

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

August 18, 2010

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on August 18, 2010 at the Laureldale 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 Stafford of the Laureldale Vol. Fire Company. Asst. Chief Stafford welcomed all to Laureldale.

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 July 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 \$92,719.17, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Bank of America / Hudson City Savings / Bank of America
Checking: \$11,500.44 / Savings: \$13,127.45 / 18 Month CD-8286: \$52,164.74 / 12 Month CD: \$10,297.77 / 9 Month CD-9551: \$5,628.77
1.60% - Due 3/1/2011 1.42% - Due 3/8/2011 0.50% - Due 9/6/2010

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. reported the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for September 10, 2010 in Absecon.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold Jr. reported the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for September 13, 2010.

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Fire Coordinator – Ken Badger reported that Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent will be meeting with Atlantic City officials to discuss mutual aid concerns. President Portale reported that the ACUA is willing to bring their alternative fuel vehicles to the training center for fire department familiarization.

Training – Director of Training Michael Corbo reported that the summer classes are wrapping up. The Fall 2010 FFI class will start on Tues. Aug. 24th and the FFII class will start on Wed. Sep. 8th. The course catalog is being printed at this time and will be distributed soon. The Spring FFI graduation ceremony is scheduled for Sat. Aug. 28th at the Jordan Rd. School in Somers Point. The use of a school is due to a larger than average class size that can not be handled at the fire academy with all of the families invited. The ceremony should last approximately two hours and all of the students are being notified. Mike extended his thanks to Dave Buzby for working to obtain a Linwood school and Tim McKenna for working to obtain a Galloway school. Mike reported that the QTO, QSO, ODI training is scheduled in September and October, three times each month. Departments utilizing the training center for drills need to have their representatives attend in order to not need a staff fire instructor monitor their use of the facilities at their expense. Mike reported that six FFII challenge exams have been scheduled, three in September and three in November. The state will discontinue the challenge exam at the end of 2010 and the full FFII class will have to be attended before sitting for an exam. Mike reported that using the Delmar Firefighter textbook to review the subjects listed on the FFII class syllabus is all that should be needed to effectively prepare for a challenge exam. Mike reported that two Tools of Rescue classes have been scheduled and that twenty-five classes have been scheduled in total.

Library – Ron Bird reported that the library is open, inventory is still being worked on, and to contact him if assistance is needed.

NJ Forest Fire – Kenny Badger reported that grant applications should be submitted soon.

Legislative – President Portale reported that John Wagner will serve on the Legislative Committee with Rick Sepe and report any items of interest to the association that are under legislative consideration. President Portale reported on an issue that has caused problems for a few firefighters recently. Some firefighters have been charged insurance surcharges, as high as \$1,000 per year, on their personal auto insurance after being involved in a reported fire department automobile accident.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein thanked all for attending the caucus held in Egg Harbor the prior evening. Henry also thanked everyone for reelecting him as the Atlantic Co. Executive Committeeman for 2010 / 2011. Henry reported the application for the Wildwood parade is online at www.njfireexpo.com.

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Atlantic County 4H Fair – Howard Berchtold reported that the fair was very well attended by the public and that this was a worthwhile public relations endeavor for the association. The fire prevention booth was set up with the NFPA theme for this year. "Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!" Howard reported that the NFPA box set, with banner, posters, etc., was purchased and that it is available for fire departments to borrow for local events. Howard thanked all those that served on the committee and sub committees. Overall Committee – Co-Chair Whitey Swartz, Co-Chair Howard Berchtold, Oscar Dutch, Ellsworth Ott, and Ed Conover (Emergency Management). Apparatus – Dennis Sharpe. Firefighter Competition – Gene Wellington, Mike Corbo. Poster Contest – Whitey Swartz, Oscar Dutch, Skip Portale, Howard Berchtold. Special Assistants – Ron Bird, "Sparky" Buzby, Joy Swartz. Howard reported that the poster contest went very well and trophies were presented to the winners on Saturday afternoon. 4H Poster Contest Winners. Division 1; 1st Place – Maria Meineke (Clover Buds), 2nd Place – Hana Nouri, 3rd Place – Nathan DeCosta (Clover Buds). Division 2; 1st Place – Deanna DeMarco (Taekwondo Club), 2nd Place – Micayla Jurasik, 3rd Place – Leigha Jurasik. Division 3; 1st Place – Shannon Mackain (Country Critters & Youth Council). There were a total of forty-two posters submitted for judging. Howard also thanked all departments that sent apparatus for display and the Laureldale Vol. Fire Co. for an excellent extrication demonstration on Saturday. Gene Wellington thanked all those that assisted with running the firefighter competition including co-chair Mike Corbo, Rob Winkler, Joe Ward, Chris Kislow, William Wilkinson, Ron Bird, Ellsworth Ott, and the DJs from the Laureldale Fire Co. who also provided the sound system and music for the competition. The teams entered in the competition were Oceanville, Laureldale 1, Laureldale 2, and Germania. Germania won all events and the overall competition. Competition trophies were presented at the conclusion of the competition. Dennis Sharpe thanked Whitey and Howard. Dennis reported that Whitey should have some good photos of the events and the large crowd in attendance. Dennis also thanked all of the departments that provided apparatus for display, including Farmington, West Atlantic City, Estell Manor, Laureldale, Mays Landing, South Egg Harbor, Hammonton, Bayview, and Sweetwater. Howard thanked Dennis for setting up a multimedia display of the prior year's incidents and events at the association's booth. Mike Corbo reported that next year may include a preliminary competition in order to accommodate more teams in the firefighter competition. Only six teams can be accommodated at the fair. In order to allow more teams, preliminary competition could be held at the training center earlier in the summer with the final teams facing off at the 4H fair. Mike requested that anyone with ideas, for the competition, contact him. Howard reported that more volunteers, preferably younger, are needed to assist all three days of the fair at the fire prevention booth. Howard also reported on the unfortunate fatality that occurred on Route 50 on the Friday night of the fair and commented on the professionalism of all the responders who assisted with the accident scene.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Ellsworth Ott reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Sep. 30, 2010 in Nesco.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

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Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association sponsor two trophies for the Memorial Parade in Wildwood.

Chief Danz, Egg Harbor Twp. Fire Dept., reported on the Seaview Harbor Marina incident that occurred the prior night. Chief Danz thanked all departments that responded to assist and reported that a drill held at this location a year earlier was instrumental with handling the situation.

Chief Danz also reported on constant delayed response times in Egg Harbor Twp. by Atlantic City Electric. Chief Danz is working with EHT council to produce an ordinance that will allow the fire department to bill the electric company for resources that are tied up for extended periods waiting for the electric company. Chief Danz has a draft copy of the ordinance and any departments interested in learning more or reviewing the draft should contact him.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$1,163.30, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- State of New Jersey Treasury - \$25.00 / Staples - \$41.69 / Whitey Swartz - \$153.58 / NFPA - \$248.35 / Thomas Sweeny - \$359.68 / Atlanticare - \$130.00 / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$205.00

Applications for Membership

William C. Cavage, Margaret M. Franklin, Maryann Clay, William A. Clay, James F. Scarpato, Barbara Craig, Harry R. Craig Jr., John H. Cheatham, David C. Leek of the Sweetwater Vol. Fire Co. were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Chief Danz reported that Storybook Land has a Community Heroes Appreciation Day scheduled for Sep. 11th and tickets for fire, police, and EMS are 25% off.

President Portale wished all departments competing in the Wildwood Memorial Parade the best of luck.

Howard Berchtold reminded all to call or visit Ted Reinhard as he is still recovering at home.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:45. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held 20:00 on Sep. 15, 2010 at the Hammonton Fire Dept. Sta. 2 (Rt. 30).

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing

Sat. Aug. 28, 2010	09:30	Jordan Rd. School, Somers Pt.	Firefighter I Graduation Ceremony
Sat. Sep. 4, 2010	10:00	Dorothy VFC	Italian Sub Sale
Sat. Sep. 11, 2010	10:00	GTFD & Beacon Church	September 11 th Memorial Service
Sat. Sep. 11, 2010	10:00	Storybook Land	Community Heroes Appreciation Day – 25% off
Sat. Sep. 11, 2010	15:30	Weekstown VFC	Annual Pig Roast 15:30 - 19:00
Sun. Sep. 12, 2010	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Thurs. Sep. 16, 2010	07:30	Avalon Golf Club	Cape May Co. Firemen's Golf Tournament
Thurs. Sep. 16, 2010	12:00	Wildwood Conv. Ctr.	Jersey F.O.O.L.S "One Ambition Tour" Training
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
Sat. Sep. 25, 2010	15:00	Farmington VFC	1 st Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Sun. Sep 26, 2010	07:00	Minotola VFC	Breakfast
Thurs. Sep. 30, 2010	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
October Fri. & Sat.	19:00	Nesco VFC	Haunted House and Hayride
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	08:15	Farmington VFC	Big Rig Rescue™ Training Program - Oct. 2 & 3
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	08:30	Elwood VFC	Golf Tournament – Greentree Golf Course, Mays Landing
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest w/ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries
Sat. Oct. 2, 2010	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
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. Oct. 30, 2010	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	24 th Annual Holiday Craft Show
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
Sat. Nov. 20, 2010	10:00	Minotola VFC	Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Sale 10:00 – 14:00
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)