



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

May 17, 2006

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:10 on May 17, 2006 in Bayview by President R. Thomas Hunter Jr.. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Reverend Thomas Sweeny.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

Chief Winneberger of the Bayview Fire Company was introduced. Chief Winneberger welcomed all to Bayview.

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 April 2006 meeting as 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 – Director of Training, Mike Corbo, reported that applications for an open instructor position will be available at the training center starting May 18. Mike talked with representatives of Scott Air Packs at FDIC. It has been determined that the scratch resistant coating is what is running and distorting on the AV3000 face piece when exposed to high heat. They are also reporting that the polycarbonate component of the mask is still intact and safe. Mike reported that the flashover simulator training is going well. An EZ-Up tent is needed so that students attending flashover training may gear up out of the rain before going in the high heat of the flashover simulator. The tent will also help with protection from the sun. Mike reported the current FFI class has had their live burn rescheduled to June 11. Daytime FFI training will start on June 15. The state will no longer be supplying the Delmar books for FFI even though it is still mandatory that these books be utilized for FFI.

Fire Marshall – Whitey Swartz reported that the poster program is doing very well. The fire expo will be on October 14. Whitey will have the outline of the expo at the next association meeting for review and suggestions. Whitey also reported on the memorial. The monument has been ordered. Commitments have been made for the concrete work.



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

The Buzby family is donating the entire cost of the outside monument in memory of Walter Buzby III. The Atlantic/Cape 200 Club will cover the costs of the Remembrance Tree inside.

Executive Committee – Highlights of the Executive Committee meeting minutes of May 5, 2006 were read by Secretary Robert A. Mellon. Howard Berchtold Jr. reported that the poster contest that Whitey Swartz has started is doing well. More businesses are interested in supported the poster contest than are actually needed. The Executive Committee would like to expand on this concept and start a public relations fund under the treasurer to keep track of the program while keeping it separate from other funds. This fund would be used for the poster contest, calendars, and other public relations material that may have the supporting business properly acknowledged. The Executive is also recommended that the Association purchase an EZ-Up Tent for the training center to be used as protection from the weather as students gear up for the flashover training. The Executive Committee is also recommending that the Association adopt policy allowing for instructors to take a leave of absence if they are not able to provide the required minimum instruction assignments. It is recommended that a leave of absence would not count towards the maximum instructor count. It is recommended that an instructor position be posted. The Executive Committee has also recommended that the secretary draft letters seeking the donation of used golf carts as the current training center golf cart is in only fair condition.

Board of Directors – Howard Berchtold Jr. reported that the training center has had a lot of work done. Great improvements have been made in the SCBA room and the instructor's room. Howard also reported that the training center is in need of a new dummy and that the county is willing to purchase one.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association. – Chief Jim Garth reported that the next meeting will be in Northfield on May 30 and Mike Gallagher from the Division of Fire Safety will be in attendance.

4-H Fair – Howard Berchtold Jr. reported that the fair is scheduled for August 10, 11, and 12. Howard will meet with 4-H officials in the near future. Howard reported that 4-H is willing to adjust the allocated space to better accommodate the firefighters. The firefighter field day competition will be held on Friday August 11 at 7:00 PM.

Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent reported that the Director of Fire Safety has not yet been reappointed, though it is likely that he will be. It has been requested that the Sheriff's office put out red flag warnings to the public when issued by the NJ Forest Fire Service. It has been unclear what insurance, if any, covers the fire coordinators. The insurance situation is being looked into. The fire coordinators are visiting firehouses throughout the county so as to update the mutual aid plans with accurate information. The state is coordinating tactical task forces, throughout the state, to be available for mutual aid. Fire departments will need to meet certain requirements to be part of a tactical task force. Fire departments will not be exempt from the new requirement of having a boating safety course certificate in order to operate a boat. The safety course requirement is being phased in by 2009 for all those who operate a boat.



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

Fireman's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that a new superintendent has been hired and is doing a great job. There are many projects being undertaken at the home.

NJ State Fireman's Relief Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that the 2% checks have been sent out.

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.

New Business

A motion was made, seconded, and carried for the Atlantic County Firefighter's Association to create a public relations fund.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried for the Atlantic County Firefighter's Association to purchase an EZ-Up Tent when funds are available and not to exceed \$300.00.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried for the Atlantic County Firefighter's Association to advertise for a fire instructor.

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

Ted Reinhard thanked Mike Corbo for all of the assistance he provided while Ted was hospitalized in Indianapolis. All joined in for a round of applause.

Ted Reinhard also reported that he obtained some low pressure nozzles from Elkhart Brass for the training center.

Billy Merola reported that the County Executive may be able to transfer a golf cart to the training center if he receives a letter from the association requesting one.



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

Dennis Sharpe reported on some of the information he received while attending FDIC. Dennis reported that other grants are available to the fire service such as those found at <http://www.firemansfund.com/heritage/>

Skip Portale reported that Galloway Twp. Fire Chief Brian Berchtold is resigning on May 30. He will be replaced by Rodney Calimer, Chief of Pomona Vol. Fire Co. No. 3.

Mike Corbo reported that the American Heart Association has changed it's regulations in regard to CPR training and certification. There will now be an eight student to one instructor ratio for both initial and refresher training. They also now require that all students obtain a course text book at least two weeks prior to their course date.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:45. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on June 21 in East Vineland.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Sat. May 20	13:00	East Vineland	1 st Annual Golf Tournament @ Centerton Country Club
Sat. Jun 3	13:00	Cologne	Chicken Barbecue @ Cologne Fire Co. 13:00 – 20:00
Sun. Jun. 4	12:00	Dorothy	Chicken Barbecue @ Dorothy Fire Co. 12:00 - 18:00
Sat. Nov. 4		Cologne	Craft Show