

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

May 20, 2015

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on May 20, 2015 at the Pomona Volunteer Fire Company 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 apologized on behalf of Chief Brian Alexander of the 177th NJ Air National Guard Fire Department. The 177th NJANG FD was unable to display their new quick attack vehicle as planned. President Portale reported that they have rescheduled the display for the July meeting of the association.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Portale introduced Chief Eric Winkler of the Pomona Volunteer Fire Company. Chief Winkler welcomed all to Pomona and expressed the honor felt within the company for hosting the meeting. President Portale, also Chief of the Galloway Township Fire Department, welcomed all on behalf of the fire department, the Mayor, and Council of Galloway Township. All of whom are grateful for the mutual aid assistance received and working with all of the Atlantic County fire service.

In Attendance

Roll call was taken by Secretary Robert A. Mellon who reported a quorum was present.

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance - 40 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented - 20

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2015 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 \$122,965.17, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Capital One 360 / Parke Bank
Checking: \$41,585.61 / Savings: \$5,006.37 / Savings: \$52,540.57 / 12 Month CD: \$23,832.62
/ 0.60% - Due 5/6/2015

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

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold summarized the minutes from the meeting of the committee held on May 1, 2015 at Whitey Swartz's Firefighters Museum of Southern New Jersey. Howard thanked Whitey and Joy Swartz for hosting the Executive Committee at their museum and noted that Chick Kisby was at that meeting, shortly after the passing of his wife, and conveyed the sympathy from all for his loss. Howard reported that the executive committee spent much time reviewing the training reports submitted by Director Corbo who was unable to attend. Howard reported that a policy to be enforced will not allow further training by an agency when they have tuition outstanding past one year and that both fire chiefs and municipal leadership will be sent formal notification that tuition has been unpaid past a year. Howard noted that the executive committee review has determined that Director Corbo is doing an outstanding job at collecting tuition but some just lag behind on the payments. The executive committee reviewed the status of the engines and discussed what may need to be done to repair the old Estell Manor engine, whether the county would be willing to pay for the repairs, and if it would be worth repairing. Estimates of repair costs will be sought. Howard reported that the policies and procedures for adding bailout bag training to the curriculum will be extensively reviewed. The executive committee will request that the director provide biannual updates as to the certification status of all instructors. Howard reported that Ken Badger and Dennis Sharpe have been able to provide many photos of county incidents and events to the press. Howard reminded all that Whitey Swartz has been officially appointed as the association photographer and that a proposed annual budget of \$200 has been recommended by the executive committee. Howard reported that the Atlantic County 4H Fair is scheduled for August 6, 7, and 8 and that help will be requested with the public relations effort of the association at the fair. The plan to hold a firefighter competition on Friday night of the fair is also to continue and Director Corbo has been asked to again take lead on that with his instructors who have always done an excellent job with the planning and execution. Howard noted that the executive committee is working with Oscar Dutch to schedule a trip up to the NJ Firemen's Home and do an informal presentation of the donated bench. Also a trip to the New York City 9/11 Memorial and Museum is being planned after much initial research by Jim Garth and Friendly Tours. Saturday, June 13th has been selected for the trip in an effort not to travel in the worst heat of the summer. The cost of \$125 per person covers all expenses including transportation, 9/11 Memorial and tour, New York City Firefighters Museum, lunch, and gratuities. Howard reported that Secretary Mellon provided the committee with an update on the 501(c)(3) application. The bulk of the work is done and the process of review by the lawyer has started. Howard reported that the executive committee reviewed the 2015 calendar project and the recommendations to print less calendars for 2016 and print earlier for availability to sell at the 4H Fair. Howard noted that Whitey Swartz offered to pay the 50% of the annual schedule card that Ted Reinhard's business used to pay. The Egg Harbor Township Fire Department pays for the other 50% of the card cost.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that advisory board met on May 4, 2015 and reviewed the Estell Manor engine repair issues, the ongoing burn building door replacement project that the county will soon go out to bid for, and the effort of Director Corbo to obtain a new vehicle from American Salvage for the propane pad. The next meeting of the board is scheduled for July 6, 2015 at the training center.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported on fire coordinator notifications and responses including April 19th in Mizpah for structure, April 29th in Hammonton for hazmat, April 29th in Atlantic City for structure, April 27th in Buena Vista Twp. for exit light causing smoke condition at Buena Regional High School, May 14th in South Egg Harbor for commercial structure with TTF-A deployment. Ed reported that Tender Task Force Alpha (TTF-A) held a drill on April 19th hosted by West Tuckerton in Ocean County, Tender Task Force Bravo (TTF-B) held a drill on April 26th hosted by Collings Lakes at the Folsom School, and that Absecon Fire Department hosted a Traffic Incident Management System (TIMS) course on April 22nd. Ed reported that he has the contact information for any organization that would like to host a free TIMS class. Ed reported he attended a meeting in Galloway Township concerning local fire company response district boundary changes.

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

Ed reported that the airport has scheduled their triennial emergency preparedness drill for May 14, 2016. Ed reported that John Miller has left his position with the county for a position with the state. Tactical Public Safety will assume John's duties with the county radio system and Scott Archer is the contact person at (856) 220-9075. Ed also noted that Jack Schiffler will soon leave his position with the county and someone else will be assigned to handle his homeland security grant duties. Ed reported on the FY2014 Homeland Security Grant and that \$20,000 is earmarked for the Technical Rescue Team, \$9,466 to the ACFD Confined Space Operations, and \$14,300 distributed to the county task forces and strike teams. Ed reviewed the bid process requiring NJ DCA approval for central dispatch and reported that the go live date is now "sometime in 2017". Ed noted that the CAD/RMS bid process will also undergo NJ DCA approval in the process. Ed reported that he has additional copies of the mutual aid plan on CD if anyone needs them. Ed reported that the current mutual aid agreement expires in July 2015 and that Ed Conover, Atlantic County, will start notifying the municipalities that they need to negotiate and sign a new agreement. The new agreement, once fully executed, will be good for five years until 2020.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reported that the valor awards in April was well attended and went well with the exception of the inability to play the year in review video. Dave requested that anyone with a valor nomination for 2016 to please submit as soon as possible after an incident so that it is completed while the memory is fresh instead of waiting until next year. Dave will keep all submissions on file for consideration of a valor award next year.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that Firefighter I is running with fifty-one students and will wrap up on June 10th and Firefighter II is finishing with thirty-five students. Mike noted that the Summer Firefighter I and II classes are due to start in June and thus far have low enrollment. Mike reported that the county is still waiting on a bid proposal for the burn building doors and that an engineer will need to access a settlement crack in the smoke building. Mike reported that he and four instructors attended FDIC along with 31,000 others. They met with a bailout bag supplier and requested pricing for equipment, but have not yet made any purchases. Mike reported that they will work with the Executive Committee to review the requirements of developing a bailout bag training class. Mike reported on much information received at the conference about the risks of cancer associated with turnout gear. A new European standard for turnout gear requires two swappable outer shells. One for use on the next call while one is cleaned. Mike was able to obtain a set of turnout gear for a wear test at the academy. Mike will bring the set of gear to an association meeting for inspection as soon as it is received. Mike reported that the instructors gathered many new ideas at the conference that they will look into using at the academy. Mike reported that the instructors will soon rebuild the roof mockup and create an overhaul mockup for the academy. Mike noted that the forcible entry door at the academy has been getting much use. Mike reminded all that fire officers need to have NJ Incident Management Level 1 certification which includes the I200 class and submitting for IMS1 certification after receiving the class completion certificate. It is recommended, but not required, that Assistant Chiefs take I300 and Fire Chiefs take I400. Mike also reminded all that Driver/Pump Operators must have a full NJ Firefighter I certification from the NJ Division of Fire Safety and that all Fire Instructors must have NJ DFS instructor level 1 or 2 certification and obtain CEUs for recertification every four years. Mike reviewed the upcoming classes scheduled for the fire academy. Mike reported that no date has been set for the Firefighter I graduation but it will most likely be at the end of June. There are fifty-one in the current class and forty from the prior class. Either a long daytime ceremony or two evening ceremonies will be required. Most likely a larger facility than the training center will be required. Mike will meet with President Portale to research options and any input or suggestions would be appreciated.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association – Chick Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association will be 8:00 PM on June 10, 2015 at the Collings Lakes Volunteer Fire Company.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that the home is finalizing the current budget and will soon award a contract for the installation of a new rooftop air conditioning unit for the auditorium. Oscar reported that they will request bids on

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

upgrading much outdated wiring found in the mansion section of the facility. Oscar noted that there is currently seventy-five guests in the home and that any Saturday, except the 2nd Saturday, would be a good day to visit the home. Oscar reported that there is currently an inquiry for an application to the home from Atlantic County.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein thanked all that participated the Atlantic County local relief treasurer and secretary books audit on May 13th in Egg Harbor and reported that this examination is now on a four year rotation. Henry reported that there has been a \$500 increase approved for the burial benefit bringing the total benefit to \$11, 250 on July 1, 2015. Henry reported that filing issues have put eight associations into the predicament of not being seating for the convention. Henry noted that he has suggested email notifications, or text messaging, or a smart phone app to remind all of pending filing deadlines. The idea was not received well. Henry reminded all that the Atlantic County Caucus is August 11th in Egg Harbor and the convention is September 18 and 19 in Wildwood. Henry provided some state legislation updates including the governor vetoed a bill for residential fire sprinklers and signed a bill allowing fire department use of drones. Oscar Dutch thanked Henry for the letter sent to all local secretaries and treasurers in Atlantic County about the pending field exam and noted that other Executive Committeemen in NJ do not do that for their counties.

ACFFA Dinner – Cindy Badger reported that the dinner was well attended and that food was good. Cindy noted that the appetizer at the dinner was complimentary but a slight price increase would allow for additional appetizers. Bill Danz reported that the Egg Harbor Twp. Fire Dept. has had many dinners at Mays Landing Country Club and that he attended the dinner and all was just as good. The general consensus of the group was for Cindy to plan for a Saturday dinner in April 2016 and to continue at the Mays Landing Country Club.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act upon.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to sponsor a bus trip to New York City to visit the 9/11 Memorial and the New York City Firefighters Museum on June 13, 2015. Fifty-two people will be able to sign up.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the 2015 Atlantic County Firefighters' Association Photographer Budget Proposal of \$200.00 as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association move forward with the 2016 calendar project and provide the funds for the initial printing of three hundred 2016 calendars prior to the 4H Fair.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to decline Whitey Swartz's offer to pay for 50% of the annual schedule cards and have the association cover that cost along with providing credit to Whitey's museum on the cards due to his already extensive contributions to the association.

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

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to hold the 2016 association dinner at the Mays Landing Country Club and to authorize Cindy Badger to put in a reservation for a Saturday evening dinner in April of 2016.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$5,463.46, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Suburban Propane - \$508.97 (propane) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$435.00 (training lunch) / Staples - \$100.79 (office supplies) / Continental Fire & Safety - \$618.00 (ten lifeliner hoods) / Suburban Propane - \$864.16 (propane) / Good Enoughs - \$900.00 (straw) / Mike Corbo - \$2,023.52 (FDIC) / South Jersey Welding - \$13.02 (equipment rental)

Applications for Membership

Vincent Granese of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department was accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Pomona Volunteer 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 21:40. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on June 17, 2015 in Milmay, Buena Vista Township.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

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

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

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Sun. Jun. 7, 2015	12:00	Dorothy VFC	58th Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 - 20:00)
Sat. Jun. 13, 2015	08:30	New York City	ACFFA Bus Trip to 9/11 Memorial and NYC Fire Museum
Sat. Jun. 13, 2015	11:00	Scullville VFC	"Marine 3" Dedication Ceremony
Sat. Jun. 13, 2015	12:00	Cologne VFC	Annual Chicken BBQ (12:00 - 18:00)
Sat. Jun. 20, 2015	15:00	Farmington VFC (hosted by Cardiff VFC)	James' Journey to Recovery Fundraiser
Thurs. Aug. 6, 2015	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 7, 2015	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 7, 2015	19:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Firefighter Competition
Sat. Aug. 8, 2015	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Tues. Aug. 11, 2015	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Fri. Sep. 18, 2015	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 19, 2015	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Oct. 3, 2015	10:00	Historic Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries)
Sat. Oct. 3, 2015	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 4, 2015	10:00	Historic Smithville, NJ	Oceanville VFC @ Oktoberfest (Foot Long Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries)
Sat. Oct. 10, 2015	08:00	Elwood VFC @ Mays Landing Country	14th Annual William Kennedy Memorial Golf Tournament
Sat. Oct. 17, 2015	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner (15:30 - 19:30)
Sat. Oct. xx, 2015	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	Fall/Christmas Craft, Art, & Home Show
Sat. Nov. 14, 2015	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. Dec. 5, 2015	11:00	Cardiff VFC	Open House with Santa Claus (11:00 - 15:00)
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

Regional Drills/Training

-----	-----	-----	-----
Sat. May 14, 2016	07:30	Atlantic City Int'l Airport	Triennial Emergency Preparedness Drill

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

ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Jun. 17, 2015	20:00	Milmay VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 15, 2015	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 19, 2015	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 16, 2015	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 21, 2015	20:00	Port Republic VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 18, 2015	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 16, 2015	20:00	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
-----	-----	-----	-----
Wed. Jan. 20, 2016	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 17, 2016	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Jul. 3, 2015	19:30	Landisville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 4, 2015	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Oct. 30, 2015	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
-----	-----	-----	-----
Fri. Jan. 8, 2016	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

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

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Jul. 6, 2015	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Sep. 14, 2015	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 9, 2015	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
-----	-----	-----	-----
Mon. Jan. 4, 2016	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Jun. 10, 2015	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jul. 8, 2015	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Aug. 12, 2015	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Sep. 9, 2015	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 14, 2015	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 11, 2015	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 9, 2015	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
-----	-----	-----	-----
Jan. 2016	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Feb. 2016	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 23, 2015	19:30	Dorothy VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
-----	-----	-----	-----
Thurs. Jan. 28, 2016	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 28, 2016	19:30	Oceanville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association