

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

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



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

October 21, 2009

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on Oct. 21, 2009 at the Weekstown Vol. Fire Co. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host President

Chief Cirillo of the Weekstown Vol. Fire Co. was introduced. Chief Cirillo welcomed all to Weekstown and Mullica Township.

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 September 16, 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: \$10,381.56 / Tuition: \$28,798.20 / Eighteen Month CD: \$51,548.46 / Nine Month CD-due 02/27/10: \$10,244.19 / Capitol CD-due 12/12/09: \$4,238.84

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Next meeting of the Executive Committee scheduled for Oct. 30, 2009 in South Egg Harbor. The committee will meet at 17:15 at the South Egg Harbor firehouse or at 18:00 at the Never There Gun Club, Hammonton, for dinner. All are welcome to join them.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board is scheduled for Nov. 2, 2009.

Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent apologized for missing the last meeting. He was attending a Wildland / Urban Interface table top drill in Burlington County. Ed reported on that drill and the full scale drill scheduled for Oct. 24 that will include units from Atlantic County. Ed received a call during the meeting and was informed that the Oct. 24

Burlington County Wildland / Urban Interface drill is cancelled until the spring due to pending bad weather. Ed reported on the nomination process for the county fire coordinator position. The Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association nominated Ed for another two year term commencing in January of 2010. Ed thanked the Chiefs' Association for nominating him. Ed reported on the need to update mutual aid information. The update form is available on the Fire Coordinator page on the ACFFA website. Ed explained the three page update form and how to fill it out. It can be returned by regular mail or email. Ed reported that he still does not have email addresses for all fire chiefs and is requesting that all chiefs' email be forwarded to him. The mutual aid updates are due by January 2010 and Ed can be emailed at fire.coordinator@atlanticcountyfireassoc.org or evincent@thomascoinc.com. Ed reported on the recent events that the fire coordinators responded to including calls in Landisville and at the airport. Ed reported that he has been continually updated when apparatus is removed and returned to service. Ed reported on the Tanker Task Force Div. B drill held at the Savoy Inn and reported that a LDH Strike Team drill is scheduled for Nov. 8 at the ACUA grounds on Delilah Road. A planning meeting is scheduled for the LDH drill on Oct. 26 in Farmington. Ed reported that all departments are switching over to the new ID and that Estell Manor has taken delivery of a new tanker. Ed reported on the bridges closed for construction in Estell Manor and Weymouth. Ed reported that all six deputy fire coordinators wish to continue serving and will be sworn in for another term after being appointed by the County Fire Coordinator in January of 2010.

Fire Marshal/Public Relations –Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz reported that Chaplain Tom Sweeny is with his wife at the hospital and is unable to attend this meeting. Whitey reported that the Memorial Service and the Fire Expo went very well. Weather for the expo was looking questionable but all worked out and the expo was well attended. Whitey reported on expenditures for the memorial service and fire expo of \$326.26 and receipts of \$287.50 from the fire expo, leaving a total expense to the association of \$38.76 for both the memorial service and fire expo. Whitey thanked everyone that was able to attend the events and help with the large job of setting up and breaking down. Whitey suggested that maybe the Fire Expo will be scheduled biannually and both services should not be so close together due to the volume of work. A committee will be formed to plan for future memorial services and fire expos with the possibility of moving the memorial service to the spring. Whitey reported on the retirement of Chief Leroy Borden of the Pleasantville Fire Department and Acting Chief Robert Hoffman will be in charge until further notice. A retirement party is scheduled for Nov. 14, 2009 with details available from the Pleasantville Fire Department. Whitey reported on the NJ state fire prevention poster contest. Whitey will collect divisional contest winners from each district, a committee will vote on county winners, and those will be forwarded to the state for consideration. Whitey reported that the fire academy's new training engine has had all repairs completed and will be delivered soon. It is still in need of 150 feet of booster hose for the hose reel. Whitey reported that the "Pirsch" badges have been removed from the ladder truck without permission. Please contact Whitey with any information concerning the missing truck badges. Whitey reported that new pictures of recent events have been posted on the walls of the training center. Whitey thanked all of those who helped serve food at the fire expo and the Absecon Fire Dept. for donating the use of their trailer/cooler. President Portale thanked Whitey for heading up the planning and execution of both the memorial service and the fire expo. Whitey reported that he has sent thank you letters to all of the invited guests and those that donated to the events.

Library – Ron Bird reported all is the same, some new books have been received, and to call him if anything is needed.

Atl. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association – Jim Garth reported that the next meeting of the Chiefs' Association is scheduled for Nov. 24, 2009 in Linwood.

Communications

Letter received from Pleasantville, Office of Fire, Chief Leroy Borden announcing his retirement effective Oct. 31, 2009 and the appointment of acting Chief Robert Hoffman effective on Nov. 1, 2009.

Deferred Business

President Portale congratulated those who won trophies in Wildwood.

New Business

There was no new business to act on.

Nomination of Officers

The first of two rounds of nominations was held. Those nominated are as follows:

President (1)	Amor "Skip" Portale
1 st Vice President (1)	Ellsworth Ott
2 nd Vice President (1)	Charles "Chick" Kisby
Secretary (1)	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer (1)	Stacey Wellington
Asst. Sec./Trea. (1)	Jaime C. Mellon
Chaplain (1)	Rev. Thomas Sweeny*
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)	Charles Harlan, William Thomas Hand, Wayne Dilks
Executive Comm. (9)	Howard Berchtold Jr.*, Oscar Dutch Jr.*, C. Robert Winkler III* Ronald Bird Jr., James Garth Sr., Ted Reinhard, R. Thomas Hunter Jr. Rick Coraluzzo Sr., Charles J. Guenther

*have not yet formally accepted nomination, must do so before elections

Bills

The bills were read by Treasurer Stacey Wellington. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, totaling \$10,573.44, from the proper funds.

Bills --- Lowes - \$31.32 / Mike Corbo - \$174.47 / Hughes Farm - \$480.00 / Staples - \$181.27 / IRS - \$342.27 / Kaufmann - \$2,825.00 / AtlanticCare \$70.00 / Primo Pizza - \$145.00 / Albrecht's - \$331.65 / Whitey Swartz - \$326.26 / ICC - \$2,865.20 & \$301.00 / State of NJ - \$2,500.00

Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership to act on.

Good of the Order

Tom Hunter reported that Oscar Dutch is recovering from knee surgery and doing well.

Jim Garth reported on his recent visit to the NJ Firemen's Home with Oscar Dutch, who gave him the grand tour. Jim reported that it is a great place to visit and it was a wonderful trip. Everyone should get the tour with Oscar when they have the time. President Portale reported that a virtual tour is available on the Firemen's Home website.

Jim Garth reported on dedicated memorial benches that he saw on the grounds of the Firemen's Home. He suggested that maybe Atlantic County firefighters should dedicate a bench and will bring this suggestion before the executive committee.

President Portale asked all to keep Chaplain Tom Sweeny's wife in your thoughts as she and Tom deal with this difficult time.

Thank you to the Weekstown Vol. Fire Co. for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:55. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on November 18, 2009 at Somers Point #2.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Sat. Oct. 24, 2009	16:00	Elm VFC (Camden Co.)	Fallen Hero, Arnie Quinones, Benefit
Sun. Oct. 25, 2009	07:00	Weymouth VFC	Breakfast
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
Sat. Nov. 21, 2009	19:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Elvis Tribute Show
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@atlanticcountyfireassoc.org)