

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

March 21, 2012

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on March 21, 2012 at the Sweetwater Vol. Fire Co. 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

Chief Franklin of the Sweetwater Vol. Fire Co. was introduced. Chief Franklin welcomed all to Sweetwater and Mullica Township. Chief Franklin commented on having just attended the viewing for South Egg Harbor Firefighter Howard Berchtold, Sr. just prior to this meeting and remembered Howard as a being well respected firefighter within Atlantic County.

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 Feb. 15, 2012 meeting with corrections to the report of the Fire Coordinator.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer, totaling \$116,887.52, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America	/	Bank of America	/	ING Direct	/	Parke Bank	/	Parke Bank
Checking: \$48,346.42	/	Savings: \$2,100.42	/	Savings: \$20,142.55	/	13 Month CD: \$23,234.22	/	12 Month CD: \$23,063.91
					/	1.35% - Due 5/6/2012	/	1.10% - Due 10/30/2012

Special Presentation

A presentation was made by Glenn Liepe, Div. C Warden NJ Forest Fire Service, on the current operational plans for this fire season. Glenn also reported on the recent controlled burns, the NJ Forest Fire recent promotions and hiring, and the current schedule for the availability of aircraft during the 2012 fire season. Glenn introduced new NJ Forest Fire Service bloodhound "Chloe". Glenn reported that the bloodhounds are available for all investigations, including structure fires, and will also be available for missing person searches. Glenn reported that Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz provided assistance with a recent presentation in Hamilton Township. Ken Badger, Jr. reported on new power wagons being placed into service and that the plane will be available starting March 30, 2012 for thirty-eight days.

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Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Vice Chairman Oscar Dutch Jr. summarized the minutes of the Mar. 2, 2012 meeting of the executive committee. The next meeting of the executive committee is on May 4, 2012.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Oscar Dutch Jr. highlighted some of the details from the Mar. 12, 2012 meeting of the board. Ongoing maintenance of the facility was discussed and the county has purchased a dumpster for the training center instead of leasing one. The next meeting of the board is on Mar. 12, 2012.

Fire Coordinator – Ed Vincent reported on the upcoming meetings and drills scheduled for the Strike Team and Task Forces. TTF-B will have a drill planning meeting on March 28. The LDH Strike Team will have a drill in Galloway on April 29. TTF-A will be scheduling a meeting with Somers Point to discuss trailer operations. Ed has requested that all meetings and drills be submitted for the association date clearing.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz reported that the next meeting of the association will include the annual valor awards and fifty years of service presentations. There are two valor awards and seven fifty years of service presentations. Whitey reported that the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has requested information on what has been done with all pieces of World Trade Center steel that have been distributed. Whitey reported that he is arranging a display for the steel at the training center and Tom Sweeny is making a couple of plaques. Whitey will then send a picture to the Port Authority. Whitey reported that he is still waiting for two companies to submit 2011 fire data in order to complete the 2011 county report. The report will be distributed when complete. Whitey reported on a plan to replace the Mack engine at the training center and the possibility of the county transferring the Mack back to the association for disposal.

Training – Director of Training, Mike Corbo reported that the Firefighter I class started with a total of sixty students and now has fifty-seven remaining. Mike also reported that Firefighter II has started with thirty-three students. Mike reported on the currently schedule of available classes and the Firefighter II challenge exams. The recent RIT class was cancelled due to lack of enrollment. Mike emphasized that the RIT training is excellent and highly recommended to meet NJ requirements for a RIT team. A comment from the floor questioned Mike as to the liability of a RIT team that does not meet NJ training requirements. Mike reported that if a situation were to occur, the NJ DFS would likely look into the training of any involved RIT team. Mike recommended that all RIT teams attend the SCBA Competency and RIT classes to better ensure compliance. Mike reported on a new gated wye and nozzles available for use in the shed and that a recent Basic Fire Police class was well attended with forty-five students.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Skip Portale 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 Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported on a recent article about the home. Oscar shared a letter received from the daughter of one of the home's residents. The letter writer reported that her father is doing much better at the Firemen's Home than he was doing in another home.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that the association has issued the check to the Firemen's Home after the home's budget was approved by the governor. Henry reported on a current lawsuit against the association that has been found in the association's favor but is now under appeal by the complainant. Henry reported that the Folsom local is dissolving and that qualified exempt firefighter death benefit applications will go through the County Executive Committeeman and that

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applications for relief will be submitted directly to the state office. Henry will research member application questions from the Absecon and Linwood locals.

Audit – Wayne Dilks reported that the audit committee met on two occasions and reviewed all treasurer records month by month. Wayne reported that the committee found some instructor payments have carried for several months before being deposited and the committee requests that any check issued by the association be deposited in a timely matter. Wayne reported that the committee found all of the treasurer's records to be proper and correct to the best of the committee's knowledge. President Portale thanked the committee for the hard work and completing the audit in a timely manner.

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. There is room for at least two more people, if anyone is interested contact Wayne.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

Mike Corbo reported on a letter sent out from Atlantic County OEMS concerning a technical rescue team that is being formed to work along with the Egg Harbor Township FD technical team. Mike reported on some confusion created by the initial letter. Mike is now working with the county to create a detailed plan for training and equipment and a new letter will be sent out when those details are worked out.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to sponsor and donate \$200.00 to the NJ Firemen's Home Golf Outing as recommended by the Executive Committee.

President Portale reported on the current need of a new engine at the training center and a plan from the Oceanville Vol. Fire Co. to trade an engine for training. The Executive Committee reviewed the proposal and recommends that it be accepted only because a need for a newer engine currently exists.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to follow the recommendation of the Executive Committee and approve the trade of an engine from the Oceanville Vol. Fire Co. in exchange for training of firefighters.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$5,669.69, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Signs by Moe - \$76.16 (vinyl logos) / This & That Uniforms - \$1,293.00 (shirts) / NJ DFS - \$900.00 (code books) / ICC - \$1,288.71 (code books) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$157.00 (food for training) / Staples - \$28.88 (printer ink) / Lowes - \$55.94 (hardware) / NJ Firemen's Home - \$200.00 (donation sponsor golf outing) / Hayes Mindish - \$110.00 (schedule cards) / FCC - \$60.00 (radio license renewal) / Mike Corbo - \$1,500.00 (FDIC registration)

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Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership.

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Sweetwater Vol. Fire Company 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 21:15. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Apr. 18, 2012 at the training center and hosted by the Margate City Fire Department in cooperation with FMBA Local 41. This meeting will include the annual valor awards and recognition of those achieving fifty plus years of active service.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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Date Clearing

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

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.
Fri. Apr. 6, 2012	16:00	Cologne VFC	Fish Fry
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. Apr. 28, 2012	08:00	Cologne VFC	Spring Yard Sale
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
Sun. May 6, 2012	14:00	Bargaintown VFC	80 th Anniversary, Station Dedication, Truck Housing
Tues. May 8, 2012	08:00	Neschanic Valley Golf Club	New Jersey Firemen's Home 2012 Golf Outing
Sat. May 12, 2012	08:00	Marmora VFC	Eggie All Day Fundraising Event
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.
Sun. Jun. 3, 2012	12:00	Dorothy VFC	Annual BBQ - 12:00 -18:00
Sat. Jun. 9, 2012	18:00	Watering Hole Café, Mays Landing	Weymouth VFC Annual Beef and Beer Fundraiser
Sat. Jun. 16, 2012	13:30	Mays Landing Country Club	Bargaintown VFC 5 th Annual Golf Outing
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

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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