

# Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President  
Amor "Skip" Portale  
Vice President  
Ellsworth Ott  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Charles "Chuck" Kisby



Secretary  
Robert A. Mellon  
Treasurer  
Jaime C. Mellon  
Asst. Sect./Treasurer  
Cindy L. Badger

September 19, 2012

## Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on September 19, 2012 at the Hammonton Fire Dept. Sta. 2 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

President Portale introduced Chief DiGiovannangelo of the Hammonton Fire Department. Chief DiGiovannangelo welcomed all to Hammonton.

## 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 August 15, 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 \$95,261.52, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America	/	Bank of America	/	ING Direct	/	Parke Bank	/	Parke Bank
Checking: \$26,504.80	/	Savings: \$2,101.26	/	Savings: \$20,193.13	/	12 Month CD: \$23,125.81	/	13 Month CD: \$23,336.52
					/	1.10% - Due 10/30/2012	/	1.01% - Due 5/6/2013

## Special Presentation

Joe Camarota spoke about his collection of antique apparatus commemorating and remembering the events of 9/11/2001. The "9/11 Memorial Trucks" consists of a chief's car, a pumper, and a ladder. Joe reported that he is a member of the Whitman Square Fire Company and has served with Jim Scarpato, Sweetwater Fire Co., when Jim was also a member with Whitman Square. Joe reported that his apparatus led the parade in Wildwood this year and had also been at the Mullica Day celebration earlier in the year. Joe reported on a recent article in 1<sup>st</sup> Responder News about his trucks and would like all in Atlantic County know that he would like to attend more events if invited to do so. Joe reported that Jim Scarpato will be the contact for Atlantic County when requesting the trucks. Jim can be reached at firefighterswfc@aol.com.

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## Committee Reports

**Executive Committee** – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. reported that the meeting of the executive committee was at the Absecon Vol. Fire Company on Sep. 7, 2012 and Vice Chairman Oscar Dutch Jr. ran the meeting in his absence. Oscar Dutch summarized the minutes from the meeting. Oscar reported that the Director of Fire Training, Mike Corbo, has been doing an excellent job with collecting outstanding tuition. Oscar reported on Treasurer Jaime Mellon's report to the Executive Committee that a CD is due in October and the current best option is to roll it over. The Executive Committee agreed and will recommend that the association authorize the rollover of the CD due in October under new business. Oscar reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 2, 2012 in South Egg Harbor at 19:30. The committee will meet at the South Egg Harbor firehouse at 17:00 or the Never There Gun Club, Hammonton, at 17:20 for the spaghetti and crab sauce dinner at the gun club. All are welcome to join the committee for dinner.

**Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board** – Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the board was scheduled to be held on September 10, 2012 but was instead held on September 17, 2012 due to several scheduling issues with many of the members. Howard reported on the many ongoing repairs and the current condition of the training center. Howard reported that the board is still working on training center expansion proposals with emphasis on needing additional classrooms.

**Fire Coordinator** – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported information received from the responding Deputy Fire Coordinators and the Richland Fire Chief about the Wilmad Glass fire in the Richland section of Buena Vista Township. Ed reported on the operations at the Atlantic City Airshow and thanked all of the departments/companies that assisted. Ed reported on a recent radio communications meeting. The county will phase in the towers early next year for narrowband communications by converting two at a time. Ed reported on the recent Homeland Security Grant working group meeting. The 2012 fire service share is approximately \$31,000. Ed reported on the requests received from the county fire departments/companies for the grant distribution. Ed reported on the state plans to distribute 2013 grants to four regions instead of the twenty-one counties. The working group will meet again in November. Ed reported that David Paloff has one Carbon Monoxide Detector for each Atlantic County Fire Department/Company received from a grant. The distribution of the meters will start at either the October or November meetings of this association. Ed reported on a follow-up meeting to further critique the TTF-A drill. A recommendation was made to allow West Tuckerton Fire Company (Little Egg Harbor Twp., Ocean County) to join TTF-A and grant a request from Nesco Fire Company to transfer from TTF-A to TTF-B. Ed reported on the NJ Fire Safety Commission meeting held in Wildwood. NJ is working on inter-state mutual aid agreements for fire departments/companies along state borders. Ed reported that NJ Div. of Fire Safety will be sending out specific details about more accurately recording times during incidents. Ed reported on a suicide method that utilizes a bag and a gas. There is an alert posted on the NJ DFS website detailing first responder safety precautions if encountered. Ed reported that a new form will require signatures for inter-county mutual aid transfer of foam. The county freeholders will need to pass a resolution to create a policy where the receiving county will reimburse or replace transferred foam stock. Ed reported that TTF-B has a meeting scheduled for 19:00 Mon. Sep. 24, 2012 at the East Vineland firehouse.

**Training** – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported FFI and FFII are running. Mike reported that two QTO, QSO, ODI classes have been canceled due to lack of enrollment. There are four classes remaining. Any department/company wishing to utilize the training center for department/company drills will need personnel with the correct qualifications including the QTO, QSO, ODI annually or county instructors will need to be utilized at a cost. Mike reported on the remaining scheduled classes for the Fall 2012 semester. Mike reported that the state has adopted new RIT standards. Mike informed all that he can help any department/company find the correct contact person within NJ DFS for any problems or questions.

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

**Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association** – Chick Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on Sep. 27, 2012 at the Nesco Vol. Fire Company.

**Legislative** – John Wagner reported that he received questions about whether Junior Firefighters, Fire Explorers, and Fire Police qualify for LOSAP. John reported that they do qualify as long as the local government's LOSAP resolution/ordinance includes those job titles. John reported checking with Lincoln Financial about the requirements.

**NJ Firemen's Home** – Oscar Dutch reported on a list of questions received at the home from the NJ State Firemen's Association. Most questions had to do with long term plans and not the current submitted budget. Oscar reported that a dementia wing addition is unlikely due to expected high costs. Oscar reported that dorm C is the last of the dorms that needs remodeling and will likely be the end of major work at the home.

**County Radio Communications / Central Dispatch** – Oscar Dutch reported that the Freeholders will make an announcement concerning central dispatch at the Sep. 25, 2012 freeholder meeting to be held in Atlantic City at the county building. All county fire departments/companies should try to send a representative.

## Communications

There were no communications to report.

## Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

## New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to roll over the CD due at Parke Bank as recommended by the Treasurer and the Executive Committee.

## Bills

The bills, totaling \$4,410.16, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- NJ Div. of Revenue - \$25.00 (annual report) / National Pen - \$79.90 (office supplies) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$224.00 (food for training)/ Firehouse Magazine - \$24.95 (annual renewal) / This & That Uniform - \$1,013.75 (forty polos and t-shirts) / AtlantiCare - \$15.00 (three CPR cards) / Continental Fire & Safety - \$2,216.00 (fire hose) / Staples - \$325.81 (office supplies & toner) / Turtle Plastics Company - \$485.75 (cribbing)

## Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership.

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## Good of the Order

John Wagner reported that he talked to representatives from Morey's Piers public relations department. They are working on a 25% discount for the piers during the firefighter convention. They will create a webpage where firefighters can buy discounted passes prior to next year's convention.

President Portale thanked the Buena Vista Township Fire Companies for carrying the association banner in the Wildwood parade after a communication breakdown prevented the selected fire department from being available. President Portale also congratulated all departments/companies that received trophies at the parade.

Thank you to the Hammonton Vol. Fire Dept. Sta. 2 for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

## Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:00. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Oct. 17, 2012 at the Port Republic Vol. Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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## Date Clearing

[http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA\\_Date\\_Clearing.htm](http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm)

Sun. Sep. 23, 2012	15:00	Green Bank VFC, Burlington Co.	Benefit Spaghetti Dinner For Michelle Forand, Wife of Green Bank Fire Chief Lenny Forand
Mon. Sep. 24, 2012	17:00	Silver Coin Diner, Hammonton	Dine to Donate for Patricia Eppler, Wife of Thomas Eppler (Nesco VFC and Atl. Co. Dep. Fire Coordinator)
Mon. Sep. 24, 2012	19:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Tender Task Force Bravo (TTF-B)
Thurs. Sep. 27, 2012	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Sep. 29, 2012	11:00	Nesco VFC	Operation Vets Chili Challenge
Sat. Sep. 29, 2012	18:00	Kerri-Brook Caterers, Hammonton	Hammonton FD – Beef & Beer Benefit
October 2012 - Fri. & Sat.	19:00	Nesco VFC	Haunted House and Hayride
October 2012 - Fri., Sat., & Sun.	19:00	Scullville VFC	Terror in the Junkyard 2012 Hayride and Maze at Flemings Junkyard
Sat. Oct. 6, 2012	08:30	Green Tree Golf Course, EHT	11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament and Benefit for Steve Kaenzig and Elwood VFC
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
Sun. Oct. 7, 2012	10:00	Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Octoberfest w/ Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, etc.
Sat. Oct. 13, 2012	09:00	Linwood VFC	Flea Market and Winter Coat Drive
Sat. Oct. 13, 2012	19:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting "Boogie for Boobies!" Fundraiser for Gilda's Club South Jersey
Sun. Oct. 14, 2012	07:00	New Gretna VFC, Burlington County	Hosting TTF-A Drill
Wed. Oct. 17, 2012	20:00	Port Republic VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sat. Oct. 20, 2012	10:00	Bargaintown VFC	Annual Craft Show and "Heroes Helping Heroes" Collection
Sat. Oct. 20, 2012	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sun. Oct. 21, 2012	08:00	Weymouth VFC	All You Can Eat Breakfast
Fri. Oct. 26, 2012	19:00	Oceanville VFC	Beef and Beer at JD's Pub, Smithville
Sat. Oct. 27, 2012	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	Ladies Auxiliary Fall/Christmas Craft and Home Show
Sat. Oct. 27, 2012	12:00	East Vineland VFC	Building Dedication, Housing, and Parade (08:30-11:00 registration & judging)
Sat. Nov. 3, 2012	15:00	Mays Landing VFC	All You Can Eat Rigatoni Dinner
Sat. Nov. 10, 2012	11:00	Minotola VFC	Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Sale - 11:00 till 17:00 - \$8 for two sandwiches and chips
Sat. Nov. 10, 2012	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. Nov. 17, 2012	16:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 2	All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner
Wed. Nov. 21, 2012	20:00	Somers Point VFC 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
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Wed. Jan. 16, 2013	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 24, 2013	20:00	Somers Point VFC 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. Apr. 13, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. May 4, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Oct. 5, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Nov. 9, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner