

# Fire Chiefs & Fire Fighters Association Of York County, Inc.

330 Emig Road  
York, PA 17406



Monthly Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday

December 17, 2007

President Skip Rupert called the regular monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order and led the pledge to the flag. There were twenty-six people in attendance.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published.

President Rupert asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Chief Shank made the motion, second by John Fornadel. Motion carried.

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS:** Chief John Senft reported the following items were discussed in the Board of Governors meeting prior to this meeting:

- Financial Issues for 2008.
- Capitol Improvement Project
  - Drawing funds from the County bond
  - Drawing capitol funds from the State
- Hopes to meet with the Governor in January or February
- Budget appears to be intact with the County.
- Space utilization issues with the moving of Hazmat to the new facility.
- Training opportunities

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**RADIO COMMITTEE:** Chief Shank reported there was no meeting this month. Next meeting will be sometime in January.

**911:** Audrey Rychalsky reported the 911 department moved into their new facility on December 5<sup>th</sup> they are still working out all the bugs. The radio department is handling issues daily. Site testing for the new radio system will begin in February. Any paging issues should be sent to Bob Bragg the 911 Radio Administrator. When reporting radio problems always obtain a trouble ticket number. After hours notify the 911 shift supervisor of any issues.

**FIRE SCHOOL:** Carl Avery, Program Coordinator, submitted the following report.

#### Hours of use:

- ☛ From 11/15/07 to 12/17/07 there were 29 events held through your Fire School, totaling 156 hours of Training / Use. This number makes December our 11<sup>th</sup> busiest of the year. Some of this decline is attributed to the Holiday season and adverse weather. Our Facility continues to average 8 hours of use a day, **every day (Weekends and Holidays included)** of the year. As of close of business on Sunday December 16, 2007 **the annual total of hours is 2933 Hours. Please note that Next Years Hours will be tracked by Calendar Month and not based on a Meeting to Meeting Basis.**

#### New Vehicle Technology Update

- ☛ On the weekend of December 7, 8 and 9<sup>th</sup> Your Fire School working in conjunction with Manchester Twp Fire Department, The Borough of North York (Liberty) Fire Department, Springettsbury Twp Fire Department and Spring Garden Twp Fire Department brought Mr. David Dalrymple to our County to present on the

latest information on New Vehicle Technologies and how they will impact on us as Fire/Rescue Personnel. **The 3 – one day classes had a total attendance of 120 Firefighters.** The students ranked this program as Very Good based on analysis of Class Evaluation forms. With 1 being Poor and 5 being Excellent; the average over 12 areas of evaluation was 4.3. The Fire School is still collecting Data and will meet with the Departments who helped sponsor this class to evaluate if we will schedule a similar program next year.

#### The ENTRY LEVEL Program:

- ☛ Our next ELIS class, to be followed by the next two classes of the Entry Level Series, is set for the beginning in January of 2008. **The date for this course to begin is January 13, 2008. This will be a Weekend Series of Classes, Typically meeting 08:00 – 17:00 on Sundays**
- ☛ The Interior Firefighter class with Instructor Rick Witten as the lead instructor for the class, culminated with a Live Burn at Lancaster Public Safety Training Center on December 1<sup>st</sup>
- ☛ Our next Entry Level Interior Firefighter class has not been scheduled as of yet. We are waiting to get a firm time line on the new building and to get an estimate of potential Students for this Class from new Entry Level series that is beginning in January. Fire Instructor Hoover has tentatively been selected as the lead instructor for this program.
- ☛ We are planning on, once again, offering a Day-time Entry level program over the summer months (ELIS and ELFG) – no dates have been set as of yet

#### Firefighter I Testing

- ☛ It is anticipated we will be switching over to the PA State Pro-Board in 2008, rather than working with BUCKS County Public Safety Training Center. As the PA State Pro-board system requires documented participation in SBS Class, we will wait until we can have a reasonable prediction of completion of the burn building before we schedule the next test

#### New Classes Scheduled:

- ☛ **Coming in 2008, We are working with PAg (Penn State) Rescue training to bring you the following courses:** Intro to Farm Emergencies, Managing Tractor Emergencies, Managing Farm Machinery Entanglements, Farm Chemical Emergencies, Farm Confined Space Awareness, Farm Confined Space Operations
- ☛ **The Fire School Supports Fire training both here and in your station. We can assist you with course applications and will post your classes on our web site. Please Check Added courses for General Fire Service courses and check the Fire police link for Fire Police Classes**

#### Current and Future Schedule:

- ☛ The 2007 schedule is available online at our web site [www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org](http://www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org) , just click on the [Click Here to See Available Classes](#) link on the home page.
- ☛ **Be sure to check out the website for the latest Updates [www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org](http://www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org)**
- ☛ **A 2008 Schedule is still being worked on. We do have several classes scheduled Including Haz-Mat, Basic Vehicle Rescue Programs, Confined Space, Rural Water Movement etc. WE ARE PLANNING ON ADDING OTHERS- Two factors have come into play several instructors are in the midst of Job Changes (Either promotional or re-organization based) this has made it difficult to get commitments for class dates etc. We hope to see this resolved shortly and then we can add the new classes. Lobar Construction has assured us their willingness to work with us and we have assured them of our desire to eliminate or minimize any impact we could have on their progress with the new facility**

#### Burn Building and Scheduling:

- ☛ We are moving forward on the NEW Building. The First Floor Columns, Base of the Tower and the Ground floor have all been poured. Construction is continuing and hopes are to have the second floor poured by the end of this year. The Board of Governors intends for us to stay open and continue to offer classes throughout construction.

**This may require some flexibility to meet everyone's needs  
Yours' and the Instructors' Cooperation will help us meet this goal**

**YORK COUNTY ATR:** John Sanford reported 1 response for the month. There will be a Public Education demo at Station 63 on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in attending contact Chief Miller. January 27<sup>th</sup> there will be an ice rescue class – interested parties contact John Sanford.

**OEM:** No Report. The Hazmat trucks have been moved to the new emergency services facility.

**FIRE POLICE:** Jim Robertson reported elections for the association were held in November – no change in officers.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- President Rupert asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion to pay the bills by John Fornadel second by Chief Shank. Motion carried.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Rob Bissey reported the following people running for office in 2008.

- President – Skip Rupert
- Vice President – Joe Yahnke
- Secretary – open (recommendation of appointment of Heather Marsteller if no member from the Association steps forward to run)
- Treasurer – Bob Bowman
- Board of Governors (2) – John Senft  
John Fornadel  
Kerry Herman

Anyone wishing to run for and office please submit your name to Chief Shank, Rob Bissey, or Chief Buffington. Discussion followed on a contingency plan for the Secretary's position – office still open to any member who would like to run.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chief Shank attended the SCCTTF Decon Strike Force meeting and they are requesting a representative from the Association to attend the meetings – someone from a 3<sup>rd</sup> class municipality to attend with Chiefs Shank and Buffington. President Rupert asked for a volunteer.

**REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

- Chief Senft thanked all the departments who assisted on the multiple alarm, multiple fatality, fire over the past weekend. He spoke about figures and stats for calls in the city of York regarding the number of fatalities and injuries.
- Chief Wolfgang spoke about Snap On Fire Hose – product came out in 1986, the hose is ultra lite with a yellow liner inside. If you have this hose and the liner appears loose take it out of service. The liner can become sucked back into the pump and be a costly repair. The ones with the black liners are good.
- Joe Snyder is no longer the Assistant Chief in Airville – due to personal issues. There will be a benefit banquet for Joe on January 12<sup>th</sup> for anyone who would like to attend. Contact an officer from Station 55 for details.
- President Rupert wished everyone a Happy Holiday and announced that the annual meeting was being held at Hellam Fire Company on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The meal will be served at 1900 followed by the meeting at 1930. Elections will be held at this meeting.
  - Bob Bowman suggested the elections be held early in the meeting so there is not so much waiting around for votes to be counted. Skip will work out the details.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Bowman. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Annual meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, January 21, 2008, at the Hellam Fire Company. Meal will be served at 7:00 pm.

Sincerely,

*Cindy A. Dietz*

Cindy A. Dietz, Secretary