

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

February 20, 2013

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on February 20, 2013 at the Longport Volunteer Fire Department 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

President Portale introduced Chief Levon "Lefty" Clayton of the Longport Vol. Fire Department. Chief Clayton welcomed all to Longport and introduced Longport Mayor, and Firefighter, Nick Russo. Mayor Russo welcomed all to Longport and spoke about the Gift from Captain Buscio Firefighter Cardio-Pulmonary screening program at Deborah Hospital. Mayor Russo reported that the Captain Buscio Program fundraiser, held last year, raised \$7,500 and plans are being made for another fundraiser to be held in June or July. Mayor Russo reminded everyone that the Captain Buscio screening program saved his life and he would like all firefighters to take advantage of this free screening.

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 January 16, 2013 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 \$107,082.62, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America	/	Bank of America	/	ING Direct	/	Parke Bank	/	Parke Bank
Checking: \$35,044.78	/	Savings: \$5,002.01	/	Savings: \$20,229.03	/	12 Month CD: \$23,292.93	/	13 Month CD: \$23,513.87
						1.10% - Due 10/30/2013	/	1.01% - Due 5/6/2013

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported on the reorganizational meeting of the Executive Committee held in Pomona on January 4, 2013 and summarized the minutes from that meeting. Howard noted that Ed Vincent had thanked the association for support provided to the office of the Fire Coordinator. The Fire Coordinator office has no budget and both email and website communications are provided by this association. Howard thanked both the association Treasurer and Secretary for the excellent work during the past year. Howard also thanked the Director of Fire Training and all of the Fire Instructors for their excellent work. Howard reported that the Executive Committee is recommending that the Training

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budget and capital purchase proposal for 2013 be accepted and approved as submitted to the Executive Committee. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on March 8, 2013 At Somers Point Station #1.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the board met on January 14, 2013 at the training center. Howard reported that the board is looking at the need to expand the training center and how some central dispatch plans may affect expansion at the training center. The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for March 11, 2013.

Fire Coordinator – Oscar Dutch reported that Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent is on vacation in Florida. Oscar reported on three recent incidents that required Deputy Fire Coordinator response.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Whitey Swartz reported on the need for departments/companies to file final 2012 reports with his office so that a final report can be tabulated for the year. Whitey reported that several departments/companies have not yet filed some or all of the 2012 reports. Whitey reported that requests for valor award nominations and 50+ years of service recognition have been sent to all fire chiefs. Whitey reported that this year is the twentieth year that the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center has been in operation and he would like to plan an open house, or other event, for the public in the fall. Whitey reported that the Cape Atlantic 200 Club has scheduled their annual breakfast and memorial service for June 9, 2013, not April as in years past, and further details will be available at a later date. Whitey reported that the 2013 ACFFA schedule cards have been printed and thanked Secretary Mellon for updating the card data.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that his wife, Patti, had surgery last Friday and thanked everyone that had sent well wishes. Mike reported that the summer 2012/fall 2012 Firefighter I/Firefighter II graduation ceremony was held on February 4, 2013 and was well attended. Mike reported that the spring 2013 Firefighter I class has started with forty students. Mike reported that the county had an engineer inspect the burn building. Mike thanked Whitey Swartz for assisting with getting the inspection done. Mike reported that they are still waiting for the engineer's final report but all should be OK with the exception of needing some doors replaced. Mike reported that the strict usage rules in place have helped the burn building remain in service for twenty years. Mike reported that interviews for new instructors were conducted and three new fire instructors have been hired. The three new fire instructors are John Wagner, Bob Stanton, and Sean Macri. Mike reported on the upcoming scheduled classes including fire inspector, and six scheduled QTO/QSO/ODI classes. Mike reported that the monthly live burn training sessions will start again in March, weather permitting. Mike reported that a Fire Instructor Level I class will start in March and registration is through Kean University/NJ DFS. Registration for Kean University/NJ DFS classes opens on March 4 and the fire instructor classes should fill quickly. Mike requested that anyone needing assistance with registering for those classes should contact him. Mike reported that the fire instructors will be attending train the trainer classes for alternative fuel vehicles through a grant partnership with the National Alternative Fuel Training Consortium (NAFTC) West Virginia University. When instructor training has been completed, classes will be scheduled for first responders.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Chick Kisby reported on the January 29, 2013 meeting of the chief's association with County Executive Levinson in attendance. Chick reported that Oscar Dutch will be sending out a radio communications survey to all fire chiefs and it should be returned before the next meeting of the chief's association. The next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on March 28, 2013 at the Minotola Fire Company.

Atlantic County Fire Radio Policy Committee / Central Dispatch – Oscar Dutch reported on a letter and survey that is being drafted and will be sent to all fire chiefs. Oscar requested that all fire chiefs find the correct local officials to get the

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survey questions answered and returned as soon as possible. Oscar reported on incidents where radio communications were a challenge with many issues. Oscar reported that all county freeholders have expressed support for central dispatch. Oscar reported that the Atlantic County Fire Radio Policy Committee members will be available to municipal leaders for explanation of central dispatch and answering of questions. Contact information for committee members will be in the letter to be sent out.

Legislative – John Wagner reported not much is happening legislatively and local politician offices will not be available to discuss fire service funding issues until after March. John reported on discussions concerning electric vehicle versus pedestrian accidents and possible legislation to require audible warnings be installed in vehicles that move silently. John also reported on recent concerns about vacant buildings and the impact upon police and fire services. Contact John with any questions, concerns, or requests that something be researched.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that at the last meeting of the Board of Managers a resolution was passed to request that the NJ State Firemen's Association provide a Skype feed from the convention in Wildwood for the residents of the Firemen's Home. Oscar reported that many residents find the trip to Wildwood too difficult. Oscar reported on the continued interaction between the home's Board of Managers and the leadership of the NJ State Firemen's Association. Oscar reported that the renovation of the last wing of the home will start in May. Oscar reported that the home currently has seventy-one residents and three on a waiting list. Oscar reported that many trees at the home were damaged by Superstorm Sandy, but there were no buildings damaged. A contractor removed the trees at no cost to the home.

ACFFA Dinner – Wayne Dilks reported that the dinner has been scheduled for 18:30 on Friday, March 15, 2013 at Careme's, Atlantic Cape Community College. The cost is \$40 per person and includes beer/wine setup with dinner. Please RSVP by March 1, 2013.

Communications

A letter was received, and read, from Atlantic County Freeholder Colin G. Bell. In the letter Freeholder Bell expressed his support for the continued effort to move central dispatch forward.

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 to accept and approve the Training budget for 2013 as submitted to the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to follow the recommendation of the Executive Committee to accept and approve the Training Capital Purchase Proposal for 2013 as submitted to the Executive Committee.

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Bills

The bills, totaling \$8,105.31, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- US Postal Service - \$45.00 (stamps) / MES - \$1,413.73 (training equipment) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$289.39 (training and graduation food) / Lowes - \$394.22 (shed rebuild lumber) / Staples - \$114.13 (training office supplies) / Home Depot - \$10.67 (shed rebuild lumber) / AtlantiCare - \$95.00 (CPR cards) / US Government - \$4,010.84 (federal payroll taxes) / US Government - \$715.84 (quarterly taxes) / State of NJ - \$979.04 (NJ-927 taxes) / Bank of America - \$37.45 (annual safe deposit box fee)

Applications for Membership

Robert D. Woods of the Bayview Vol. Fire Company was accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Jim Garth reminded all that there is a NJ state law requiring convention leave be paid for certain state, county, and municipal employees when attending the NJ State Firemen's Association convention in Wildwood.

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

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeney. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:10. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on March 20, 2013 in Elwood.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Fri. Mar. 15, 2013	18:30	Careme's, Atl. Cape Comm. College	Annual ACFFA Dinner
Fri. Mar. 22, 2013	17:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 2	Fish Fry
Sat. Mar. 23, 2013	16:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 2	All You can Eat Spaghetti Dinner
Sun. Mar. 24, 2013	07:00	Minotola VFC	Annual Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt
Sat. Apr. 13, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. May 4, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. May 11, 2013		Absecon VFD	100 th Anniversary
Sun. Jun. 2, 2013	12:00	Dorothy VFC	56 th Annual Chicken BBQ
Tues. Aug. 13, 2013	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Fri. Sep. 13, 2013	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 14, 2013	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Oct. 5, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Nov. 9, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
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ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Mar. 20, 2013	20:00	Elwood VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 17, 2013	20:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Valor Awards Presentation (Hosted by Margate FD)
Wed. May 15, 2013	20:00	Oceanville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 19, 2013	20:00	Richland VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 17, 2013	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 21, 2013	20:00	Mays Landing VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 18, 2013	20:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 16, 2013	20:00	Estell Manor VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 20, 2013	20:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 18, 2013	20:00	West Atlantic City VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
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Wed. Jan. 15, 2014	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 19, 2014	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Mar. 8, 2013	19:30	Somers Point VFC Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 3, 2013	19:30	Whitey Swartz Fire Museum	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 5, 2013	19:30	Landisville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 6, 2013	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 1, 2013	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
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Fri. Jan. 3, 2014	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

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Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Mar. 11, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. May 13, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jul. 8, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Sep. 9, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 18, 2013	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 13, 2014	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

Thurs. Mar. 28, 2013	20:00	Minotola VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Thurs. May 30, 2013	20:00	Northfield VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Tues. Jul. 30, 2013	20:00	Estell Manor VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Thurs. Sep. 26, 2013	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
Tues. Nov. 26, 2013	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.
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Tues. Jan. 28, 2014	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Assoc.

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 25, 2013	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
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Thurs. Jan. 23, 2014	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.