

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

July 19, 2017

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on July 19, 2017 at the Linwood Fire Department 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.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Portale introduced Chief Martin Walley of the Linwood Fire Department. Chief Walley welcomed all to Linwood.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 45 of 176 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 19 of 44

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 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 \$135,803.32, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Capital One 360 / Parke Bank
Checking: \$53,485.86 / Savings: \$5,009.64 / Savings: \$53,032.47 / 13 Month CD: \$24,275.35
Matures 6/13/2018

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported that the July meeting of the executive committee, held on July 7, 2017, was held in Bayview and not Landisville due to scheduling conflicts. Howard thanked the Bayview Volunteer Fire Company for hosting the meeting. Howard reported that Ricky Coraluzzo is recovering from recent surgery and that Ellsworth Ott is also still recovering at Betty Bacharach Rehab. Howard summarized the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting. The committee had heard of rumors about complaints concerning the quality of firefighter training being provided. There have been no formal complaints made by anyone and Howard emphasized that any association officer, executive committee member, or Director Corbo may be contacted directly or by attending one of the regularly scheduled meetings to discuss any concerns that need addressing. It is the officer's and committee's belief that high quality training is being provided and that the training meets all relevant standards. If anyone has a concern or question they are advised to reach out and make contact and every effort will be made to address their concerns. Howard reported that the committee reviewed a preliminary request to consider the possibility of obtaining a pumper that will be retired from the Egg Harbor Township Fire

Department. Howard reported that Dennis Sharpe is coordinating efforts to schedule display apparatus at the Atlantic County 4H Fair and that the Firefighter Competition will be held on the Friday night of the fair. Howard noted that the annual fair is a good public exposure event for the association and the county fire service and that he would like to see some of the younger members assisting at the fair. The association public fire safety booth will be set up Thursday morning and assistance is greatly appreciated with staffing the booth during the fair. Howard reported that the Treasurer is working on a credit/debit option for the occasional business expenditures required for the training program and that the Treasurer reported to the committee that a recent workers compensation insurance audit by a state contractor went well. Howard emphasized that the committee is continuing to seek programs concerning firefighter wellness to be presented at the association meetings. Current ideas include a baseline medical data review and a back injury presentation. Howard reminded all that a Cyanokit replacement will be added to future budgets in case one is required by the Atlantic/Cape cooperative working with AtlantiCare. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at 19:30 on September 1, 2017 at the Absecon Volunteer Fire Department.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold summarized the proceedings of the advisory board meeting held on July 10, 2017. Howard thanked Freeholder Carman for attending that meeting. An engineer is reviewing the improvements for the smokehouse building and it is expected to go out for bid by the end of July. The new pumps are being built and will soon be installed. The flashover simulator is in good working order. The fire instructors will be repainting the confined space simulator. The association library collection was discussed. It is now mostly an older book and magazine collection and if the association decided to not continue maintaining the collection it could be donated to an interested fire museum. The next meeting of the advisory board is scheduled for September 18, 2017 at the training center.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported on confusion at gate 18 at the airport during a recent box alarm and noted that someone with an access card will be required to stay at the gate. An update provided is that gate 18 is now out of service until further notice and that airport security will man gate 13 if there is need for fire department access. Ed reported that Tender Task Force Bravo (TTF-B) will combine their Fall drill with an Insurance Services Office (ISO) Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) review for water supply capability. Ed reported that the HY2015 and FY2016 Homeland Security Grant monies have been spent down and that the FY2017 spending plan, including for \$52,000 for the fire service, is still awaiting approval. Ed reported that OEM Director Vince Jones is handling the issues concerning the TTF-B dispatching for the Buffalo Farms incident in Hammonton and that Director Jones will provide an update at the August meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association. Ed requested that the Deputy Fire Coordinators assist with the setup and staffing of the association booth at the Atlantic County 4H Fair. Ed reported that the Atlantic City Airshow is scheduled for Wednesday, August 23rd with a practice day on Tuesday, August 22nd. Ed will contact all of the usual departments and companies that provide emergency services support during the show. Ed thanked the fire companies that assisted with the funeral for Atlantic City Firefighter Albert Mallen. Ed offered his condolences on the recent passing of Deputy Chief Ed Jones, Collings Lakes.

Atlantic County 4H Fair – Howard Berchtold reported that the fair is scheduled for August 10th, 11th, and 12th with the Firefighter Competition to be held on Friday August 11th. Assistance will be needed on August 10th at 10:00 AM to set up at the fairgrounds.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that Summer Firefighter I is running with ten students and that the Firefighter II class was canceled due to low enrollment. The Spring Firefighter I graduation ceremony is scheduled for 7 PM, Monday, July 24th at the training center. The Fall Firefighter I class will start 7 PM, Thursday, August 17th. Atlantic County 4H Fair Firefighter Competition applications have been emailed and posted online. The competition will be held on Friday August 11th at 7 PM. Teams are requested to meet at the fairgrounds at 6 PM. If more than four teams are registered, a preliminary completion will be held 6 PM, Wednesday, August 9th at the training center. The Fall Course Book should be ready for distribution by the August meeting of the association. The Spring semester had 18 classes that provided training to 309 students while taking in tuition that covered all expenses related to the training. Remaining tuition invoices will be mailed. The City of Pleasantville Board of Education is donated a retired bus to the training center to be used for both fire and EMS training. Director Corbo reported that he tracked down the alleged complaint that the Executive Committee had discussed earlier in the month. The issue was addressed with both parties coming to a mutual understanding and no formal complaints have been filed. Director Corbo reminded all that anyone may contact him to discuss any issues or concerns that they may have. Director Corbo reported that the soon to be retired Egg Harbor Township pumper would be a good replacement for one of the pumpers at the training center. Both of the training center pumpers are in good shape and are working fine, so there is no immediate need to replace them if the association does not desire to do so. Director Corbo thanked all of the Fire Instructors for the job that they do and the great help they provide to the Fire Academy.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association – Butch Kienzle reported on the July 12th meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association held in Estell Manor. The Buffalo Farms Tender Task Force Bravo (TTF-B) activation issues were discussed. Butch noted that he has copies of the phone tapes if anyone is interested in reviewing them. Butch thanked

Freeholder John Carman for attending the meeting and for his continued support. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 in Laureldale.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar reported that his term to the NJ Firemen's Home Board of Mangers representing Atlantic County is up. Oscar would like to serve another term and would accept nomination at the August 8th New Jersey State Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus to be held in Egg Harbor City. Oscar reported that during his tenure on the Board of Mangers thirty applicants have been rejected by the home due to their requiring specialized memory care. The Board of Mangers is currently reviewing a change of licensing and the conversion of one wing to handle memory care guests at the home. There have been six recent new guests to the home bringing the total to sixty-six guests. Oscar reviewed the current housing options including long term care and residential units. Oscar reported that northern New Jersey Fire Companies are hosting BBQs for the guests at the home every weekend during the summer.

Bylaws – Chuck Mackintosh reported that the committee met on July 6th to start a review of the bylaws and constitution. Currently being reviewed are the delegate and officer qualifications, membership and dues, and the updating of he/him references to include both sexes.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

Drawing was held for the Wildwood Parade order for the Atlantic County Unit (lead Dept./Co. to also carry ACFFA banner):

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|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 1. Egg Harbor Twp. | 6. Somers Point | 11. Galloway Twp. | 16. Mullica Twp. |
| 2. Port Republic | 7. Hammonton | 12. Northfield | 17. Remaining Atl. Co. Units |
| 3. Estell Manor | 8. Hamilton Twp. | 13. Buena Boro | as submitted directly to Parade Committee |
| 4. Egg Harbor City | 9. Dorothy, Weymouth Twp. | 14. Buena Vista Twp. | |
| 5. Linwood | 10. Longport | 15. Absecon | |

Online registration still required at <http://www.njfireexpo.com/memorial-parade>

Bills

The bills, totaling \$29,906.33, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Practical Fire Equipment - \$421.00 (roof operation safety platform) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$278.00 (training lunch) / 1st Half 2017 Instructor Payroll - \$29,207.33 (instructor payroll w/ federal & state taxes)

Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership.

Good of the Order

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

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:55. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on August 16, 2017 at the Cologne Volunteer Fire Company.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Mon. Jul. 24, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Firefighter I Graduation Ceremony
Sat. Aug. 5, 2017	16:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	21st Annual Spaghetti Dinner (16:00 - 19:00)
Tues. Aug. 8, 2017	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association - Atlantic County Caucus
Thurs. Aug. 10, 2017	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 11, 2017	09:30	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	FirstNet: What it means for Atlantic County (09:30 - 11:30)
Fri. Aug. 11, 2017	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Aug. 11, 2017	19:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Firefighter Competition
Sat. Aug. 12, 2017	12:30	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Fri. Sep. 15, 2017	13:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 16, 2017	10:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 23, 2017	13:30	Hammonton VFD Sta. 2	Clam Bake (13:30 - 17:00)
Sat. Oct. 7, 2017	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner (16:00 - 19:30)
Sat. Oct. 14, 2017	09:00	New York City	Odd Fellows 9/11 Museum and NYC Fire Museum Bus Trip
Sat. Oct. 28, 2017	08:00	Elwood VFC @ Mays Landing Country Club	16th Annual William Kennedy Memorial Golf Tournament
Sat. Nov. 11, 2017	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com

ACFFA Meetings**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association**

Wed. Aug. 16, 2017	20:00	Cologne VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 20, 2017	20:00	Hammonton VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 18, 2017	20:00	Dorothy VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 15, 2017	20:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 20, 2017	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 17, 2018	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 21, 2018	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Sep. 1, 2017	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 3, 2017	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jan. 5, 2018	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Sep. 18, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Nov. 13, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 8, 2018	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Aug. 9, 2017	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Sep. 13, 2017	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 11, 2017	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 8, 2017	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 13, 2017	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
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Tues. Jan. 23, 2018	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
February 2018-----	-----	-----	NO MEETING-----

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 27, 2017	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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Thurs. Jan. 25, 2018	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 26, 2018	19:30	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association