



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

June 21, 2006

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on June 21, 2006 in East Vineland by Howard Berchtold Jr.. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

Chief Ruggeri of the East Vineland Fire Company was introduced. Chief Ruggeri welcomed all to East Vineland.

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 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 Howard Berchtold Jr..

Bills

The bills were read by Howard Berchtold Jr.. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. reported that the next meeting will be July 7, 2006 in Landisville. Skip Portale reported that the interview committee met with three applicants for the instructor position. All of the applicants were highly qualified and the interview committee is recommending that Rob Winkler be hired as the newest instructor.

Board of Directors – Howard Berchtold Jr. reported that the next meeting will be on July 10, 2006.



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Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent reported that the Division of Fire Safety has been affected by cut backs in the state budget. Tanker Task Force Bravo Division is seeking permission to hold a drill at the Hammonton airport. Many land owners are now requesting hold harmless agreements before allowing drills to take place on their land. Fire coordinators will respond on 2nd and 3rd alarms. Ed is still waiting for a written policy that will cover fire coordinator insurance when they are on the job. Fire coordinators will be visiting all fire companies in the county in order to update the mutual aid plan. Tanker Task Force Alpha Division will hold a drill on June 26, 2006 at the fire academy.

Fire Marshal – Whitey Swartz will send a package to all schools and fire companies informing them of the poster contest when the theme is set by the state. The fire expo will be Oct. 14, 2006. The forest fire service will put on a demonstration including helicopter and AG-Cat, Michelle Dawn Mooney (Ch. 40) will sing the national anthem, the Coast Guard will conduct an air rescue, Atlantic City Electric and the sprinkler's union will both have their demo trailers, WMGM Shark radio will be in attendance, plus many other demonstrations. Any fire company that would like to sell company mugs, shirts, etc. may do so. Whitey also reported that there will be a meeting with county freeholders about seeking funding from the CRDA for the fire academy expansion. The meeting will be on June 22, 2006 at the training center. It has been reported that Camden County will be receiving 3.2 million dollars for their fire academy expansion.

Training – Mike Corbo reported that the Camden County Fire Academy will receive 3.2 million dollars from the CRDA for an expansion project. The FFI summer course has started and has 21 students. The drill tower is covered by bird excrement. The building will be cleaned and new light covers will be installed to prevent birds from nesting in the tower. An ODI, QTO, QSO class will be held on Sunday July 16. A memo will be sent to all county departments. The spring FFI graduation will be at 7:00 PM on Monday July 24 at the fire academy. The older fire academy air packs will be serviced. Two thirty minute air tanks are missing from the academy. They are marked "Landisville VFC". Departments are asked to check and see if they have them. The state of NJ has distributed all of the Delmar FFI books. Additional books needed for FFI training will now have to be purchased. The cost is \$110 per set after a 50% discount. Discussion was held on possible ideas of minimizing the cost. The future of state certification for FFII and Fire Officer is now in question due to the state budget. The Atlantic County OEM will be hosting a boater safety class at the training center. Information can be found at www.aclink.org.

Library – Ron Bird reported that if you need anything from the library, feel free to contact him.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association. – The next meeting will be July 25, 2006 in Estell Manor.

Atl. Co. Fireman's Death Benefit Fund – Henry Schoenstein reported that he assisted Dianna Kreutzer in drafting a letter to all county departments. The letter will inform all of what the fund is about and is seeking new members. This will be distributed with the ACFFA minutes.



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NJ Fireman's Relief Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that a company has been hired to put all of the convention minutes on microfilm. The burial benefit has increased from \$8300 to \$8700 with LODD being triple. The officers of the Relief Association will be receiving a 3 ½% raise. The Atlantic County Caucus will be on Wed. Aug. 15. The convention will be on Sept. 15 and 16.

NJ Fireman's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that the remaining budgeted funds have been received from the state.

Atlantic/Cape 200 Club – Tom Hunter will meet with Vince Premone to discuss plans for seeking a speaker for next years breakfast.

Atl. Co. 4H Fair – Howard Berchtold reported that the field day competition, evolution demonstrations, and static displays of fire apparatus will again take place. Contact Howard Berchtold or Dennis Sharpe if your company would like to participate.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

The status of membership cards was questioned. Secretary Robert Mellon stated that cards will be prepared as soon as possible as research into membership lists and history is still being done.

New Business

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to hire Rob Winkler as an instructor per the recommendation of the interview committee.

New Members

Andrew Santiago and Kenneth Behe, both of Pomona VFC, were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

The current condition of both Ted Reinhard and Chester Crowell was reported.



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Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:20. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on July 19, 2006 in Linwood.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Aug. 10, 11, 12	Atl. Co. 4-H	Annual Fair
Wed. Aug. 15	Egg Harbor City	Atlantic Co. Fireman's Relief Caucus
Fri. Sept. 15	Wildwood	NJ Fireman's Relief Assoc. Convention
Sat. Sept. 16	Wildwood	NJ Fireman's Relief Assoc. Convention
Sat. Oct. 7	Germania	Turkey or Pork Dinner
Sat. Oct. 14	Training Ctr.	Atlantic County Fire Expo
Sat. Nov. 4	Cologne	Craft Show

(Please email your event info to robert.mellon@oceanvillevfc.org)