

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



May 21, 2025

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 19:30 on May 21, 2025 at the Pomona Volunteer Fire Company by President Charles J. Mackintosh. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Deacon Rich Maxwell. President Mackintosh then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Mackintosh introduced Assistant Chief Mark Simpson of the Pomona Volunteer Fire Company. Chief Simpson welcomed all to Pomona.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 41 of 172 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 22 of 43

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2025 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 \$92,649.39, as submitted by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon and read by Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Clayton E. Tucker.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Parke Bank / Parke Bank / Parke Bank
Checking: \$10,552.18 / Savings: \$5,023.11 / Checking: \$44,415.79 / Money Market: \$1,013.65 / CD – 4.247%, matures 4/5/2026: \$31,644.66

Guest

Rich Maxwell introduced Jim Eberwine, Absecon Emergency Management Coordinator and former Hurricane Program Manager at National Weather Service in Mt Holly. Jim shared some of his personal and professional history and experience. Jim reported that he can send weather related emails upon request and provided an update on the outlook for the 2025 hurricane season with the potential hotspot being along the Gulf and SE coasts. Storm count is expected to be normal at eight to seventeen tropical storms and eight hurricanes. Storms of concern would be anything moving west of Bermuda.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Vice-Chairman Lefty Clayton reported on the meeting of the Executive Committee held on May 2nd in Longport. The committee received an update on the recommendations from Glenn Insurance. The current policies were

reported to be good with a recommendation to increase the workers' compensation coverage. Lefty reported that they are looking into an employee supplemental policy. The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on July 11, 2025 at the Somers Point Volunteer Fire Company Station 1.

Insurance – Kim Feinstein reported on the meeting with Dennis Brown of Glenn Insurance. Kim reported that in most cases the insurance policies are where they should be. Kim reported on the recommendations to move policies and work with Glenn Insurance. President Mackintosh noted that the recommendations would be put on hold pending a review of some additional concerns.

Atlantic County Radio Communications – Lefty Clayton reported on the recent meeting with county officials to present and review the “Centralized Fire/EMS Dispatch Center Feasibility Study” from ADCOMM Engineering LLC. Lefty reported that they have narrowed the recommendations down to two options. First, all 911 calls go to a county call center with fire/EMS dispatch with police calls forwarded to PD dispatch centers. Second, 911 calls continue to go to multiple local call centers and police dispatch with fire/EMS calls forwarded to a county dispatch. Lefty noted that the next steps include meeting with county commissioners then local municipal leadership/mayors. When those meetings are complete there will be a news release and public meetings. Lefty noted that they are currently working on getting a better countywide fiscal impact of NexGen 911 costs that would be incurred by the local governments versus the costs that will be covered by state government or grants. There was additional discussion concerning the ongoing communication issues during large scale mutual aid response and the operations of the current system in Atlantic County.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – The next meeting of the Fire Training Advisory Board is scheduled for July 21, 2025 at the Anthony “Tony” Canale Training Center.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Clyde W. “Chip” Stockton Jr. reported on the good response to the Ocean County wildfire and that the Lacey Elks Club would be hosting an event to thank the responders. Chip reported that the biennial drill at the airport went well and was well attended. Chip reported that Storybook Land has scheduled a fire truck/emergency vehicle show and first responder appreciation day on July 26th. Chip reviewed the following report: 1. June 11th FIFA Soccer Cup will be held at Stockton College in Pomona; 2. April 22nd 12-tankers/tenders and 4-engines responded to Ocean County fire (Jones Road fire), last unit cleared at 2:00am; 3. April 25th Atlantic City 3rd-alarm fire on Hummock between Indiana and Ohio; 4. April 27th Mays Landing structure fire in Oakcrest Estates 2-story townhouse/condo fire Sunday morning; 5. April 27th Northfield structure fire on Burton Ave. 2-story home Sunday afternoon; 6. April 27th Atco (Camden County) recycling center fire on Jackson Road Sunday evening starting at 9:00pm, 4-tanker/tenders 4-engines 2-tower/ladders 1-tower/ladder was covering Hammonton, all units cleared by 3:00pm Monday; 7. May 4th Pleasantville 2nd-alarm fire on Broad and Willard Street 2-story home; 8. May 14th Hamilton Twp. Dive Team requested to assist in Gloucester County (Westville); 9. 4-times Red Cross has been in Atlantic County since April relocating Families.

NJ State Firemen's Assn. – Executive Committeewoman Cindy Badger reported that sibling has been added to the compendium and is now eligible to receive a death benefit payout. Cindy noted that they will now be seeking funeral home bills with a claim request. The current benefit amount is \$12,500 with a line of duty death tripled to \$37,500. Cindy reported that the NJ Firemen's Home budgeted funds have been transferred. Cindy reported that the Atlantic County Caucus is scheduled for 7PM on August 12th in Egg Harbor City, registration will start at 6PM and 2024 applications for relief will be collected for audit. Cindy reported that the convention is scheduled for September 12 and 13 in Wildwood. The memorial service followed by the meeting is at 11AM on September 12th with registration from 7AM until 11AM. There will only be registration and voting on September 13th. Cindy provided an update on dates reports are due and record keeping requirements. Cindy noted updated forms and applications are available online. Cindy reported that the current freeze on assisted living assistance does not affect nursing home or home healthcare applications. Cindy requested that all local officers' email addresses be kept up to date as more communication moves to email. Cindy reported that NJSFA Secretary Thomas Pelaia is retiring and that 1st Asst. Secretary Brian Martone will be running for Secretary. Cindy reported that the home healthcare/adult daycare reimbursement is currently up to \$6,000 per month and the nursing home care reimbursement is up to \$12,000 per month. Those values are prorated if a member is not fully qualified. Cindy reported that if a member is injured in the line of duty and is not fully qualified, they can be upgraded to qualified via review of the Executive Committee.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch, Atlantic County Board Manager, reported that there is currently seventeen on the waitlist for the home. Oscar reported that the long-range planning committee met to start discussing the potential need to convert to 100% single occupancy rooms and the possible need to add to the home for an additional fifty beds. Oscar reported that he has been inquiring about how an addition would serve southern New Jersey when so few of the past and present guests have been from South Jersey. Oscar requested that Atlantic County firefighters share their thoughts with him concerning any future voting on an addition. There was immediate discussion about the fiscal impact of an addition with little benefit for those in Atlantic County at approximately 130 miles to the south. All agreed that the Atlantic County Firefighters'

Association should send a letter to advise the NJ Firemen's Home Board of Managers that this association is not in favor of expanding the home.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association – Butch Kienzle reported that the next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association will be at 8:00 PM on June 11, 2025 at the Collings Lakes Volunteer Fire Company.

Harold J. "Whitey" Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition – Billy Merola reported that he is looking to schedule a committee meeting one hour prior to the July meeting of the association in Linwood. They will review two nominations of valor submitted for the 2026 awards program.

Fundraising/Golf Tournament – President Chuck Mackintosh reported that the cost of a weekend golf tournament is coming in high, approx. \$150-\$175 per player, and inquired if there would be interest in mid-week golf tournament at approx. \$100-\$120 per player. There was enough show of hands to continue researching/planning a golf tournament that may be held in 2026.

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 that the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association should send a letter to advise the NJ Firemen's Home Board of Managers that this association is not in favor of expanding the home.

Cindy Badger inquired if NJ State Firemen's Assn. leadership would be welcome at the July meeting of the association. President Mackintosh reported that they are most certainly welcome and that we look forward to seeing them.

Bills

The bills, totaling \$10,267.71, were submitted by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon and read by Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Clayton E. Tucker. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Chase Credit Card - \$1,952.83 (credit card) / Good Enough - \$1,050.00 (150 bales straw) / AmGUARD Ins Co - \$1,234.00 (Workers Comp Ins) / MES - \$3,970.00 (1 set turnout gear) / Crown Trophy - \$198.00 (valor/50 yr supplies) / Suburban Propane - \$1,862.88 (propane)

Good of the Order

Lefty Clayton reported that Vince Jones will retire from the county on July 1st and that Howard Berchtold has recommended inviting him to be recognized at the July meeting of the association.

Thank you to the Pomona Volunteer Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing refreshments.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Dcn. Rich Maxwell. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:35. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on June 18, 2025 in Richland, Buena Vista Township.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Sun. Jun. 1, 2025	12:00	Dorothy VFC	68th Annual Chicken BBQ & Craft Fair (12:00 - 18:00)
Wed. Jun. 18, 2025	18:00	Smithville Inn, Smithville	Beef & Beer to Benefit Oceanville VFC
Thurs. Jun. 26, 2025	18:00	Rita's Water Ice, WHP, Hammonton	Water Ice Fundraiser to Benefit Hammonton VFD (18:00 - 20:00)
Mon. Jul. 14, 2025	19:00	Egg Harbor Twp. Community Center	Firefighter I Graduation Ceremony
Sat. Jul. 26, 2025	10:00	Storybook Land, EHT	2025 Mother Goose Muster - Firetruck & Emergency Vehicle Show & First Responder Appreciation Day
Sat. Aug. 2, 2025	16:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	28th Annual Spaghetti Dinner (16:00 - 19:00)
Fri. Aug. 8, 2025	18:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Sat. Aug. 9, 2025	13:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 50	ACFFA at Atlantic County 4H Fair w/ Fire Prevention Booth & Apparatus Display
Tues. Aug. 12, 2025	19:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Sun. Aug. 17, 2025	10:00	Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center, Millville, NJ	Annual Fire Muster & Firefighters' Family Day presented by Glasstown Antique Fire Brigade
Fri. Sep. 12, 2025	11:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey State Firemen's Association Annual Convention & Memorial Service (Reg. 07:00-11:00)
Sat. Sep. 13, 2025	07:00	Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey State Firemen's Association Annual Convention (Voting Only 07:00-11:00)
Sun. Sep. 28, 2025	09:00	NJFM, 4 Polhemustown Rd, Allentown, NJ	NJ Fire Museum Annual Open House (09:00 - 15:00)
Sat. Nov. 8, 2025	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. Jun. 6, 2026		Germania VFC	Germania Vol. Fire Co. 100th Anniversary Celebration

ACFFA Meetings**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association**

Wed. Jun. 18, 2025	19:30	Richland VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 16, 2025	19:30	Linwood FD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 20, 2025	19:30	Weymouth VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 17, 2025	19:30	Hammonton VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 15, 2025	19:30	Dorothy VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 19, 2025	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 17, 2025	19:30	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 21, 2026	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 18, 2026	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Jul. 11, 2025	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 5, 2025	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 7, 2025	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jan. 2, 2026	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Jul. 21, 2025	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Oct. 20, 2025	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Mon. Jan. 12, 2026	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Jun. 11, 2025	20:00	Collings Lakes VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Jul. 9, 2025	20:00	East Vineland VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Aug. 13, 2025	20:00	Laureldale VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Tues. Sep. 10, 2025	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Oct. 8, 2025	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Nov. 12, 2025	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 10, 2025	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
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Tues. Jan. 27, 2026	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
February 2026-----	-----	-----	NO MEETING-----

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jul. 24, 2025	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
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Thurs. Jan. 22, 2026	19:30	Elwood VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 23, 2026	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association