



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

March 21, 2007

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on Mar. 21, 2007 at the Folsom Fire Company by President R. Thomas Hunter Jr. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

Chief Larry Smith of the Folsom Fire Company was introduced. Chief Smith welcomed all to Folsom.

In Attendance

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

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.

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.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the Feb. 21, 2007 meeting sent to member companies.

Special Presentation

Retired BC Tom Foley introduced Brian Cieslak. Mr. Cieslak is a District Sales Coordinator for Aflac Insurance. Mr. Cieslak presented two indemnity plans, personal accident and personal cancer, available for firefighters. Mr. Cieslak is available to visit fire companies to present a more in depth outline of the plans. He can be contacted at (609)909-9700 or bhcieslak@comcast.net.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes from the Mar. 2, 2007 Executive Committee meeting. The meeting did not result in any action to be taken at the regular association meeting.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes from the Mar. 12, 2007 Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board meeting.

Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent reported on the recent incidents that the fire coordinators responded to. Ed reported on the need for all departments to review the task force/strike team lists sent out with last month's minutes. Please contact Ed with any updates or changes. There is a large diameter hose drill scheduled for Sun. Mar. 25, 2007 on Clarks Landing road. Ed reported on recent task force and strike team meetings and the plans to schedule drills in the near future. Ed reported on the donated tanker truck and plans to convert it into a foam tender. There will be a need to have qualified fire service operators for the foam tender. A memo will be included with the minutes. Ed reported on the need for qualified fire service operators for Field Comm 25. Please contact Vince Jones if interested. Ed reported on the Fire Track system that the county has purchased. The county has sent out questionnaires concerning fire department assets including personnel. There is a suggestion for fire departments to utilize a combination of municipal ID number, FDID number, and firefighter's DFS certification number to create permanent ID numbers for firefighters. It has been noted that some departments use a set group of ID numbers and reuse them when members leave and new members join. The firefighter ID number should be unique and bar-coded on an ID badge. Ex.: 01111123456. This would be deciphered as 01= Atl. Co., 11= Galloway Twp., 1= Oceanville VFC, 123456= Firefighters NJ DFS ID number.

Public Relations – Whitey Swartz reported on the poster award winners and the two valor awards to be presented at the April 18 meeting of the association at the Training Center. Whitey reported that the Cape/Atlantic 200 Club Memorial Service and Breakfast had 650 guests in attendance. It was the first time that the keynote speaker was from the fire service. Dr. Burton Clark, Director of the National Fire Academy, was well received by all of those in attendance. Whitey reported on Atlantic County's plans for a highway safety caravan scheduled for May 23, 2007. Whitey reported that the Fallen Heroes Memorial will be dedicated on March 24, 2007 at Noon. Almost \$40,000 has been raised for the memorial and the Tree of Remembrance. It is requested that all in attendance wear dress uniforms. Help will be needed at 09:00 to set up for the service. An annual service will be scheduled at the memorial. Howard Berchtold Jr. informed all of all of the work and effort that Whitey put into this memorial. Howard also commented on the generous financial support received from the Buzby family and the Cape Atlantic 200 Club. It will have been four years of working towards building this memorial on April 4, 2007. President R. Thomas Hunter Jr. thanked Whitey for his outstanding effort and hard work for the last four years to make this memorial possible.

Training Committee – Mike Corbo reported that many of the scheduled classes are full and currently have waiting lists. FFII just started with thirteen students. Mike reported that the burn building will need an engineer to evaluate the concrete floor and some of the brickwork. A Fire Officer I class will be scheduled in the fall. The fall semester will now start in August. And the schedule book should be ready by late June or early July. A Thermal Imaging Operations class will be scheduled for June. The QTO/QSO/ODI classes have not been well attended. Companies/Departments will no longer be allowed to utilize the facilities unless they have appropriately trained members in attendance. Additional QTO/QSO/ODI classes will be scheduled, Please attend.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association. – Jim Garth reported that the next meeting will be March 29 in Minotola.

Special Presentation

A presentation was made by Glenn Liepe, Div. C Warden NJ Forest Fire Service, on the current operational plans for this fire season. The presentation included air ops and plans for a 10:00 March 31 training on air ops support at Strawberry Field. Glenn also reported on the NJ Firewise grants.

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 22:05. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on April 18, 2007 at the Training Center. This will be the annual Valor Awards and class A dress uniform is recommended.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Sat. Mar. 24	12:00	Training Ctr.	Dedication of Memorial
Sat. Apr. 14	16:00	Oceanville	Ham & Oyster Dinner
Sat. Apr. 21	19:00	Cologne	Dinner / Comedy Show
Sat. Apr. 28		Cologne	Giant Yard Sale
Sat. May 5	16:00	Germania	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Jun. 2	12:00	Cologne	Chicken Barbecue
Sat. Sept. 22	09:00	Cologne	Home Party Expo
Sat. Oct. 6	16:00	Germania	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Nov. 3	09:00	Cologne	Craft Fair
Sat. Nov. 10	16:00	Oceanville	Ham & Oyster Dinner

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