

# Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

*"In Union For The Safety Of All"*



August 17, 2022

## **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 19:30 on August 17, 2022 at the Cologne Volunteer Fire Company 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.

## **Introduction of Host Chief**

President Mackintosh introduced Chief Jim Menz of the Cologne Volunteer Fire Company. Chief Menz welcomed all to Cologne in Hamilton Township.

## **In Attendance**

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 40 of 172      Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 21 of 43

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the July 20, 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 the next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on September 2, 2022, at the Absecon Fire Department. Howard reported that they will be discussing the details of accepting the Telesquirt from Minotola and that the county is moving forward on an agreement with Margate. Howard reported on the need to form a committee to investigate planning an October event at the training center as a precursor to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event to be planned for 2023 that the committee can also start planning for. They will be seeking from all county departments concerning the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary planning.

**Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board** – Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for October 17, 2022.

**Training** – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that the next Firefighter I class will start on August 18<sup>th</sup>. There are currently twelve students registered, but more are expected to show up the first night. Firefighter II is scheduled to start on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Mike reported on attending a meeting with the state concerning the new Junior Firefighter regulations. The

NJ Division of Fire Safety is currently drafting the rules and expects them to be completed by the spring of 2023. This will allow sixteen- and seventeen-year-olds to attend Firefighter I, including the live burn, but not sit for the written exam until they are eighteen. They would then be allowed to respond to fires but not operate in the immediate area of fire. Mike reported that the evolving I200 rules fall under the NJ State Police and the NJ DFS will not be enforcing the changes. Mike reported that he will continue academy training under the current ICS rules and will not be adding I200 to the Firefighter I course. Mike reported that the NJ DFS has agreed to issue all students in Firefighter II a copy of the new textbook since some have taken Firefighter I under the old textbook and only have that copy. Mike reported that NJ has approved a 1.8-million-dollar contract with Kean University for them to continue their involvement with the NJ DFS training program. Mike reported that all training invoices have been sent out. Mike provided an update on the Margate Quint. The county has approved a shared services agreement and Margate is expected to vote in the affirmative on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mike reported that he is in contact with a Fire District Commissioner about moving forward with the acquisition of the Minotola Telesquirt. Mike closed out his report with the announcement of his plan to retire on February 1, 2023.

**Fire Coordinator** – Fire Coordinator Clyde W. “Chip” Stockton Jr. reported on upcoming fire service event dates. The NJSFA convention is September 16 and 17 in Wildwood. The Annual Glasstown Antique Fire Brigade Muster is on August 21<sup>st</sup> at Wheaton Arts in Millville. The Atlantic City Airshow is scheduled for August 24<sup>th</sup> with practice on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Chip reported on a water rescue in Pleasantville on Lakes Bay. Scullville and Longport were requested for their boats. Lefty Clayton reported that two individuals were stranded in Lakes Bay with wave runners. Scullville’s hovercraft had operational issues and Longport’s boat requires thirty-nine inches of water. Lakes Bay has only twenty-four inches of water. Margate was dispatched with their John Boat and the Margate Beach Patrol sent a wave runner. The Margate units were able to bring the individuals to shore.

**Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association** – Butch Kienzle summarized the minutes from the meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association held on August 10<sup>th</sup> at the Laureldale Volunteer Fire Company. Vince Campagna and Ashley Bledso from the NJ Division of Fire Safety NFIRS Unit were in attendance. Vince and Ashley provided many updates and procedural details concerning NFIRS reporting including proper type coding and narratives. A recent email blast went out to all fire chiefs concerning the need for real time notification for certain incidents involving structure fires or burns. This is in addition to the existing twenty-four-hour notifications required for injuries. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at the Nesco Volunteer Fire Company, Mullica Township.

**Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition** – Billy Merola reported that he is waiting for the submission of one nomination and that all nominations for valor should be written up soon after an incident that warrants a nomination, so that the details are still fresh, and it is not forgotten.

**Atlantic County 4H Fair** – Howard Berchtold reported that the 4H Fair ran with a modified two-day schedule. The weather was great. The county fire service was out Saturday evening with fire apparatus and demonstrations. NJ Forest Fire Service was out Friday and Saturday. Howard thanked Dave Buzby and Dennis Sharpe for work. Howard noted that the antique car show was out on Friday night and was very cool with seventy-one cars on display. Howard reported that they are hoping to return to the three-day format in 2023.

**Atlantic County Radio Communications** – Howard Berchtold reported work is continuing and data has been received about the Mercer County Fire & EMS dispatch. A trip to visit the Mercer County dispatch Center will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

**NJ Forest Fire Service** – Division Fire Warden Bill Donnelly reported that the state has been drying out and seeing fires every day. There are still three trucks deployed to Texas. A request has been received from Montana for deployment of resources and is currently under review. All are hoping for rain soon.

### **Communications**

There were no communications to report.

### **Deferred Business**

There was no deferred business to act upon.

**New Business**

There was no new business to act upon.

**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 would like to hold an introductory 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee meeting immediately after the regular meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>. A preliminary introduction meeting for all those that would like to serve on this committee. All those that would like to serve are welcome and encouraged to be there on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

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

**Adjournment**

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Dcn. Richard Maxwell. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:10. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on September 21, 2022 at the Hammonton Fire Department Station 2.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

**Fire Department/Company/Association Events**

Sat. Aug 20, 2022	11:00	Newtonville VFC	Fish Fry
Sun. Aug. 21, 2022	10:00	Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center, Millville	41st Annual Glasstown Antique Fire Brigade
Fri. Sep. 9, 2022	17:00	Jenkinson's Boardwalk, Point Pleasant	First Responders Night @ Jenkinson's Boardwalk
Thurs. Sep. 15, 2022	08:30	Wildwood Convention Center	NJSFCA Wildwood Convention Training Seminar
Thurs. Sep. 15, 2022	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	NJSFCA Annual Convention Meeting
Thurs. Sep. 15, 2022	19:00	Cattle 'n Clover, Wildwood	Annual Wildwood F.O.O.L.S. Bash
Fri. Sep. 16, 2022	08:00	Wildwood	Five Mile Beach Vol. Firemen's Assoc. hosts NJ Fire Expo (Tents & Exhibits)
Fri. Sep. 16, 2022	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention and Memorial Service
Fri. Sep. 16, 2022	19:00	Seaport Pier, North Wildwood	NFFF Fire Hero Beach Bash
Sat. Sep. 17, 2022	07:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention (Voting Only)
Sat. Sep. 17, 2022	08:00	Wildwood	Five Mile Beach Vol. Firemen's Assoc. hosts NJ Fire Expo (Tents & Exhibits)
Sat. Sep. 17, 2022	14:00	Wildwood	Five Mile Beach Vol. Firemen's Assoc. hosts NJ State Firemen's Convention Parade
Sat. Sep. 24, 2022	12:00	Stafford Twp. VFC, Manahawkin, Ocean County	100th Anniversary Celebration with Parade
Sat. Sep. 25, 2022	09:00	NJFM, 4 Polhemustown Rd, Allentown, NJ	NJ Fire Museum Annual Open House (09:00 - 15:00)
Sun. Oct. 2, 2022	10:00	Northfield VFC	6th Annual Classic Car Show & Silent Auction
Sat. Nov. 12, 2022	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com

**ACFFA Meetings**

**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association**

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
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. 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
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. Oct. 17, 2022	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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. Sep. 14, 2022	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 12, 2022	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 9, 2022	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's 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. 26, 2023	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 27, 2023	19:30	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association