

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

July 20, 2011

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on July 20, 2011 at the Linwood Fire Dept. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Reverend Thomas Sweeny. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

Deputy Chief Dave Buzby of the Linwood Fire Department was introduced. Deputy Chief Buzby welcomed all to the Linwood Fire Department on behalf of Chief Chick Kisby, who was unable to attend, and then introduced the Linwood Fire Department Officers. Deputy Chief Buzby then introduced Councilman Ralph Paolone who welcomed all to the City of Linwood on behalf of the Mayor and Council.

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 June 15, 2011 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 \$126,937.85, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / ING Direct / ING Direct / Parke Bank
Checking: \$69,696.48 / Savings: \$7,592.68 / Savings: \$20,962.57 / 12 Month CD: \$5,686.12 / 13 Month CD: \$23,000.00
/ 1.25% - Due 10/12/2011 / 1.35% - Due 5/6/2012

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the July 8, 2011 meeting of the executive committee held at the Landisville Vol. Fire Company. Howard reported that the late start of the meeting was due to all attendees having to travel through the torrential downpours from the heavy storms that passed through the county that night. Howard noted that Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz was excused from that meeting as he was celebrating fifty-two years of marriage with Joy. Howard offered heartfelt congratulations to Joy and Whitey for that momentous milestone. Howard reported that the Executive Committee and Officers of the association thanked Mike Corbo, Director of Training, for organizing the June 27, 2011 Firefighter Graduation Ceremony. A new layout to the room assisted with handling the high attendance of the family, friends, and department members of the graduating firefighters. Howard reported that the 2011 spring semester had the highest number of students to date and total tuition receipts in excess of \$45,000 with only three

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classes needing to be canceled. Howard reminded all that the Atlantic County 4H Fair is scheduled for August 11, 12, and 13. The Firefighter Competition will be held on Friday August 12 and the association will have a booth for the duration of the fair with an NFPA fire prevention theme. Howard thanked the Landisville Vol. Fire Co. for hosting the Executive Committee meeting. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is on September 2, 2011 and is hosted by the Absecon Vol. Fire Department.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the meeting of the board scheduled for July 11, 2011 was canceled due to no action needing to be discussed and delegate scheduling conflicts. The next meeting of the board is scheduled to be held on September 12, 2011. The continuing discussion of how to expand the training center will be on the agenda.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported that the Dave Matthews Band concert had approximately 105,000 people attend over the three days with only twelve reported police and/or EMS incidents. The fire coordinators were on phone notification during the concert days in the event something happened requiring them. Ed reported on the Homeland Security Grants. Trailers have been delivered to Absecon, for fire police, and Oceanville, for LDH Taskforce. Ed reported on a DOT grant providing for a foam operations training class on August 20 & 21. The class is being held twice and attendance is only required for one day. A total of 100 students can be trained, 50 each day, and will receive Foam Tech Level 1 certification. Ed reported on the plans for the Atlantic City Airshow on August 17 and the practice on August 16. Ed reported that Tanker Task Force Alpha Division is planning a drill at Viking Yacht, in Ocean County, on October 8. Ed requested that all Deputy Fire Coordinators see him for updated mutual aid books. Ed reported that there is an EOC drill scheduled for August 2 and all Deputy Fire Coordinators are invited. Ed requested that all Deputy Fire Coordinators attempt to assist at the ACFFA booth at the 4H Fair for a couple of hours.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz reported that the poster contest is all set for the 4H Fair and that he will notify the committee when judging will be held at the Pomona firehouse. Whitey reported on plans for a county Sept. 11th Ten Year Commemoration Ceremony. Atlantic County will host the ceremony at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center on September 11, 2011. Whitey will have more details to report at the August meeting of this association and will send notice to all county fire departments. Freeholder Frank Sutton thanked Whitey for the many hours required to organize the Sept. 11th Ten Year Commemoration Ceremony. Whitey reported that Atlantic County is supplying a truck to pick up the World Trade Center steel on July 27. Whitey completed a pile of paperwork to obtain a piece of the steel to be used for a memorial at the training center. Whitey reported on initial plans for that memorial. It will probably be completed next spring and a committee will be formed to handle the planning.

Training – Director of Training, Mike Corbo reported on the June 27, 2011 graduation ceremony and how well it went. There were sixty-seven graduates and an additional fifty in attendance. The new layout of the room worked very well. Mike reported that the fall semester Firefighter I will start on Tues. August 23 and Firefighter II will start on Mon. September 12. Mike reported that the fall semester course book will be released in August. Mike reported on the remaining classes for the summer session including an Advanced Pump class which needs two more tankers to assist. Truck crews will be provided lunch. Mike reported on the 4H Fair Firefighter Competition. The final four teams will compete at the fair and preliminary competition will be scheduled as needed. Mike reported that Marianne has sent all tuition invoices out. If there are any questions about the invoices contact Mike at the training center. Mike reported that a forty hour Fire Investigation class will be scheduled for late fall. Mike reported that the training center engines are "Engine 1", the Mack, and "Engine 2", the Ford. Mike reported that the DOT grant sponsored Foam Operations class has only three registrants so far and many more are needed since there is a total of one hundred available seats. Mike reported that the 2011 Spring Semester trained a total of 336 students, generated over \$45,000 in tuition, and \$30,000 in instructor salaries. Only three classes were canceled. Mike

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reported that all surrounding counties have students attending the Atlantic County Fire Academy for fire training. Mike reported on recent changes at the Camden County Fire Academy including the \$22 million takeover by the Camden County Community College. Few Camden County Fire Academy employees were picked up by the college. Mike introduced the Atlantic County Instructors in attendance at the meeting and thanked them for their service. Mike reported on the Southern New Jersey Fire Training Consortium that will be a ProBoard Accredited Training Agency and was spearheaded by the Camden County Fire Academy. The Camden County Fire Academy paid for all of the startup costs and all participating academies, including Atlantic County, will be able to offer ProBoard certification for Firefighter I starting this fall. A skills test will be required along with a \$15.00 certification fee for those that wish to add this to their Firefighter I training. The six participating academies will also schedule ProBoard Firefighter I certification for current firefighters that will require written and skills tests along with a certification fee. ProBoard certification is recognized by forty-eight states. Mike reported that the NJ DFS had researched ProBoard certification in the past and dropped the idea. The Consortium formed to carry on that idea for the southern counties and it has been recently reported that NJ DFS is again interested in statewide accreditation.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Ellsworth Ott reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on July 26, 2011 in Estell Manor and all details of the last meeting were mailed to the county fire chiefs.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that renovations on the last wing will be postponed for a year. That will help reduce the waiting list, currently at eleven, to get a bed in the home.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that the Atlantic County Caucus is scheduled for 19:30 August 16 at the Egg Harbor City firehouse. The convention is scheduled for 13:00 September 16 and 09:00 September 17 in Wildwood. Governor Christie's office has confirmed he will be in Wildwood on September 16. The Memorial Service is to precede the convention meeting on September 17. Henry reported that there are two resolutions on the ballot. Henry reported that NJ Firemen's Assn. President George Heflich Sr. received the invitation from this association to speak at tonight's meeting. President Heflich was not able to attend due to scheduling conflicts but will be attending the Atlantic County Caucus on August 16 and will arrive an hour early to speak with anyone that has questions for him.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Invited Guest Speaker

As directed by the membership, the secretary sent invitations for a speaking opportunity at the July meeting of this association to both 2011 presidential candidates of the New Jersey Firemen's Association. Current President Heflich sent his regrets as he could not attend due to scheduling conflicts. He will be attending the Atlantic County Caucus. Candidate William J. Golkiewicz accepted the invitation and was in attendance.

Mr. Golkiewicz was introduced. Mr. Golkiewicz informed all of his history and qualifications. Mr. Golkiewicz reported that he had considered running for the office of president of the New Jersey Firemen's Association for the past two years and decided to run this year. Mr. Golkiewicz outlined his reasons and position for running for the office of president. Mr. Golkiewicz remained after the meeting to answer questions.

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Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

Drawing was held for the Wildwood Parade order within Atlantic County:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1. Buena Vista Twp. | 6. Dorothy, Weymouth Twp. | 11. Longport | 16. Hamilton Twp. |
| 2. Port Republic | 7. Linwood | 12. Mullica Twp. | 17. Swartz Fire Museum |
| 3. Buena Boro | 8. Somers Point | 13. Egg Harbor Twp. | 18. Remaining Atl. Co. Units |
| 4. Absecon | 9. Estell Manor | 14. Northfield | as submitted directly to Parade Committee |
| 5. Galloway Twp. | 10. Hammonton | 15. Egg Harbor City | |

Online registration still required at <http://www.njfireexpo.com/parademain.htm>

Bills

The bills, totaling \$39,064.30, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Liberty Mutual - \$275.00 (insurance) / Hughes Farms - \$400.00 (straw) / Modern Gas - \$885.18 (propane) / AtlantiCare - \$50.00 (CPR cards) / Channing Bete - \$216.91 (CPR Inst. Manual & AED DVD Set) / IFSTA - \$686.40 (class books) / Lowes - \$104.17 (flashover wood) / Staples - \$95.13 (office supplies) / American Safety - \$1,672.00 (smoke machine & fluid) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$1,807.21 (class lunches, March - July 2011) / Public Safety Center - \$717.88 (training equipment) / Payroll - \$27,352.18 (1/2 year payroll) / Payroll Taxes - \$4,802.24 (1/2 year payroll taxes)

Applications for Membership

Jason M. Rouse of the Bargaintown Vol. Fire Co.; Edward Roselle, William Sorshek, William Ritchie, Michael Parlapiano, Joshua Alford, William McFarland II, Tony Malave, Charles Corbin, James Garth Jr., Harry Goodman, Barbara Murphy, Fred Slunt III, Krystle Tilley, Michael Raymond, and Cheryl Raymond of the Farmington Vol. Fire Co. were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Jim Garth Sr. reported that the Farmington Vol. Fire Co. has been granted a piece of World Trade Center Steel and they would like to arrange for a multi-fire department escort when it is to be delivered. A date has not yet been set.

Thank you to the Linwood Fire Department 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 21:25. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on August 17, 2011 at the Weymouth Vol. Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing

Sat. Jul. 23, 2011	18:00	Farmington VFC	Bargaintown & Farmington Present Wine & Cheese
Tues. Jul. 26, 2011	20:00	Estell Manor VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Thurs. Jul 28, 2011	20:00	Somers Point VFC #1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Thurs. Aug. 11, 2011	16:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Fri. Aug. 12, 2011	16:00	Atl. Co. 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Fri. Aug. 12, 2011	19:00	Atl. Co. 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA Firefighter Competition @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Sat. Aug. 13, 2011	09:00	Atl. Co. 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Tues. Aug. 16, 2011	19:30	Egg Harbor City Firehouse	NJ State Firemen's Assn. Atlantic County Caucus
Wed. Aug. 17, 2011	20:00	Weymouth VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Fri. Sep. 16, 2011	13:00	Wildwood Conv. Ctr.	NJ State Firemen's Assn. Convention - Registration 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Sat. Sep. 17, 2011	10:00	Wildwood Conv. Ctr.	NJ State Firemen's Assn. Convention - Registration 7:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
Wed. Sep. 21, 2011	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Sep. 29, 2011	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Oct. 1, 2011	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot-Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries) (10:00 - 17:00)
Sat. Oct. 1, 2011	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 2, 2011	10:00	Smithville	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot-Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries) (10:00 - 17:00)
Wed. Oct. 19, 2011	20:00	Dorothy VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sat. Nov. 12, 2011	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Wed. Nov. 16, 2011	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Tues. Nov. 29, 2011	20:00	Linwood FD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Dec. 10, 2011	19:00	Hammonton VFD	Annual Christmas Parade & Block Party - Reg. @ 17:30, Parade @ 19:00
Wed. Dec. 21, 2011	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 18, 2012	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 26, 2012	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Tues. Jan. 31, 2012	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Feb. 15, 2012	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

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