

Fire Chiefs & Fire Fighters Association of York County, Inc.

P. O. BOX 106
330 EMIG ROAD
EMIGSVILLE, PA 17318



MONTHLY MEETING
THIRD MONDAY

January 17, 2005

President Skip Rupert called the annual meeting of the Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association of York County Inc. to order and led the pledge to the flag. Seventy-four people were in attendance. Skip introduced Ken Fahringer, President of the Hellam Fire Company who then gave the welcoming address. President Rupert followed up with the response and thanked the Hellam Fire Company, President Fahringer, and the kitchen staff for a wonderful meal.

Roll call was taken. Thirty-two departments out of sixty-five were represented and reported.

President Rupert introduced Bob Ditzel from the York City Fire Department. Bob spoke on the upcoming 2005 Convention being hosted by York City.

- The dinner will be on Friday night 8/19 at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 241 East King Street. Parking will be in the lots off Mason Alley.
- Parade forms at the fairgrounds at the Expo Center. Judging and staging will be at Memorial Hall.
- The parade will exit gate #2 (Madison Avenue). The gate opening is 11' 6" wide. Make note on your registration form if your apparatus is larger than that.
- Saturday 8/20 there will be a luncheon held at the fairgrounds in the Old Main Building. It will be a Bar-B-Que.
- Parade route – East on Market Street to Duke Street and then left onto Philadelphia Street.
- Any available County Fire Police that can assist with traffic control contact York City Fire. There will be 13 intersections that will need manned.
- It will be the 225th anniversary of the Vigilant Fire Company; they will be sponsoring the convention and have mugs on sale now for \$6.00. They will also have t-shirts for sale at a later date.

President Rupert introduced the new Fire Chiefs for 2005 that were present:

Bill Carlisle – Fairview Township Fire Department
Ron McCullough – Glen Rock Fire Department
Joe Hildebrand – Jacobus Fire Department
Ken Arnold – Craley Fire Department

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published. President Rupert asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. John Fornadel made the motion, seconded by Chief Stevens. Motion carried.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chairman John Senft reported meeting with the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. The following items were discussed:

- County Commissioners approved the budget for \$180,000.00.
- How to fund capitol projects.
- Long term planning.
- Reported that Fire School Committee Chairman Bern Anthony would be giving up the chairman position, due to time constraints. He will remain on the committee to help out.
- Thanked Hellam Fire Company for a great dinner.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Rupert read correspondence from Kay Carman regarding last month's inquiry on out of state mutual aid agreements for Hazmat teams. Skip will be contacting Kay to keep things moving.

RADIO COMMITTEE: Rob Bissey reported that the committee met on January 13th. Utility 43 was approved. The Funeral/Retirement Policy was discussed. Rob read the amended policy the committee agreed upon. President Rupert asked the body if they wanted to vote on it this month or next month. Chief Griffith made a motion to have the policy emailed out with the minutes so everyone could have a chance to look it over and then vote on it next month. Second by Dave Gemmill. Motion Carried.

911: Rob Sterner reported on the following:

- Received licensing for T-band, which allows for more capacity than we will need. There are still a few outstanding 450 licenses, which he needs to act on. A contract was finalized with L. Robert Kimball last week for the radio portion of the project and they are ready to move forward.
- Handed out price breakdown lists for the radios, using the state contract prices so departments can begin their budget planning. Early in the second quarter of 2005 Rob said he would be requesting additional information on radio totals from each department. He said he would need to get information again in the first quarter of 2006 to refine the numbers. He asks that departments be patient with him.
 - Radio equipment delivery – 3rd quarter of 2006.
 - 1st quarter of 2007 – Fire Company funds would be due.
 - The leaseback option would also be available at this time, to be paid back over 3 years.
- CAD demos were done 2 or 3 weeks ago. Two vendors were asked to come back for second demos. A decision on the CAD is to be made by the end of the week and officially presented to the Commissioners at the end of the month.
- Building project - building construction will begin in the 1st quarter of 2006, and will take 16 months to complete.

Rob then took questions from the body on paging, radios, and the building project. Discussion followed.

Cindy Dietz reported on the following:

- The Firehouse Software upgrade at the 911 Center has been completed. She can now receive reports in the 6.0 format. Departments who have received their software and have not yet completed their upgrade were encouraged to do so. She said that Chief Stokes had contacted Firehouse Software and they advised him their deadline to have the software completely distributed is by February 15, 2005. If you do not receive your update and have paid your maintenance fee contact Firehouse Software directly to inquire on about your software.
- Reminder to new Chiefs to make sure she has your email address and officers list for 2005. Sheets are available to fill out tonight if you need one.
- Introduced Brandy Bayman the new Police/Fire/EMS Coordinator. Her email address is bjbayman@york-county.org.
- Brandy is working on updating the Resource Manual for 2005 and the Departmental Information any updates you may have should be submitted by the end of the month. When completed the Resource manual and the Department Information will be emailed to all Chiefs. An updated printable copies of the Resource Manual will also be kept on the DES website.
- Met with Chiefs Shank, Roth, Carlisle, Krichten, Dietz and Halpin to review and modify the CAD Boxes. They are part of a CAD advisory team who will make recommendations on behalf of the fire service.
- The final deadline for CAD boxes will be March 1st. A list of departments who owe CAD boxes is available if you need to check tonight. Department Chiefs who still owe CAD boxes must contact Cindy within the next two weeks to let her know they are working on them, or a letter will be sent to their municipality advising them the County will be completing their fire responses.

Chief Snyder asked about standardized responses for CAD, stating they would make life for the dispatchers and those dealing with CAD much easier. Chief Snyder was asked to get his ideas to Chief Shank.

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

Statement:

Our January Essential Class has been begun and is full with 30 Students and has gotten our year off to a good start. Our Carbon Monoxide Class was also well attended with 29 students in attendance. Unfortunately we did have to cancel the Confined Space Rescue Class. It is hoped that when this class is

offered again more will take advantage of it. With this in mind, we have scheduled several ropes and rigging classes this year that may bolster attendance, as they are prerequisites for this class.

Work has been completed on an initial 2005 schedule. We still have some room for additional classes and they will be added throughout the year as they become available. As of this report, we have scheduled over 72 Classes for the coming year. We will be mailing and e-mailing out Schedule information beginning this week. Also, the applications for the Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge will start going out this week. Your School Staff continues to work to improve our communications with all fire and rescue personnel in and around York County; if you'd like to be on our E-mail list, please e-mail me your information at YorkCoFireSchool@aol.com and we will see that you are added to the list.

During the week of January 10th thru the 14th the fire school was the training site for a Tactical Explosive Entry School hosted by the Penn State University Police Hazardous Device Disposal Team in conjunction with The South Central Pennsylvania Regional Taskforce on Terrorism. This class taught members of the law enforcement community how to use explosive devices to force doors and breach walls. This valuable training provides another option for officers to use in crisis situations, one that may be lifesaving. As with any explosion, there was a degree of noise associated with this training. All detonations were under the supervision of trained Explosive technicians and all safety standards were adhered to. As such the fire school did receive calls of complaint and inquiry. Most of our neighbors did understand the value of this training and its necessity when it was explained to them. Bernadette Higgins, PIO of the County's EMA office, did help us with getting information out through mass media. The Fire School will work on this, as well as other options, to keep the public informed and to alleviate any fears.

The next Firefighter I Certification test is set for July 15 & 16, 2005. Please take advantage of the classes we have scheduled for this spring to MAKE SURE YOU ARE READY for the test in July. I **STRONGLY** emphasize the point that potential Candidates should make sure they have a Minimum of a **Hazardous Awareness** and that **it will be current on the test dates**; this also goes for **First Aid** and **Professional Rescuer CPR**. They should also make sure they have a **DOCUMENTED Structural Burn Session (one of these is scheduled on March 12 & 13 and another one is Scheduled for June 18th & 19 [the June class, however, may not leave you enough time to get your certificates back prior to test], here at YOUR FIRE SCHOOL)**. Also we will have a **Fire Fighter I review class** in June; those who take the review class tend to do much better on the test process.

The 2005 Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge has been sanctioned by TERCUSA. The Competition Identification Number is 200505USA02. This regional Extrication Challenge will take place May 6 – 8, 2005. Rescue Teams from the Northeastern United States as well as guests from other parts of the United States and Canada will be welcomed to attend this event at your hometown Fire School. We have interest expressed by teams from New York, New Jersey, and South Carolina. There is even a rumor that a York County Fire Company will be sending a team. We are working on the applications and other issues and hope to be sending out the application in the next few weeks. Skip Rupert is the event Chairman and Program Coordinator Carl Avery will manage the event

Mark down September 30, October 1 & 2, 2005 for another extrication event, the Extrication Challenge Workshop. This event, geared toward Junior Fire & Rescue teams, is one the best hands-on training formats for future rescuers. If you have a team of juniors, it is not too early to plan for this Fall. Contact your Fire School and we (Mr. Rupert and I) will be glad to help you get started.

Your Fire School is scheduled for 156 hours of use this month. This represents a 295% increase in scheduled hours for the school from last January. While this is an impressive number we do not predict that this rate of increased use will follow through the rest of 2005. We do anticipate that our numbers will remain on an upward swing through out 2005 though. The total usage hours for the year 2004 were 2359.5 hours. With that information the average Monthly usage is 196.6 hours per month. To put that in perspective, if we held one class session that lasted eight hours a day, five days a week every week we'd only have our facilities in use for 160 hours per month. To compare that a little further, the total hours for one eight hour class held here 5 days a week for the entire year would be 1920 as compared to the 2359.5 stated above, or a difference of 439.5 hours.

Your Fire School can and does Schedule Classes, bring in the top local and world-class instructors, and have the facilities to bring you some of the best training available. However if WE DON'T HAVE YOU, we have nothing! Without students there is no class! It is up to YOU, the Fire Officers, Firefighter and Rescue personnel of York County, to take advantage of the programs we offer.

The Coordinator's office, after consultation with the board of governors, has made reservations for Carl Avery and Skip Rupert to attend the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis. Dan Hoff and Bernard Anthony were also prospective attendees but they asked that their names be withdrawn due to time constraints.

The initial draft of a Facility Use Guidelines for Company/Departmental Level Training Structural Burn Building has been submitted to the Board of Governors. Further action is pending their review and recommendations for revisions.

Coming Events:

- ◆ Principles of Building Construction (Combustible), 16 hours, Jan. 26 & 27 (18:30-22:30) and Jan. 29th 08:00-17:00
- ◆ Incident Safety Officer, 16 hours, Feb. 1 & 3 (18:30-22:30) and Feb. 5 08:00- 17:00
- ◆ Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts, 16 Hours Feb. 8 & 10 (18:30-22:30) and Feb. 13 (08:00 -17:00)
- ◆ Terrorism Operation, Domestic Preparedness, 8 hours, Feb. 14 & 16 (18:30-22:30)
- ◆ Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVOC), 16 hours, Feb. 15 & 17 (18:30-22:30) and Feb. 19 (08:00 – 17:00)
- ◆ Hazardous Materials, First Responder Operations (IAFF), 24 hours, Feb. 20, 26 & 27 (08:00 – 17:00)
- ◆ Hazardous Materials, First Responder AWARENES (RIHM), 4 hours, Feb. 21 (18:30 – 22:30)
- ◆ Haz-Mat Awareness REFRESHER (HMAR), 1.5 hours, March 1 (18:30-20:00)
- ◆ Haz- Mat Operations REFRESHER (HMOR), 5.5 hour, March 1 & 2 (18:30 – 21:30)
- ◆ Pump Operations I (PUOP), 16 hours, March 6 (08:00-17:00) and March 8 & 10 (18:30 -22:30)
- ◆ Confined Space Rescue (CSR), 16 hours, March 7, 9, 14, 16 (18:30-22:30)
- ◆ BUS RESCUE (BRES), 16 hours, March 12 & 13 (08:00 – 17:00)
- ◆ MASON-DIXON EXTRICATION CHALLENGE May 6, 7 and 8. 2005, 08:00-17:00

Projects:

1. We are evaluating a collection of hand tools and equipment that will be used in classes. (Tools likely to be encountered in obtaining Professional Cert per NFPA 1001 i.e.: Firefighter I)
 2. Initial research and planning for the remodeling of a portion of the existing ladder shed into a Command Post/Field Office has begun. This will be a project scheduled for completion in 2005
 3. A Forcible Entry Training Station will be discussed at this month's board meeting.
 4. The new pick-up/plow truck has arrived and is in service.
 5. The alarm service is working on upgrading our alarm system. We do not have any more information on upgrading as of this time.
 6. All other projects pending approval of 2005 budget proposal.
- Bern Anthony reported that the Fire School Committee met and came up with a 5-year plan, which was turned over to the Board of Governors. He also has Essentials Class certificates with him from the December class.
 - President Rupert said that sign up sheet would be posted for Mason Dixon Weekend; need people for grunt work (Juniors will do or Adults). Free t-shirt for each day that they work.

YORK COUNTY ATR: Chief Cadden reported 15 calls for the year. He also said that they visited nine different stations this year and presented their overview of what the ATR Team does.

EMA: Tom Graybill reported 47 calls for the year for Hazmat. The Wrightsville fire had \$5,000,000.00. in damages.

FIRE POLICE: No report.

NOMINATIONS: Chief Wolfgang read the following nominees for office:

President - Skip Rupert, *Vice President* - Brian Bastinelli and Steve Dietz, *Secretary* - Cindy Dietz, *Treasurer* - Bob Bowman, *Board of Governors* - Barry Myers.

President Rupert opened nominations to the floor.

- President – Skip Rupert. Motion to close by Chief Keith Miller, second by Chief Stevens. Office Closed.
- Vice President – Chief Brian Bastinelli and Chief Steve Dietz. Motion to close by John Fornadel, second by Bob Bowman. Office Closed.
- Secretary – Cindy Dietz. Motion to close by Rob Bissey, second by Albert Shaffer. Office Closed.
- Treasurer – Bob Bowman. Motion to close by Chief Stevens, second by Albert Shaffer. Office Closed.
- Board of Governors – Chief Barry Myers. Motion to close by Rob Bissey, second by Chief Senft. Office Closed.

President Rupert asked for a motion from the floor that the secretary cast one unanimous vote for all unopposed offices. Motion Made by Chief Hale. Seconded by John Fornadel. Motion Carried.

President Rupert then pulled numbers and gave out door prizes while waiting for the votes to be counted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the bills. Motion made by Commissioner Roth to pay the bills, seconded by Chief Stevens. Motion carried.
- Rob Bissey announced he will remain on the Radio Committee but does not want to chair the committee any longer. He said he would continue to do the licenses. President Rupert thanked Rob for a job well done for so many years. The body gave Rob a standing ovation in appreciation of his years of service.

NEW BUSINESS:

- New Vice President for 2005 is Chief Steve Dietz.
Election Results –
President Skip Rupert
Vice President Steve Dietz
Secretary Cindy Dietz
Treasurer Bob Bowman
BOG – Barry Myers

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- President Rupert thanked Lori Gillen from VFIS for all the help she has given the Association.
- Bob Ditzel reminded everyone that the next Firefighters Association Meeting is February 17th in Windsor. He said they meet quarterly and need more people to attend.
- Lori Gillen reported that there would be a meeting on Saturday January 22, 2005 at 9:00 am at the Holiday Inn in Mechanicburg to go over Senate Resolution 60. Bill Genoway is the committee chair. The State Fireman's Association and the Legislative Federation will be meeting.
- Chief Witten thanked everyone for all their support at the funeral last month. He urged departments to check their insurance policies on their firefighters. They may not be as good as you think.
- Bern Anthony thanked Barry Myers for all his assistance this past year.
- Chief Stevens reminded everyone that St. Patrick's Day is in March and St. Baldricks is coming again. He encouraged everyone to grow out their hair so they could have it shaved off.
- Dave Gemmill explained what SR 60 was and what its purpose was. Carl Avery suggested we have someone present it at the Fire School.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Bowman. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

The following station still owes dues for 2003/2004 – DDSP-LF – Station 69

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, February 21, 2005 at the York County Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary