

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
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

May 19, 2010

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on May 19, 2010 at the Germania 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 Chief

President Portale introduced Asst. Chief Stockton of the Germania Vol. Fire Company. Asst. Chief Stockton welcomed all to Germania and Galloway Township. Asst. Chief Stockton then introduced Chief Garbutt of the Galloway Twp. Fire Dept. and the line officers of the Germania Vol. Fire Company. Chief Garbutt welcomed all to Galloway 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 Apr. 21, 2010 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer, totaling \$108,960.60, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Bank of America / Hudson City Savings / Bank of America
Checking: \$36,338.59 / Savings: \$4,673.77 / 18 Month CD-8286: \$52,026.40 / 12 Month CD: \$10,297.77 / 9 Month CD-9551: \$5,624.07
Due 3/1/2011 Due 3/8/2011 Due 9/6/2010

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on May 7, 2010 at Whitey Swartz's Fire Museum. Howard thanked Whitey for hosting the meeting at his museum. Howard reported that Ted Reinhard was able to attend the executive committee meeting and is feeling much better despite not being able to attend this evenings meeting. Howard thanked Whitey for spearheading the valor and fifty year awards. Howard reported that the 4H Fair will be held on August 5th, 6th, and 7th. Howard has already had a preliminary meeting with the 4H people and Whitey will be handling the poster contest for the fair.

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President Portale reported that Treasurer Jaime Mellon had an extensive report for the executive committee and has been doing a great job.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold summarized the minutes of the May 10, 2010 meeting of the board. Howard reported that records are being kept on the use and maintenance of the pumper, hose has been ordered, and the hydro test on the SCBAs has been done. Replacement of the air compressor/cascade system and the washer/dryer is being researched. Training center repairs are ongoing including improved ventilation of the instructor's room due to mold.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported that mutual aid updates need to be submitted. They will be turned over to the state at a meeting in two weeks. Ed reported on the certification drill held at the airport on May 15, 2010 and that the airport will be utilizing the tactical box system for emergency calls. Ed reported that the airport's tactical box system may be modified in the future to add tanker request option. Ed reported that June 5 was the date selected for the previously canceled multi-county wild land urban interface drill but as of now there has been no news if the drill is still scheduled. Ed reported that the county fire coordinators now fall under the office of the County Fire Marshal, Whitey Swartz. Ed reported that he is now retired from his full time job and has a new cell number (609-277-1730) and email (fire.coordinator@atlanticcountyfireassoc.org). Ed reported on the spending plan for the 2009 grants for the foam and tanker task forces. A trip was made to view a similar foam unit to what will be purchased. Ed reported on the recent fire coordinator meeting held at Whitey Swartz's fire museum and thanked Whitey for hosting the meeting.

Public Relations / Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz reported on the valor and fifty year awards and reviewed on what was presented to each of the recipients. Whitey reported that only six posters were received for the state fire prevention poster contest. They were judged by the fire prevention association and forwarded to the state. Whitey reported that the 2009 county fire report should be ready for the next meeting and that no reports were received from both the Atlantic City FD and the airport. Whitey reported on the recent reassignment of the fire coordinators to his office and that some pending issues will now be addressed. Whitey requested that all task force leaders get their mailing addresses to him. Whitey reported on the need to reestablish a radio policy committee to review dispatch and radio policies throughout the county.

Training – Director of Training, Mike Corbo reported on the current FFI class and the recently held tools of rescue class that was well received by the participants. Mike reported on the scheduled classes for the coming months. The first fire officer class has just finished and some changes will be made after having received some good feedback from those who attended the class. Mike reported on the recent FDIC conference that he and Instructor Chad Warmouth attended. They met with representatives from Holmatro who have arranged for the donation of a full set of tools for the fire academy. The tools will be maintained by Holmatro at least once per year and replaced if needed. Holmatro will also send a trailer with two more sets of tools to scheduled extrication classes. Mike also reported on donations of self bailout equipment and two flashover simulator specific hoods. Mike reported on attending liability classes at the conference for both fire officers and instructors and the potential need for those with that title to carry

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additional insurance. Mike reported that the thirteen sets of instructor gear, ordered in 2009, should finally be delivered by the end of June. Mike reported on the repairs that will be made to the propane pad barbecue. Mike reported that he has been doing comparisons with other fire academies in New Jersey. The Atlantic County Fire Academy is maxed out as to how many can be trained in the space available. Mike recommended that an expansion consisting of an auditorium, gym, and additional classrooms be researched. Chief Danz, EHT, pointed out that he has made recommendation that the county acquire the neighboring EHT community center for this purpose since the center is greatly underused by the township compared to its operating cost. Mike reported that any damage at the fire academy should be reported to him or Whitey so that it can be addressed. Mike reported that the fire instructor committee has met with Eric Grace and Will Hancock. They will be added to the instructor roster bringing back up to thirty instructors.

Library – Ron Bird reported that inventory of the library is continuing and that the library is still open.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Jim Garth reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on May 27, 2010 in Northfield.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported on the recent golf tournament held to benefit the home. Oscar thanked both this association and the chief's association for sponsoring holes at the tournament. The total raised may be close to \$20,000.00 after all is tallied. Oscar reported on the recent budget meeting held for the home. Oscar reported that recent storm damage has been repaired and that dorm renovations are continuing. Jim Garth reminded all to visit the home as well as the fire museum on the grounds.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that new applications for relief have been distributed to all local associations and that the old applications should be destroyed. Henry reported that the Atlantic County local associations will be audited on Sept. 28, 2010 at the Egg Harbor City firehouse. Henry reported that the 2% monies have been direct deposited and that the burial benefit maximum will be raised to \$9,700.00 effective July 1, 2010. A committee has been working on the compendium line by line and applying changes where needed. Changes already approved include the change from 60% to 50% of fire calls and drills for non-exempt members and a change that allows military leave to increase from four years to five years for full credit with the requirement that the member return to the fire service after military service. Civil union partner and domestic partner have been added to the death benefit payout hierarchy. The Atlantic Co. Caucus is scheduled for Aug. 17, 2010 in Egg Harbor City and the convention will be Sept. 17 and 18 in Wildwood.

ACFFA Dinner – Wayne Dilks reported on the April 16, 2010 dinner held at Careme's, Atl. Cape Comm. College. The association realized a profit of \$40.11 after attendees paid for their dinners and all expenditures were paid. The food was exceptional and thirty-four people attended. A greater attendance would be appreciated. Please contact Wayne with any ideas for next year's dinner.

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Communications

Notice was received from the State of NJ that the use of "Atlantic County Firefighters' Association of the State of New Jersey" is now a registered alternate name of the "Atlantic County Firemen's Association of the State of New Jersey".

Invitation to Egg Harbor Township's Heritage Day Celebration on Jun. 26, 2010 was received.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

Lefty Clayton reported on a recent Atlantic Co. communications meeting. The EDACS trunk system will be phased out and replaced by a "Project 25" (P25) system. All towers to be changed over by 2016/2017. Current EDACS radios will need to be replaced. Lefty reported that the current issue of "Fire Engineering" has an article about Phoenix and their radio upgrade and the use of VHF for on scene communication. Whitey suggested that the radio committee should review and research 800 mhz. and VHF systems.

Lefty Clayton reported that everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the NFFF "Everyone Goes Home Program" scheduled next week in Margate.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$6,563.91, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Walt's Primo Pizza - \$1,017.63 / Lowes - \$101.16 / Butterhof's - \$712.50 / MES - \$250.00 / MES - \$2,406.02 / Intl. Society of Fire Srvc. Inst. - \$67.50 / Mike Corbo - \$1,509.01 / Modern Gas - \$441.24 / Whitey Swartz - \$37.45 / Bill Merola - \$21.40

Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership to act on.

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Germania Vol. Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

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Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:25. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Jun. 16, 2010 in East Vineland, Buena Vista Township.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing

Wed. May 26, 2010	18:30	Margate Performing Arts Center	Margate FD & Longport VFD Hosting NFFF Everyone Goes Home Program
Thurs. May 27, 2010	20:00	Northfield VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sat. Jun. 5, 2010	12:00	Cologne VFC	Annual Chicken BBQ
Sun. Jun. 6, 2010	12:00	Dorothy VFC	53rd Annual Chicken BBQ
Sat. Jun. 12, 2010	18:00	Weymouth VFC	Beef & Beer @ The Watering Hole, 18:00 – 23:00
Sun. Jun. 13, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Jun. 13, 2010	08:00	Blue Heron Golf	Egg Harbor City VFC 13 th Annual Golf Tournament
Sat. Jun. 19, 2010	14:00	Mays Landing Golf	Bargaintown VFC 3 rd Annual Phoenix Fund Golf Outing and/or Dinner
Sun. Jun. 20, 2010	07:00	Nesco VFC	All You Can Eat Fathers Day Breakfast
Sat. Jun. 26, 2010	10:00	EHT Veterans' Memorial Park	EHT 300 th Anniversary "Heritage Day" Celebration
Sat. Jun. 26, 2010	12:30	Charlie's Bar, Somers Point	Somers Point VFC No. 2 Beef-N-Beer, 50/50, Silent Auction
Sat. Jun. 26, 2010	18:00	Hammonton VFC #2	Friends of Jack Valerio Beef and Beer
Tues. Jun. 29, 2010	11:00	Nesco VFC	Italian Hoagie Sale
Sun. Jul. 4, 2010	12:00	Dorothy VFC	75th Anniversary, Parade, and Celebration
Sun. Jul. 11, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Thurs. Jul. 22, 2010	20:00	Dorothy VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Fund
Tues. Jul. 27, 2010	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sun. Aug. 15, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Aug. 17, 2010	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFC	Atl. Co. NJ Firemen's Assoc. Caucus
Sun. Sep. 12, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Fri. Sep. 17, 2010	13:00	Wildwood Conv. Ctr.	NJ Firemen's Assoc. Convention
Sat. Sep. 18, 2010	09:00	Wildwood Conv. Ctr.	NJ Firemen's Assoc. Convention
Sat. Sep. 25, 2010	12:00	Cologne VFC	50 th Anniversary Celebration
Thurs. Sep. 30, 2010	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest w/ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries
Sun. Oct. 3, 2010	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest w/ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries
Sun. Oct. 10, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sat. Nov. 13, 2010	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sun. Nov. 14, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Nov. 30, 2010	20:00	Linwood VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sun. Dec. 12, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Jan. 25, 2011	20:00	Absecon VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Thurs. Jan. 27, 2011	20:00	Oceanville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Fund

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