

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



December 15, 2021

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on December 15, 2021 at the Scullville 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 Assistant Chief Vern Cruse of the Scullville Volunteer Fire Company. Assistant Chief Cruse welcomed all to Scullville.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 42 of 168 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 20 of 42

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2021 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

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that the burn building repair project is starting, and the building will be out of service for at least three months. Both the Firefighter I and Firefighter II classes are wrapping up. Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II will start in January. Mike reported that he is working on getting all current invoices and certificates sent out. There is no update on the truck donation offers and they are still trying to determine where they would be stored if both are accepted. Out in the weather is not a storage option.

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for January 7, 2022 in Pomona at 19:30 and will be the reorganizational meeting for 2022. 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 keeping the association and fire training program running during a challenging year. Howard noted that the January 2022 Memorial Service will cover two years and that every effort is being made to make sure we remember all those that have passed. Howard asked everyone to keep on being safe so that we may continue to keep meeting in person. Howard reported that there are many plans for the association to keep moving forward into the New Year. Howard reported

that the November issue of Fire News had many photos and stories covering Atlantic County. Howard thanked Dennis Sharpe and Ken Badger for their many submissions to Fire News for publication. Howard wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Safe New Year.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for January 10, 2022 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center. Howard noted that they do not want to miss the opportunity to receive two donated trucks and discussion will be on the meeting agenda.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Lefty Clayton reported that he spoke with Howard Berchtold about trying to get the county on board with starting central Fire/EMS dispatch research in the New Year. Lefty thanked all the Fire Chiefs that have responded to the request for call volume data for the central Fire/EMS dispatch research. Lefty wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported there are fifty-nine guests at the home with four in the memory care unit. There are three applications in processing with two more coming in after the holidays. Oscar reported all is running well at the home. Cindy Badger inquired about NJ Assembly Bill A6233 introduced on December 9th by Assemblyman John J. Burzichelli. Oscar reported that he had been instructed not to discuss the legislation pending a meeting between representatives of the NJ Firemen's Home and the NJ State Firemen's Association. Oscar summarized the bill as written. There was some engaging discussion concerning the bill.

NJ State Firemen's Assn. – Executive Committeewoman Cindy Badger reported that the 2022 convention is scheduled for September 16th and 17th in Wildwood and is expected to follow the normal schedule. Cindy reported that the relief payment scale has been increased and that the home healthcare reimbursement program has increased up to a maximum of \$6,000 per month. The home healthcare reimbursement program must be applied for annually and must utilize a licensed caregiver from an eligible licensed firm. The home healthcare reimbursement program has also been expanded to include coverage for a spouse up to a maximum of \$2,000 per month. Cindy reported on the upcoming reports to be filed including the procedure for filing reports and the due dates for the reports. Cindy reported that Field Examiner Jim Kenny has retired effective December 31st. Jennie Hollingsworth will be the new Field Examiner starting January 1, 2022. Cindy reported on a proposal that the position of Treasurer of the NJ State Firemen's Association be an appointed position instead of elected. Cindy reported that the 2021 Memorial Service video is posted on the NJSFA website. Cindy reported on the procedure for local association Treasurers to submit bank statements if they are not directly submitted by the bank. Cindy had a copy of NJ Assembly Bill A6233 and Senate Bill S4287. Cindy read the full text of the bill. Cindy stated that the NJSFA strongly opposes the bills and requests that everyone also oppose the bills. There was an extensive amount of time spent discussing the bills and their potential effects to the NJSFH and the NJSFA.

Harold J. "Whitey" Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition – Billy Merola reported that he has spoken with one Fire Chief who will be putting together a report for consideration of a valor award. Billy reminded all Fire Chiefs to submit any incident worthy of valor recognition as soon as possible after the incident so that it is not forgotten. Howard Berchtold requested that all companies also submit the names of those having achieved fifty plus years of service over the past couple of years, and that have not yet been recognized due to COVID canceling the 2020 and 2021 ceremonies, so that we may acknowledge all of those reaching that milestone.

Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reminded everyone to notify him of any firefighter deaths in 2020 and 2021 for inclusion in the annual memorial service program on January 19, 2022. Dave wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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 2022/2023 meeting schedule as submitted by Secretary Mellon. Regular meetings will have a new start time of 19:30 through May when it will be decided if the new time will remain, or return to 20:00.

2022/2023 Meeting schedule for the Executive Committee (meetings at 19:30):

March 4 – Cardiff
July 1 – Somers Point #1
November 4 – South Egg Harbor

May 6 – Longport
September 2 – Absecon
January 6, 2023 – Pomona

2022/2023 Meeting schedule for the Regular Meetings (third Wednesday of month at 19:30):

March 16 – Elwood
June 15 – East Vineland
September 21 – Hammonton #2
December 21 – Farmington

April 20 - Fire Training Center (Host Margate)
July 20 – Linwood
October 19 – Port Republic
January 18, 2023 – Egg Harbor City

May 18 – South Egg Harbor
August 17 – Cologne
November 16 – Somers Point #1
February 15, 2023 – Longport

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.

Nomination of Officers

The election of officers was held. All 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 2022 are as follows:

- President (1) Charles J. Mackintosh
- 1st Vice President (1) Dennis C. Sharpe
- 2nd Vice President (1) William L. Merola Jr.
- 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, Kim Feinstein, Marylynn Graham, Walter R. “Butch” Kienzle III, Charles E. “Chick” Kisby, Christopher Kislow, Eugene M. Sharpe, C. Robert Winkler III

Good of the Order

Howard Berchtold reminded everyone that the annual memorial service in Egg Harbor City will start earlier at 7:00 PM.

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

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Dcn. Rich Maxwell. Dcn. Maxwell wished all a Blessed Christmas and New Year. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:05. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:00 on January 19, 2022 in Egg Harbor City. This meeting includes the annual memorial service of the association. Please submit the names of those that have passed during 2020 and 2021 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

Sat. Apr. 9, 2022	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. May 14, 2022	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Tues. Aug. 9, 2022	19:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Fri. Sep. 16, 2022	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 17, 2022	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Nov. 12, 2022	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
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ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Jan. 19, 2022	19:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 16, 2022	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Mar. 16, 2022	19:30	Elwood VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 20, 2022	19:30	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center (Host -Margate FD)	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Annual Valor Awards Presentation
Wed. May 18, 2022	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 15, 2022	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 20, 2022	20:00	Linwood FD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 17, 2022	20:00	Cologne VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 21, 2022	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 19, 2022	20:00	Port Republic VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 16, 2022	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 21, 2022	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 18, 2023	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 15, 2023	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Jan. 7, 2022	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)
Fri. Mar. 4, 2022	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 6, 2022	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 1, 2022	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 2, 2022	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 4, 2022	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 6, 2023	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Jan. 10, 2022	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Tues. Jan. 25, 2022	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Association
February 2022-----	-----	-----	NO MEETING-----
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Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jan. 27, 2022	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 28, 2022	19:30	Oceanville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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