

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



December 18, 2019

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on December 18, 2019 at the Cardiff 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.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Kisby introduced Chief Gill Zonge of the Cardiff Volunteer Fire Company. Chief Zonge welcomed all to Cardiff, thanked the Cardiff Auxiliary for taking care of the refreshments after the meeting, wished all A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, then introduced Egg Harbor Township Fire Department Chief, C. Robert Winkler III. Chief Winkler welcomed all on behalf of the entire Egg Harbor Township Fire Department and wished all a Merry Christmas, a Happy Holiday Season, and a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 44 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 November 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

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for January 3, 2020 in Pomona at 19:30 and will be the reorganizational meeting for 2020. Howard thanked the members of the Executive Committee, the association officers, the committee chairpersons, and the fire instructors for all the hard work and effort put in for 2019. Howard noted that he is looking forward to continuing and growing the firefighter safety and wellness program in 2020. Howard noted that not all member companies had their delegates in attendance at the meeting and requested that everyone help get them to the meetings by bringing it up whenever possible. Howard reminded all to slow down once and a while, take a breath, and count your blessings. Howard wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that that the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for January 13, 2020 at the Anthony “Tony” Canale Training Center.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Levon “Lefty” Clayton reported that mutual aid plan updates will be due in 2020. Lefty will be changing the document format to Microsoft Excel and emailing all county fire chiefs requesting updates. The FY2019 Homeland Security Grant is still pending state signoff. The county will not make any purchases until they have a finalized copy of the grant. Lefty reported on the recent Seaview Harbor Marina fire requiring the use of the Longport and Scullville fireboats along with a water shuttle. A job well done by all of those that responded. Lefty wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association – Butch Kienzle reported on the December 11th meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association held in Sweetwater. Nominations and election of officers for 2020 was conducted. All current officers will continue in 2020. Butch reported that the MVU committee held a brief meeting and that they are looking into alternative funding for a mobile ventilation unit. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association will be 8:00 PM on January 28, 2020 at the Absecon Volunteer Fire Department and there will be no meeting in February. Butch wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reminded all to notify him no later than Wednesday January 8th of any firefighter deaths in 2019 for inclusion in the annual memorial service program on January 15, 2020. Dave wished all a Merry Christmas.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that the county is looking to make the required repairs to the burn building due to the high cost to replace it. The repairs could add ten years to the life of the building. Mike reported that there is little interest within the state training committee regarding continuing education credits for Firefighter I certifications currently being studied by an NFPA committee. Mike also reported that the state proposal to combine Firefighter I and II is not moving forward but there is interest to allow some Firefighter I modules to be completed online. Mike reported that NJ has started the Firefighter I/II textbook bid process over due to submission errors. The current textbooks will continue to be used for the foreseeable future. Mike reported that he has scheduled the Firefighter I graduation ceremony for 7:00 PM on Monday January 27, 2020 at the Egg Harbor Township Community Center. Mike reported that he just received information about the federal assistance to firefighter grants (AFG) will now include fire academies. Mike will research what the application requirements are for fire academies. Mike reported that Fire Instructor Graham injured her shoulder during a training ground evolution and lost a week of work due to the injury. Mike thanked all the fire instructors for their hard work and effort in 2019. Mike noted that he couldn’t do his job without them. Mike thanked the Executive Committee and association officers for working with him. Mike wished all Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and a Happy, Safe New Year.

Communications

The 200 Club of Atlantic and Cape May Counties emailed a request that applications be submitted for their 2019 Scholarship Program. The request was forwarded to the email distribution list. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2019.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2020/2021 meeting schedule as submitted by Secretary Mellon.

2020/2021 Meeting schedule for the Executive Committee (meetings at 19:30):

March 6 – Cardiff	May 1 – Longport
July 10 – Somers Point #1	September 4 – Absecon
October 30 – South Egg Harbor	January 8, 2021 – Pomona

2020/2021 Meeting schedule for the Regular Meetings (third Wednesday of month at 20:00):

March 18 – Weekstown	April 15 - Fire Training Center (Host Margate)	May 20 – Pomona
June 17 – Collings Lakes	July 15 – Linwood	August 19 – Laureldale
September 16 – Hammonton #2	October 21 – Port Republic	November 18 – Somers Point #1
December 16 – Bargaintown	January 20, 2021 – Egg Harbor City	February 17, 2021 – Longport

Chief Dan Adams, Margate Fire Department, reported that the first meeting of the Atlantic County Overdose Advisory Council has been held. Chief Adams serves as the fire service representative. The Atlantic County Sheriff's Office 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. One option being considered is quick training of family members and leaving them a naloxone kit after a call involving an overdose. They are also looking into scheduling train-the-trainer classes so that the trained firefighter may then train others within their company to administer naloxone when needed. The committee would like to collect data on which fire departments currently have naloxone and if any other departments would like to receive naloxone and the accompanying training. Chief Adams will work with Fire Coordinator Clayton to email informational requests to all county fire chiefs. It would be of great help if all chiefs respond to the request. This program will enhance the existing "HOPE ONE" initiative and mobile response unit run by the Atlantic County Sheriff's Foundation. Howard Berchtold noted that enhancing access to naloxone and providing overdose prevention training should help with the current opioid crisis that is affecting all socioeconomic groups in the county.

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.

Election of Officers

The election of officers was held. The positions on the Executive Committee were voted on by ballot. The remaining positions were unopposed. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the secretary cast the ballot for all unopposed positions. Those elected to office for the year 2020 are as follows:

President (1)	Charles E. "Chick" Kisby
1 st Vice President (1)	Dennis C. Sharpe
2 nd Vice President (1)	Charles J. Mackintosh
Secretary (1)	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer (1)	Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sec./Trea. (1)	Sandra L. Walczak
Chaplain (1)	Dcn. Rich Maxwell
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)	Wayne Dilks, William Donath, Charles Harlan
Executive Comm. (9)	Howard Berchtold Jr., Levon S. "Lefty" Clayton, James A. Garth Sr., Marylynn Graham, Walter R. "Butch" Kienzle III, Christopher Kislow, William L. Merola Jr., Eugene M. Sharpe, C. Robert Winkler III

Good of the Order

Lefty Clayton reported that Howard H. Berchtold Jr. was inducted into the National Center for State Courts' Warren E. Burger Society on November 21, 2019. Named for the former U.S. chief justice who helped found the NCSC in 1971, the Burger Society honors individuals who have demonstrated exceptional use of their time, talent and support to benefit NCSC. Howard was one of five people to receive the honor this year. There was a round of applause to recognize Howard's achievement.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:55. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on January 15, 2020 in Egg Harbor City. This meeting includes the annual memorial service of the association. Please submit the names of those that have passed during 2019 so that they may be included in the memorial service program and plan on attending the meeting and service in full class A dress uniform.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Sun. Jan. 12, 2020	15:00	Elwood VFC @ Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Titherington Family Fire Relief Benefit (15:00 - 19:00)
Mon. Jan 27, 2020	19:00	Egg Harbor Township Community Center	Firefighter I Graduation Ceremony
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. 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. Jan. 3, 2020	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)
-----	-----	-----	-----

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

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

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
-----	-----	-----	-----