

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

February 15, 2012

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on February 15, 2012 at the Longport Fire Dept. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of all fallen firefighters and military personnel. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

Chief Clayton of the Longport Fire Company was introduced. Chief Clayton welcomed all to Longport and noted the rare mild weather for the evening. Chief Clayton reported that the 100th anniversary of the Longport Fire Department will be celebrated this summer. Chief Clayton then introduced Mayor Nick Russo. Mayor Russo welcomed all to Longport and reported how much he enjoys welcoming the county firefighters to Longport each year and hopes that all will attend the 100th anniversary celebration this summer. Mayor Russo reported that a Centennial Clock Fundraiser for a town clock was successful and the clock will be seventeen feet tall and commemorate the 100th anniversary of the fire department.

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 Jan. 18, 2012 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 \$105,684.30, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America	/	Bank of America	/	ING Direct	/	Parke Bank	/	Parke Bank
Checking: \$37,151.29	/	Savings: \$2,100.29	/	Savings: \$20,134.59	/	13 Month CD: \$23,234.22	/	12 Month CD: \$23,063.91
						1.35% - Due 5/6/2012	/	1.10% - Due 10/30/2012

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the Jan. 6, 2012 meeting of the executive committee. Howard reported that he was reelected as Chairman and Oscar Dutch was reelected as Vice-Chairman for 2012. Howard acknowledged Ted Reinhard and Ron Bird for their many years of service on the Executive Committee and welcomed Lefty Clayton and David Buzby as the newest members of the Executive Committee. Howard reported that Treasurer Jaime Mellon informed the Executive Committee that the individual who was to be the new association accountant has changed professions and that we will be continuing to utilize the current accountant at this time. The current accounting firm has reported that they are reorganizing and would like a chance to continue the current relationship with improvement in

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areas that have caused concern to the Executive Committee and Officers. Howard reported that Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz has proposed a Fire Safety Day at the Canale Training Center in October for the general public. Whitey requested that a committee be formed to put a formal proposal together. The Executive Committee supports the formation of a Fire Safety Day committee. Howard also reported that the Executive Committee received, and reviewed, the 2012 budgets for Public Relations, Training, and Administration. The Executive Committee supports the adoption of the submitted budgets. The next meeting of the executive committee is on Mar. 2, 2012.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold Jr. highlighted some of the details from the Jan. 9, 2012 meeting of the board. Expansion ideas for the training center, including an auditorium, were discussed. Ongoing maintenance of the facility was discussed and the fire instructors will be asked to formulate a plan on how to extend the life of the Flash Over Simulator and come up with an idea on what repair/replacement costs may be when the time comes. The next meeting of the board is on Mar. 12, 2012.

Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent reported that there has been no recent events requiring the fire coordinator or deputy fire coordinators. Ed reminded all to contact District 25 when there is a need to dispatch the coordinators. Ed reported that Tender Task Force – Alpha has scheduled a drill for Feb. 19 with Marmora Fire Co. of Cape May County. Marmora will be joining the task force with their new tanker. Ed reported that Tommy Hand, Bayview, is stepping down from LDH Strike Team leader and that Jeff Ciccone, Absecon, will be the new strike team leader. The LDH Strike Team trailer housed in Oceanville is being relocated to Port Republic. Ed reported on the current status of the Homeland Security Grants. Ed reported on the trailers assigned to the task forces and strike teams, the material and equipment on them, and where they are housed. Ed reported that he has met with the Atlantic City FD and visited each station to take note of their current equipment. Ed reported that there are changes to the Atlantic City mutual aid plan as to what departments will respond into the city when needed. Ed reported that Brigantine is currently under a water emergency and the county tankers are on alert in their own stations for possible dispatch to Brigantine if needed. Ed reported that there are many changes to the county mutual aid plan due to the changes to local plans and changes in several senior leadership positions within the county fire service. Ed will prepare updates and send them to all departments/companies. Ed reported that Ed Conrow is currently serving as Acting Chief of the SJTA Atlantic City Intl. Airport FD and is on radio as "2400" when on duty. When Acting Chief Conrow is off duty the Deputy Chief in charge will be on radio as "Car 24". Ed reported that there will be three advisory meetings scheduled at the training center concerning safety and operations on NJ state highways. Dates are Feb. 29 at 14:00, Mar. 1 at 14:00, and Mar. 2 at 10:00. Egg Harbor Twp. FD Chief Danz reported that those officers concerned about the need to maintain a safety buffer around highway operations, as opposed to the NJSP need to open lanes, should attend to voice their concerns and provide input to the advisory committee. Ed reported on the assistance Atlantic County fire departments provided to northern NJ regions during the aftermath of Hurricane Irene last September. Ed reported that some departments may be eligible for a grant due to their participation. Ed reported that Ricky Coraluzo, Landisville, has stepped down from being a deputy fire coordinator and that Bill Collins, Collings Lakes, has been appointed to replace him. Bill was the leader of Tender Task Force – Bravo and Mike Ruberton, Hammonton, will take over that position. Ed reported on a new fire safety education program aimed at the 5th through 8th grades titled "Fire Is...". All material is available at <http://www.njfiresafety.com/>

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz was unable to attend. President Portale reported that Whitey passed on to him that the 2011 Atlantic County Fire Reports, nominations for the 2012 Valor Awards, and 50 Years of Service Recognition need to be submitted ASAP.

Training – Director of Training, Mike Corbo reported that the Firefighter I class started with a total of sixty students. Thirty-three are from Atlantic County and twenty-seven are from out of county. Mike reported that the Fire Inspector class will start

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on Feb. 21, 2012. The class had only one registered until today when a few more called in. Still more are needed to prevent cancellation. Mike reported on all scheduled classes for the spring semester. The first Wednesday night live burn will be on March 7 and registration is closed with maximum students signed up already. Mike reported that Firefighter II is scheduled to start on Monday March 12 and registration is filling up fast. Mike reported that he has scheduled two Firefighter II Challenge Exams. They will be on Friday March 30 and Sunday April 1. Mike reported that the NJ weekend at the National Fire Academy will allow two hundred and forty to attend from NJ and is worth the trip if you can attend. Mike reported that he has scheduled a NJ Basic Fire Police class for 19:00 Fri. Feb 24 and 08:30 Sat. Feb. 25 for those that need it. Mike reported that the current Firefighter I class will be the first ProBoard certified class and those students will also be eligible for three college credits at Camden County College toward their Fire Service Program. Mike reported that there may be one fire science class from Camden County College scheduled each semester in Atlantic County. Also, general education classes (English, math, etc.) from Atlantic Cape Community College will be accepted by Camden County College for required general classes in the fire science program. Mike reported that the forcible entry mockup is being completed in Maryland and Brian Edwards will bring it up here during one of his commutes home. Mike reported that he is available to all departments/companies to present a photovoltaic solar panel awareness class.

Library – Ron Bird reported that if anyone needs library access, contact him at tower452002@yahoo.com.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Charles "Chick" Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on Mar. 29, 2012 and is hosted by Landisville Vol. Fire Company.

NJ Forest Fire – President Portale reported that NJ Forest Fire Service will have a presentation at the next association meeting on March 21, 2012 that will be hosted by the Sweetwater Vol. Fire Company.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported on the continuing upgrades and repairs at the home. Oscar reported a significant donation of collectible items has been received by the home for display. The donation includes call boxes, pictures, scaling ladders, and a uniform. The gentleman that made the donation has reported that he has yet more items to add to the collection and will donate them in the near future.

County Radio Communications / Central Dispatch – Oscar Dutch reported on recent radio communications and central dispatch meetings. Oscar is representing the county fire service on the committees on behalf of the Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association. Oscar reported that there is forward movement with plans.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that financial reports are due Feb. 20 and member reports are due on Feb. 28. Henry reported that Atlantic County Caucus has been rescheduled for the second Tuesday of August and will now be on Aug. 14, 2012.

ACFFA Dinner – Wayne Dilks reported that the dinner is scheduled for 18:30 on Friday, March 23, 2012 at Careme's, Atl. Cape Comm. College. Please RSVP by March 14th to Wayne at (609)927-8362. Cost is \$40.00 per person and includes a wine and beer setup.

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 to follow the recommendation of the Executive Committee and form a committee led by Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz to plan a Fire Safety Day in October of 2012.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to follow the recommendation of the Executive Committee and adopt the Public Safety, Training, and Administrative budgets for 2012 as submitted to the Executive Committee.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$4,725.02, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- IRS - \$468.07 (payroll taxes) / State of NJ - \$276.14 (payroll taxes) / State of NJ - \$466.23 (payroll taxes) / Home Depot - \$24.60 (maintenance supplies) / Lowes - \$169.00 (maintenance supplies, flashover wood) / Modern Gas - \$1,144.26 (propane) / Staples - \$123.22 (office supplies) / Continental Fire & Safety - \$1,077.00 (25 lifeliner hoods) / Golden Rule Creations - \$496.50 (500 graduate emblems) / Hughes Farms - \$480.00 (straw)

Applications for Membership

Justin M. Kelley and Zachariah S. Becker of the Egg Harbor City Vol. Fire Dept. were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Longport Fire Department for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:15. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Mar. 21, 2012 hosted by the Sweetwater Vol. Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing

http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm

Fri. Mar 16, 2012	17:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Fire House Fish Fry Dinner
Wed. Mar. 21, 2012	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Fri. Mar. 23, 2012	18:30	Careme's @ Atlantic Cape Community College	Annual ACFFA Dinner
Thurs. Mar. 29, 2012	20:00	Landisville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Apr. 14, 2012	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. Apr. 14, 2012	19:30	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Dinner and Comedy Night
Wed. Apr. 18, 2012	20:00	Fire Training Center (Hosted by Margate FD)	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sun. Apr. 22, 2012	10:30	St. Nicholas Church (10:30) & Borgata (12:00)	Cape Atlantic 200 Club Annual Memorial Service (10:30) & Brunch (12:00)
Sat. & Sun. Apr. 28 & 29, 2012	08:00	National Fire Academy	New Jersey Weekend - National Fire Academy
Sat. May 5, 2012	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Tues. May 8, 2012	08:00	Neschanic Valley Golf Club	New Jersey Firemen's Home 2012 Golf Outing
Wed. May 16, 2012	20:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sat. May 19, 2012	10:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	"Second 2 None" Motorcycle Poker Run
Sat. May 19, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Sun. May 20, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Mayfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Thurs. May 31, 2012	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Jun. 20, 2012	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 18, 2012	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jul. 26, 2012	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Tues. Jul. 31, 2012	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Tues. Aug. 14, 2012	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting NJSFA Atlantic County Caucus
Wed. Aug. 15, 2012	20:00	Cologne VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Fri. Sep. 14, 2012	13:00	Wildwood, NJ	NJSFA Convention - reg. 09:30 to 12:30 - mtg. 13:00
Sat. Sep. 15, 2012	10:00	Wildwood, NJ	NJSFA Convention - reg. 07:30 to 09:45 - mtg. 10:00
Wed. Sep. 19, 2012	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Sep. 27, 2012	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Oct. 6, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Octoberfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Sat. Oct. 6, 2012	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Wed. Oct. 17, 2012	20:00	Port Republic VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sun. Oct. 7, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Octoberfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Sat. Nov. 10, 2012	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Wed. Nov. 21, 2012	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Tues. Nov. 27, 2012	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Dec. 19, 2012	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 16, 2013	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 24, 2013	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Tues. Jan 29, 2013	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Feb. 20, 2013	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sat. May 4, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Oct. 5, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner