM teams for CISD such as the Alpha Team in Ocean County, requested through the

Ocean County Sheriff Office, that has one hundred members that will respond statewide. The team includes members from police, fire, and EMS along with psychologists. Lefty will work on compiling CISM team information for the county fire chiefs and will contact the team to request an informational presentation at this association's November meeting. Lefty also reported that they were informed that the Insurance Services Office, ISO, has been collecting data on NFPA's "Firewise USA" and IAFC's "Ready, Set, Go!" wildfire programs. These programs may play into future ISO ratings. NJ is also working on a plan for wildland fire evacuation routes that would take people towards the coastline and away from the forested areas affected.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association – Butch Kienzle reported that he received an email from Sheriff Scheffler. The Atlantic County Sheriff's Office announced that they have received a 4-year, \$500,000 grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to enhance access to naloxone "Narcan" and provide overdose prevention training to the first responders in Atlantic County. Chief Dan Adams, Margate Fire Department, has been appointed to the Atlantic County Overdose Advisory Council. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 in East Vineland.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that the expansion project is going well but is also currently two weeks behind schedule. Oscar reminded all that he is available to give a tour of the home if anyone would like to take a ride up there.

Harold J. "Whitey" Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition – Billy Merola reported that no nominations for valor have been submitted and reminded all that if an incident rising to the level for a valor award occurs, the fire chief should consider submitting a valor nomination as soon as possible. This will allow for nominations to be written down when the details are still fresh in everyone's minds and the nomination will not be forgotten later. The application is available on the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association website.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that the fall Firefighter I is running with twenty-eight students and Firefighter II with twelve students. Mike reported that Marianne Cullen has been rehired by the county, part-time, as a secretary for the fire academy. Marianne previously served as an administrative assistant, assigned to the fire academy, for twenty-two years. She will have to attend the county orientation process before starting at the academy. Mike reported that he recently sent out invoices and course certificates. Mike reviewed the upcoming scheduled classes and noted that the full course book has been posted online, emailed, and sent out via USPS to county fire chiefs.

Executive Committee – Vice Chairman Lefty Clayton reported that Chairman Howard Berchtold is running late for the meeting and is currently returning from Trenton. Lefty summarized the meeting of the Executive Committee held on September 6, 2019 in Absecon. The Treasurer, President, and Chairman were to have met with the accountant but that was rescheduled to a date after the Executive Committee meeting. Chairman Howard Berchtold arrived just in time to immediately report on the meeting with the accountant that was attended by himself, Treasurer Jaime Mellon, and Secretary Robert Mellon. Howard noted that it was a good meeting and that all fire academy payroll records are kept in good order. Howard reported that he will review the accountant's recommendation to institute direct deposit payroll with the Executive Committee at the November 1st meeting. Howard reported that the accountant had recently reviewed their own records and realized that they had not billed this association for their services over the last ten years. The estimated current bill would be in excess of \$20,000. The bill was discussed, and an agreement was made that the accountant was going to write-off \$14,000+ and lower the amount due to \$6,236 that could be paid off in manageable installments. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 1, 2019 in South Egg Harbor at 19:30. The committee will meet at the South Egg Harbor firehouse at 17:15 or the Never There Gun Club, Hammonton, at 17:30 for the spaghetti and crab sauce dinner at the gun club. All are welcome to join the committee for dinner.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for October 21, 2019 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

Excess Equipment – Charles Mackintosh reported that he has received zero feedback from recent attempts to identify interest or information about starting a 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 requested that companies take inventory of the equipment they have forgotten about in storage and that they consider listing it.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the accountant, Wagner Shields & Jennings CPA, the agreed total due for services provided in the amount of \$6,236 payable monthly at \$1,600 per month for three months and a final payment of \$1,436.

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

Oscar Dutch reported that Absecon sent twelve sets of old turn-out gear up to Garnet Lake in upstate New York. Egg Harbor City sent fifteen sets. There are other volunteer fire companies in that area also in need of gear, including Thurman and Johnsbury. Oscar will follow up at a future meeting with information about what additional gear or equipment may be needed if any other departments want to donate their old gear and equipment.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:45. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on October 16, 2019 at the Dorothy Volunteer Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Thurs. Sep. 26, 2019	19:00	DiMatteo Winery, Hammonton	Cigar & Wine Fundraiser benefiting Hammonton VFD Sta. 1
Sun. Sep. 29, 2019	10:00	NJFM, 4 Polhemustown Rd, Allentown, NJ	NJ Fire Museum 4th Annual Open House (10:00 - 15:00)
Sat. Oct. 5, 2019	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner (16:00 - 19:00)
Sun. Oct. 13, 2019	11:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2 Aux.	Meatball Sub Sale (11:00 - 14:00)
Sat. Oct. 19, 2019	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner (15:30 - 19:30)
Sat. Nov. 9, 2019	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. Nov. 23, 2019	11:00	Minotola VFC	Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Sale (11:00 - 14:00)
Sat. Dec. 14, 2019	19:00	Hammonton VFD	Hammonton VFD Christmas Parade (lineup 18:00 & parade 19:00)
-----	-----	-----	-----
Sat. Apr. 4, 2020	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. Jun. 13, 2020		Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	100th Anniversary
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. 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
-----	-----	-----	-----
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. Nov. 1, 2019	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
-----	-----	-----	-----
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. Oct. 21, 2019	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
-----	-----	-----	-----
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. 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
-----	-----	-----	-----
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. 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
-----	-----	-----	-----