

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



February 16, 2022

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 19:35 on February 16, 2022 at the Longport Volunteer Fire Department by President Charles J. Mackintosh. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Deacon Rich Maxwell. President Mackintosh then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Special Presentation and Installation of Officers for 2022

Executive Committee Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. introduced Atlantic County Commissioner Kern. Commissioner Maureen Kern was gracious enough to attend and administer the oath of office for officers that were unable to attend in January.

Atlantic County Commissioner Maureen Kern installed the following into office for the year 2022:

President	Charles J. Mackintosh
Executive Comm.	Marylynn Graham

Walter R. "Butch" Kienzle III, President of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association, presented a Plaque to Levon S. "Lefty" Clayton for service as a Deputy Fire Coordinator and four years as Atlantic County Fire Coordinator. Atlantic County Fire Coordinator Clyde W. "Chip" Stockton Jr. and NJDFS Shore Regional Fire Coordinator Donald Nelsen also presented a plaque to Lefty in recognition for his four years of service as Atlantic County Fire Coordinator.

(Plaque)
Presented To
Levon "Lefty" Clayton
In Recognition and Thanks of Your
Outstanding Service as
Deputy Fire Coordinator and
4 Years as Fire Coordinator
On Behalf of the
Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
and the
Entire Fire Service Community
January 25, 2022

Introduction of Host Chief

President Mackintosh introduced Chief Levon "Lefty" Clayton of the Longport Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Clayton welcomed all to Longport and introduced Longport Commissioners Daniel Lawler and James Leeds.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 46 of 168 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 21 of 42

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2022 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 January had some return to normalcy and reported great attendance at the annual memorial service and the Firefighter I graduation ceremony. Howard noted that Chaplain Maxwell did a great job with the memorial service. Howard reported on the annual reorganizational meeting of the committee held on January 7, 2022 via conference call. Howard congratulated all those that were reelected, welcomed Kim Feinstein to the Executive Committee, welcomed Chick Kisby back to the Executive Committee, and congratulated Chuck Mackintosh for moving up to President and Billy Merola for moving over to 2nd Vice President after serving on the Executive Committee. Howard thanked the Executive Committee for reelecting him as Chairman and Lefty Clayton as Vice-Chairman. The committee reviewed plans for the memorial service and the Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition scheduled for April. Howard reported that the committee received the 2022 Administrative Budget proposal, with a total of \$5,525, and recommended the association approve it. The committee also received the 2022 Public Relations Budget proposal, with a total of \$1,865, and recommended the association approve it. The 2022 Training Budget and Capital Expense proposals are expected to be received at the March meeting of the Executive Committee. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for March 4, 2022 in Cardiff.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board –The next meeting of the fire training advisory board is on April 18, 2022 at the training center.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that Firefighter I class is running with twenty students, five of which are from out of county. Mike reported that they ran the physical agility test, as reported at the January meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association, on Sunday. Mike provided a summary of the test and reported that all recruits did well with only one just slightly over the five-minute limit. Mike noted that this was a pilot run of the physical agility test and that no one was going to be removed from the class based on the test. Mike noted that the Firefighter I graduation ceremony, held on February 7th, went well with two graduates from Oceanville taking both the class awards and Galloway Township having had the most graduates in the class. Mike reported that the course book has been posted online and emailed. Hard copies will be mailed as soon as they are printed. Mike reported that the burn building project is moving along, and the first panels have been installed. The project should be completed by April if all goes well. Mike reported that the Fire Academy is hosting an eight-week career firefighter class with recruits from Pleasantville, Brigantine, Ocean City, North Wildwood, and Cape May. Mike reported on upcoming scheduled classes and noted that he is still working on catching up with paperwork and reports. Mike reported that there was nothing new with the Quint and Tele-Squirt donation proposals and noted that he may have to delegate the work on the proposals to someone else.

Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reported that he is compiling a list of those who have achieved fifty years of service. This year will cover 2019 to present due to no awards recognition having been held the last two years.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Clyde W. “Chip” Stockton Jr. reported on the recent structure fires in Egg Harbor Township since the start of the year. Chip reported that he is still collecting the biennial mutual aid plan updates with twenty-six of forty-two received thus far. All updates are due by March. Chip reported that the triennial drill at the airport is scheduled for May 14th. Chip then reported on attending the February 5th meeting of the state fire coordinators and that he had emailed a list of the topics discussed to the county fire chiefs. Chip introduced NJDFS Shore Regional Fire Coordinator Donald Nelsen. Don provided some detailed explanation about the February 5th discussion on facial hair and the respiratory protection laws including a criminal code that could be applicable for non-compliance of the NJ PEOSH and DOH standards. Don reported that the review and updates on facial hair compliance was due to complaints having been filed against an Ocean County fire company. Don reviewed under what circumstances an officer of firefighter could be held criminally liable and

reported that the NJ Division of Fire Safety (DFS), Department of Health (DOH), and Department of Labor (DOL) will work on a combined memorandum explaining when and how the criminal code could apply. The short explanation is that something of a serious nature would likely to have happened and a criminal complaint would not be filed just because of having facial hair. Don reported that the Ocean County fire company did abate all the citations against them and are now in compliance. Don reported that he is available to assist with any issue or questions and recommended a written policy for non-fire attack positions that could utilize support vehicles. The policy could then be part of a NJ DOL PEOSH voluntary survey to see if it will pass with them. Any voluntary survey may result in an order to comply, but without monetary penalties, against the municipality. Don noted one of the best things to do is to be careful with social media. There was much back and forth discussion about what the NJ DOL, DOH, and DFS requirements are and how to best be aware of those requirements and ensure that they are adhered to by either a self-assessment or a voluntary survey. Don reported that the National Fire Academy NJ State weekend will be three weekends within NJ with nine available classes to choose from. Don provided an update on the Afghan refugees in New Jersey. Don reported on the NJ DFS Fire Intelligence Officer course. A department would be able to send one representative to the course and they will be trained on intelligence updates with the proper clearance. This would allow them to convey intelligence updates directly back to their departments within the guidelines allowed. Don reported that all departments should be reporting via NFIRS. Don noted that the higher the reporting compliance is, the more federal monies the state may be eligible for. Don reported that the 2022 New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Conference is scheduled for May 2-6 in Atlantic City and the 18th Annual Homeland Security & Fire Safety Conference is scheduled for June 2nd at Kean University.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that there are currently sixty guests in the home with five of them being in residential and fifty-five in long-term care. Oscar reported that the Governor signed the budget for the Firemen's Home with a 2.5-million-dollar allowance housing guests in contracted homes within southern New Jersey. Oscar noted that Atlantic, Cape May, and Camden Counties will likely be the first with contracted homes available and that the fee will remain the same, \$850/month, as the Firemen's Home.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association – Butch Kienzle reported on the January 25th meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association held in Absecon. Butch thanked Absecon for the hospitality and reported that Atlantic County Commissioner Rich Dase administered the oath of office. Butch reported that a Certificate of Recognition was presented to Thomas R. Eppler for thirty-five years of service as a Deputy Fire Coordinator for Atlantic County and a Certificate of Recognition was presented to Michael J. Corbo for ten years of service as a Deputy Fire Coordinator for Atlantic County. Butch thanked the Minotola Vol. Fire Company for stepping up to host the March meeting annually and the Bayview Vol. Fire Company for stepping up to host the November meeting annually. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association will be 8:00 PM on March 9, 2022 at the Minotola Volunteer Fire Company.

Harold J. "Whitey" Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition – Billy Merola reported that a valor committee has one nomination to review and will meet in late February or early March.

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 Administrative Budget proposal, with a total of \$5,525, and the 2022 Public Relations Budget proposal, with a total of \$1,865, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

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

President Mackintosh reported that he is extremely proud to be serving as President and noted that he will do everything he can to keep the association moving forward and to increase participation from across the county.

Thank you to the Longport Volunteer Fire Department 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 20:40. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on March 16, 2022 in Elwood.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Sat. Apr. 9, 2022	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com *TAKE OUT ONLY
Sat. May 14, 2022	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill
Wed. Jun. 8, 2022	18:00	Smithville Inn, Smithville	Beef & Beer to Benefit Oceanville VFC
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	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
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ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Mar. 16, 2022	19:30	Elwood VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 20, 2022	19:30	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	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 VFD	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. 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. Apr. 18, 2022	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 18, 2022	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Oct. 17, 2022	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 9, 2023	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Mar. 9, 2022	20:00	Minotola VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. Apr. 13, 2022	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. May 11, 2022	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. Jun. 8, 2022	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. Jul. 13, 2022	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. Aug. 10, 2022	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. Sep. 14, 2022	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. Oct. 12, 2022	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
Wed. Nov. 9, 2022	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Dec. 14, 2022	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Tues. Jan. 24, 2023	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
February 2023			NO MEETING

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
Thurs. Jan. 26, 2023	19:30		Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 27, 2023	19:30		Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association