



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

February 15, 2006

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on Feb. 15, 2006 in Longport by 1st Vice President Dennis Sharpe. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

Chief Clayton of the Longport Fire Company was introduced. Chief Clayton introduced local leaders that were in attendance. All provided a word of thanks and appreciation.

In Attendance

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the Jan. 18, 2006 meeting sent to chiefs and secretaries.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer as read by Asst. Secretary-Treasurer Stacey Wellington.

Committee Reports

Training Committee – Mike Corbo reported that the spring training catalog has been printed and sent out. The training catalog and online registration is now available online at www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org. The Firefighter I class started on Feb. 14 with 30 students enrolled. The Firefighter II will start in March. The Flashover Simulator class will be offered twice a month and is limited to twelve students per session. Four introduction classes were held for Chiefs to experience the Flashover Simulator. The Flashover training was well received by the twenty-four Chiefs in attendance. A press release and demonstration of the Flashover Simulator for the local media is being planned. No I200 classes scheduled this semester. If any company needs one, contact Mike. I200 training will be integrated with Firefighter II in the Fall semester. More I300 instructors are needed, contact Mike if interested. Mike has moved his office at the training center to a larger area. Fire Officer will be a state certified (40-60 hrs.) class and should be available in the Fall semester. The state certified standard for Firefighter II should be ready in 2007. All those with Firefighter II training will be able to challenge the test without retaking Firefighter II. Everyone must take the test to receive state certification as Firefighter II. Mike is working on a refresher class to prepare for the test for those that have already taken Firefighter II. Half of the arson investigation shed has been acquired for storage of materials for the Flashover Simulator. Lowes has offered good prices for the burn material.



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Fire Marshal – Whitey Swartz reported that valor awards nominations must be received by the end of February. The awards will be presented at the Association meeting on April 19. The poster contest has received donations from Atlantic City Electric, Atlantic Coast Alarm, and Rich Fire Protection. These donations should keep the contest sponsored for the next three years.. Whitey has a list of local contacts that he is sending to the schools. Please make sure your local contact is correct. The 200 Club Memorial Service and Breakfast is on Mar. 26, tables of ten or twelve are available. The Fire Rescue Expo will be held Oct. 14 (rain date – Oct. 15). Anyone with some fresh ideas, or is willing to help out, please contact Whitey.

Executive Committee – Howard Berchtold Jr. reported that the next meeting will be held on March 3 at Somers Point station No. 1. Howard also reported that the Firefighter I graduation on Jan. 23 went very well.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association. – Jim Garth reported that Dennis Levinson was at the last meeting of the Chief's association. The county will use a grant to survey all municipalities concerning their emergency dispatch and radio equipment. This survey is to gather data and information as they work towards a central or regional dispatch. The next meeting will be March 28 in Landisville.

Forest Fire – Ken Badger reported that controlled burns have been conducted and will be continued until March 15 or extended to April 1 if it is too wet.

Fire Coordinator – Ken Badger reported that he and Ed Vincent will be personally visiting all stations in the county to survey all equipment for the state database. This will also help bring the red book up to date. The next coordinator meeting will be in March. Eight hundred gallons of foam has been staged at the airport by the state.

Ladies Night – Ron Bird reported that the dinner is set for March 10 at the Crab Trap in Somers Point. Tickets are \$35.00 and RSVP is requested by March 1. Contact Ron Bird or Dennis Sharpe.

Library – Ron Bird reported that the library is open on Monday and Tuesday. Come on out.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

New Business

Mike Corbo reported that new Scott AV3000 masks have cracked when used in the Flashover Simulator. The Scott AV2000 masks have not experienced this problem. The Scott dealer is replacing the AV3000 masks with AV2000 masks. Mike has heard that there may be a problem with the AV3000 mask that Scott is not disclosing right now. Mike is looking into a possible incident in Detroit that may shed more light on the situation.

Bills

The bills were read by Asst. Secretary Treasurer Stacey Wellington. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Good of the Order

Dan Adams reported that a class action suit is being filed concerning toxic exposure on the World Trade Center Rescue/Recovery efforts. More information is available on the PBA and FMBA websites.

Gill Zonge Jr. reported that more Chiefs should show support for members of their departments, when they graduation Firefighter I, by attending the graduation ceremony.

Dennis Sharpe reported that the application period for Federal grants will be from March 6 to April 7. A workshop was recently held with updated materials and new rules. Dennis will make a copy of the workshop presentation for anyone that wants it.

Rob Winkler questioned as to how long F2500 will sit disabled in Hammonton. No one knew the answer and it will have to be looked into.

Jim Garth reported that there was some confusion utilizing Incident Command and Staging by both County Emergency Management and EMS Coordinators at the bus accident in Egg Harbor Township. This is being looked into and should be corrected.

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:00. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on March 15, 2006 in Folsom.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary



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Date Clearing

Fri. Mar. 10	18:00	Somers Pt.	ACFFA Dinner at Crab Trap Restaurant
Sun. Mar. 26	10:30	Atlantic City	Cape/Atlantic 200 Club Memorial and Breakfast
Sat. Apr. 8	16:00	Oceanville	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner 16:00-20:00
Sun. Jun. 4	12:00	Dorothy	Chicken Barbecue @ Dorothy Fire Co. 12:00-18:00