

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



September 21, 2022

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 19:30 on September 21, 2022, at the Hammonton Fire Department Station 2, by President Charles J. Mackintosh. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of all fallen firefighters and military personnel. President Mackintosh then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Mackintosh introduced Chief Sean Macri of the Hammonton Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Macri welcomed all to Hammonton and provided an update on Assistant Chief Domenick Digiovannangelo. Domenick is getting out and about. He needs a heart transplant and currently has an LVAD. He will need to complete cancer treatment before he is put on the transplant list.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 44 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 August 17, 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 summarized the minutes from the September 2nd meeting of the Executive Committee. Howard discussed the plan for the county to accept the Quint from Margate with it remaining frontline ready as a reserve apparatus for Margate. Howard reported that a meeting will be scheduled with Minotola to discuss the details of the donation of their Telesquirt. Howard noted there were some concerns that need to be reviewed with Minotola. The committee discussed the need to work with the county to identify a candidate for the position of Director of Fire Training now that Mike Corbo has announced his intention to retire as early as the first quarter of 2023. The committee discussed the instructor pay rates and the need to increase them pending a review of the impact of doing so. The committee will also review the instructor roster and participation. The Treasurer is working with the President to get the annual audit completed. The committee discussed the ongoing data collection to keep moving forward with seeking county fire/EMS dispatch. Howard noted that a group had just visited the Mercer County Fire/EMS dispatch center and were impressed with the potential of doing the same in Atlantic County. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 4, 2022 in South Egg Harbor at 19:30. Normally 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. It is not known at this time if the dinner will be held or be take-out only. If the dinner is scheduled for dine-in, 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 17, 2022.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that the Firefighter I class started with fifteen students and has increased to seventeen students. At this time Firefighter II will be cancelled due to having only three registrations. Mike reported that, overall, registrations in several classes have been lower this year and noted that it will have an impact on the training revenue. Mike reported that it is rare for Firefighter II to be canceled and noted that the state reports that only fifteen percent of NJ firefighters have FFII certification. Mike noted that some counties offer a Firefighter I/II combined class but that would be difficult to schedule due to the number of weeks required would likely limit it to one offering per year. Mike reported that if seven more registrations were received for the Firefighter II class, he could run with a class of ten and start in early to mid-October. Mike reported that the Firefighter I graduation ceremony held on September 12th went well with approximately one hundred in attendance. Mike reported that all invoices through the end of the spring semester have been sent out and many are still outstanding. Mike reported that the training ground drill tower was just inspected and there were concerns identified with the inside arches. It was found that the fourth floor of the tower has many cracks in the motor joints and the floor has been placed out of service. Mike reported that the burn building is running well and reminded everyone to put in for company burn training. Mike reminded everyone that the ACFFA Instructors will run the burn evolutions for companies. Companies need only let the staff know what evolutions they want. There are multiple lesson plans on file to cover many evolutions. Mike reported that the windows in the smokehouse have been replaced due to cracks. Mike reported that the Margate Quint is now in the annex and that Margate Captain, and Instructor, Eric Grace will train the instructors on the operation of the truck. Mike reported that ICS200 classes have been scheduled and that the online exam must be completed after taking the class.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Clyde W. “Chip” Stockton Jr. reported that the second highwater rescue class is scheduled for September 24th at the training center. The first class, held in Atlantic City, went well. Chip reported that they are looking into planning a swift water class. Chip reported that the annual NJ fire department survey needs to be completed and that reminder emails were sent. Chip reported on visiting the Mercer County Fire/EMS dispatch earlier in the day. Chip reported on attending the state fire coordinator meeting in Wildwood. The total number on NJ DFS fire department investigations is now thirty-nine. They discussed foam disposal and that the state is looking into a plan with NJ DEP for foam disposal. Chip reported that Orchards Hydraulic Service, in Galloway, can deal with any issues concerning hydraulic rams on aerial apparatus.

NJ Firemen’s Home – President Mackintosh reported that Oscar Dutch sent him a report. The home no longer requires appointments for visitation. Visitation hours are 10 am to 4 pm and held in a semi-private area. Effective October 1st, there will no longer be an \$850 monthly cost to stay at the home.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association – Butch Kienzle reported that there was no entrant for the Chiefs’ Association trophy at the Wildwood parade. The trophy will be recycled for use at the 2023 parade. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at the Estell Manor Volunteer Fire Company.

NJ Forest Fire Service – Division Fire Warden Bill Donnelly reported that NJ units are still deployed to Idaho and Montana. They will be returning. NJ has also sent resources to Puerto Rico.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

President Mackintosh reported that an introductory 100th Anniversary committee meeting will be held at the conclusion of the regular meeting.

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 apologized for the miscommunication that resulted in the ACFFA trophies having not been ordered in time for the Wildwood parade. Certificates were created as a substitute and the trophies have been ordered and will be presented at an association meeting. Northfield Fire Department was awarded both trophies by the judges in Wildwood.

Thank you to the Hammonton Volunteer Fire Department Station 2 for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:20. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on October 19, 2022 at the Port Republic Volunteer Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

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)
Sat. Oct. 1, 2022	15:30	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner (15:30 - 18:30) *TAKE OUT ONLY
Sun. Oct. 2, 2022	10:00	Northfield VFC	6th Annual Classic Car Show & Silent Auction
Sat. Oct. 15, 2022	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner (15:30 - 19:30) *TAKE OUT ONLY
Sat. Oct. 29, 2022	-----	Elwood VFC	e-Bike Raffle Drawing
Sat. Nov. 12, 2022	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. Dec. 10, 2022	19:00	Hammonton VFD	Hammonton VFD Christmas Parade (lineup 18:00 & parade 19:00)
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ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

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. 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. 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. 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
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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.

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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