

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Stacey Wellington
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon

September 16, 2009

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on Sept. 16, 2009 at the Hammonton Vol. Fire Co. Sta. 1 by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with the flag salute, followed by an invocation offered by Rev. Thomas Sweeny, Chaplain of the Association. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host President

Chief DiGiovannangelo of the Hammonton Fire Department was introduced. Chief DiGiovannangelo welcomed all to Hammonton.

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 August 19, 2009 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 Stacey Wellington.

Checking: \$8,631.90 / Tuition: \$14,125.20 / Eighteen Month CD: \$51,481.18 / Nine Month CD-due 02/27/10: \$10,233.41 / Capitol CD-due 12/12/09: \$4,333.52

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Co-Chairman Oscar Dutch Jr. read the minutes from the meeting held on Sept. 4, 2009 in Absecon. Oscar noted that the total grant monies received for the equipment and foam trailers and supplies was \$87,500.00. Oscar noted the two recommendations for action from the association. The first recommendation is to accept the administrative budget proposal. The second recommendation is that any county department not in good standing with association dues be charged out of county rates for training.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Oscar Dutch Jr. reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on Sept. 14, 2009.

Fire Coordinator – Oscar Dutch reported for Ed Vincent who was attending a drill meeting in Washington Twp., Burlington County. Port Republic, Egg Harbor City, and Mullica Township will participate in a wildland/urban interface drill scheduled for Oct. 24, 2009 in Washington Twp., Burlington County. Task force two will participate at the drill as an additional resource. Oscar reported on a three alarm fire in Atlantic City and the communication problems that still exist there. Whitey suggested that Ed Vincent meet with all necessary parties and sort out the communication issues. Oscar reported that the chief's association will be reviewing up to three people before making a recommendation to the next term of county fire coordinator. Oscar reported that Ed Vincent will be seeking reappointment to the position. Oscar reported on the status of the county issued 800 MHz. portables. All departments utilizing VHF radio have been issued an 800 MHz portable. Not all task force leaders have one and that should be addressed soon. Oscar reported that Dennis Sharpe is heading up a Large Diameter Hose Task Force Div. A drill to be scheduled at the ACUA grounds on Delilah Road.

Fire Marshal/Public Relations –Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz reported on the schedule and plans for the Memorial Service scheduled for 13:00 Sun., Oct. 4, 2009 at the training center. Whitey would like input from the association about how the service went at the next meeting. Whitey then reported on the schedule and plans for the Fire Expo scheduled for 12:00 Sat., Oct. 10, 2009 at the training center. Whitey is requesting help setting up for the expo starting at 08:00 on that day. There will be an expo meeting, for those bringing equipment, at 19:00 on Thurs., Oct. 1, 2009 at the training center. Whitey will have both large and small posters for the fire expo. Please pick some up and help distribute throughout the county to inform the public. Whitey reported on the status of the training center engine and ladder.

Library – Ron Bird reported progress is being made.

Atl. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association – Jim Garth reported that the next meeting of the Chiefs' Association is scheduled for Sept. 24, 2009 in Nesco. Discussion will be held about the next term of the county fire coordinator position. Vince Jones will be invited to report on dispatch plans. The Chiefs' Association trophy for the Wildwood parade will be for best appearing command vehicle.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

Treasurer Wellington reported on the Eighteen Month CD investment made in August. The rate is 1.6% and can be increased once during the term.

The trophies for the 4H Fair Firefighter Competition will be distributed at a future association meeting.

New Business

The Chief of the Elwood Fire Co. brought up an issue with Atlantic Electric not responding in a timely manner to downed wires during run of the mill storms. This has caused the tying up of fire apparatus for as long as five hours to babysit the wires. President Portale suggested that this association, and the chiefs' association, invite a representative from Atlantic Electric to a meeting in order to discuss the situation.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Secretary of the Association draft a letter inviting a representative of Atlantic Electric to one of the meetings.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that out of county training rates and advance payment be charged to departments that are out of good standing and in arrears with their association dues by a year or more, as recommended by the executive committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the administrative budget proposal, as recommended by the executive committee.

Bills

The bills were read by Treasurer Stacey Wellington. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, totaling \$905.56 (plus a pending bill from Staples), from the proper funds.

Bills --- Lowes - \$359.99 / Home Depot - \$79.57 / MES - \$466.00 / Staples - \$???

Applications for Membership

James W. Thompson, Douglas J. Parker, John W. Mooney, Kevin J. McKenna, Thomas J. Grentz Jr., Shaun P. Byrne, and Raymond L. Conover Sr. of the Oceanville Volunteer Fire Company were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

The Scullville Vol. Fire Co. will be holding a Haunted Hayride and Maze at Flemings Junkyard starting Fri., Oct. 2, 2009. Any firefighter with fire department ID will receive a \$2.00 discount on the cost of a combination ticket on the first weekend of the hayride.

Rev. Tom Sweeny reported on the fire departments that he visited during a vacation in British Columbia, Canada.

President Portale requested that any departments that have equipment that can be donated for the training center engine, such as a booster hose, please contact Mike Corbo.

President Portale wished all departments competing at the Wildwood parade the best of luck.

Thank you to the Hammonton Vol. Fire Co. No. 1 for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:05. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on October 21, 2009 in Weekstown.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Fri. Sept. 18, 2009	13:00	Wildwood	NJ State Firemen's Convention
Sat. Sept. 19, 2009	10:00	Wildwood	NJ State Firemen's Convention
Thurs. Sept. 24, 2009	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sun. Sept. 27, 2009	12:00	Dover Intl. Speedway	Fundraiser – National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
Sun. Sept. 27, 2009	07:00	Dover Intl. Speedway	Oceanville VFC Bus Trip to Fundraiser – National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
Fri., Sat., & Sun. of Oct.	19:00	Scullville VFC	Haunted Hayride and Maze at Flemings Junkyard
Thurs. Oct. 1, 2009	19:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Center	Fire Expo Participant Meeting
Sat. Oct. 3, 2009	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 4, 2009	13:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Center	Memorial Service @ Fallen Heroes Monument
Sat. Oct. 10, 2009	12:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Center	2009 Fire Expo - Please Encourage Public to Attend
Sat. Oct. 10, 2009	12:00	Greentree Golf Course	Elwood VFC Golf Tournament
Sat. Oct. 10, 2009	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sun. Oct. 11, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sat. Oct. 17, 2009	14:00	Mays Landing VFC	All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner
Sat. Oct. 24, 2009	16:00	Elm VFC (Camden Co.)	Fallen Hero, Arnie Quinones, Benefit
Sun. Nov. 1, 2009	08:30	McCullough's Emerald Golf Links	Scullville VFC – EHT Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament
Sat. Nov. 7, 2009	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	23 rd Annual Christmas Craft & Home Show
Fri. Nov. 13, 2009	18:30	Farmington VFC	Dinner & Comedy Show supporting Ricky Rainbow Fund
Sat. Nov. 14, 2009	09:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 2	Second-2-None Craft Fair
Sat. Nov. 14, 2009	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sun. Nov. 15, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Nov. 24, 2009	20:00	Linwood VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sat. Dec. 12, 2009	19:00	Hammonton Fire Dept.	12 th Annual Christmas Parade – Reg. @ 17:30, Parade @ 19:00
Sun. Dec. 13, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Thurs. Jan. 21, 2010	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Firemen's Assn. Death Benefit Fund
Tues. Jan. 26, 2010	20:00	Absecon VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.

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