

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

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



MONTHLY MEETING
THIRD MONDAY

January 19, 2004

President Skip Rupert called the annual meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters Association to order. Fifty members were in attendance. New Bridgeville Fire Company hosted the meeting. Fire Company President Don Harlacker gave the welcoming address. President Rupert gave the response thanking the ladies auxiliary and Fire Company for a wonderful dinner. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted. President Rupert urged new chiefs who are not receiving minutes by email to contact the secretary with their email address. Bob Bowman presented the treasurer's report. There was a motion by Bruce Yingling, second by Dan Deller to accept the treasurer's report. Motion Carried.

Roll call was taken.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chief Senft reported the Board met prior to the meeting and discussed the following items.

- Discussed the transition of assets for the Hazmat Team.
- Discussed the transition of day-to-day business functions for the new coordinator.
- Attorney Mike Craley was present to answer any questions regarding the Hazmat Team transition.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Rob Bissey reported the Committee met on January 8, 2004 at Station 24-2. Two representatives from EMSA were present. The following was discussed.

- Med 10 designations and discipline for those caught abusing the Med 10 radio system.
 - Checked for any updates or if they were arranging to receive Incident Command Training.
 - Audrey Rychalsky is to meet with EMSA Radio Committee to discuss designations and radio abuse further since the county holds the license.
- Approved the following designations for the Fire Radio.
 - EMA-91
 - Deputy 24
 - Engine 46-1 and Engine 46-2 (upgrades)
 - Engine 19-2 (to replace Rescue 19)
 - Chief 49-1
 - Rescue 49-1
 - Brush 49-1
- Quality Assurance at 9-1-1 is again asking that you do not use the Comm Center as a personal answering service.
 - Please throw my gear on the truck is an unacceptable request.
 - Do not call and question the dispatcher while a call is going on – questions or problems should go to the shift supervisor.
- Next meeting will be held February 12, 2004 at the Water Company on Mount Rose Avenue at 7pm.

911: Audrey Rychalsky reported that the 9-1-1 center now has a registered domain name and is in the process of building a website. You can visit it at www.ycdes.org. If there is anything you would like to see on the website in particular email her or Cindy at the 9-1-1 Center.

- Cindy Dietz reminded departments to get their Officer's Information Sheets in to Bill at the 9-1-1 Center as soon as possible so the mailing lists and email addresses could be updated and then redistributed.

FIRE SCHOOL: Carl Avery reported that Paul Shaefer was in the hospital for the past few days; he was admitted on Saturday. He should be back home on Wednesday. Carl then reported on the following items and distributed a calendar of events and classes that have been arranged for the coming year.

- The School's Flag is at half-mast in honor of the Line of Duty Deaths of a Philadelphia Fire Fighter and a Maryland Line Fire Fighter. Both died on 1/15/04 under individual circumstances.
- Work continues on the School's new Website. The BOG is reviewing a prototype version. There are plans to meet, work out the details, and implement the program at the February BOG Meeting.
- Essentials Class began on January 15th. The class has 40 persons registered. The next Essentials Class will begin on June 14th and run Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 0900 until 1300. There will also be a Fire Ground Operations Course (HACC modular system) beginning June 15th at 1830.
- The Instructors group met January 14th and worked on establishing a calendar for the year. Copies of the calendar are available tonight. This is still a work in progress and will continue to be updated.
- Bucks County Community College will be conducting an instructor's update at the Fire School on January 21st.
- The 9-1-1 Center will be using the School for training during the day on January 26th and 27th.
- Manchester and Springettsbury Townships will be utilizing the school's facilities (Classroom and Smoke Maze) on January 21st.
- February 7th the School will have an HMOR (Haz-Mat Operations Review Class) Instructor: Steve Lane, there are openings
- February 11th will be the first class of IAFF (Haz-Mat Operations) Instructor: Steve Lane, there are openings.
- On February 14th and 15th York County EMA will be conducting a Haz-Mat Technicians Refresher Course. Register through Tom Graybill at the Department of Emergency Services.
- There will be an ERT: BC Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts Class at the Fire School on February 28th and 29th. Instructor: Steve Lane, there are openings.

HAZMAT: President Rupert reported that Hammer 20 did not re-certify on January 14, 2004 due to circumstances beyond the BOG's control. He said a letter had been sent to the County Commissioners prior to January 14 detailing this. Also prior to the 14th a meeting was held with Kay Carman and EMA and at that time discussions were had about them taking over the Hazmat responsibility. On January 17th the BOG met and discussed the option and decided to turn Hazmat over to the County. It was decided that the Association would retain absorbent, booms, training suits, and a hand truck to be used for training purposes at the school. The remainder of the Hazmat team's equipment and supplies would be turned over to the York County EMA Hazmat Team. The Fire School Team is no longer responding on calls. Skip thanked members from the team who were present for their service over the years.

- Carl Avery inquired as to whether or not the equipment can respond if needed in another capacity.
 - President Rupert stated that anything owned by the Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association that could assist may respond.
 - Chief Senft clarified that the Fire School is no longer a response agency.
- Tony Surtasky asked what would become of the Hazmat equipment?
 - President Rupert said it would be transferred to the County.

- Chief Bill Hoover asked whom they would get when they request a Hazmat Team?
 - Tom Graybill said that he and Jim Welty from the EMA Office would respond. In addition Hazmat 51 will be dispatched. Tom or Jim if needed may also request Mutual Aid from other counties. At this time they have many verbal agreements and are working on getting them all to be written agreements.
 - The EMA Office is accepting applications from anyone interested in joining the County Hazmat Team.
- Chief Tony Myers asked about having the team from Baltimore County dispatched in his area since they are closest.
 - Tom advised they are keeping Mutual Aid to teams in Pennsylvania only due to the fact that PA ACT 165 states, only certified teams can respond to a Hazmat incident within Pennsylvania. Adams, Dauphin, and Lancaster Counties have contracts for certified teams. Harford, Baltimore, and Carroll Counties in Maryland have teams, but they are not certified to run into Pennsylvania. Requests for their assistance may only come from a contracted team.
- Grangeville Hazmat – no report.

SPECIAL RESCUE TASK FORCE: Coordinator Tony Myers reported three calls for the year. Fifteen team members will be re-certifying in surface ice rescue.

- Team members will be happy to come out and do presentations on the team at individual stations. Contact Tony Myers or any team member to set this up.

NOMINATIONS: President Rupert opened nominations to the floor.

- President – Skip Rupert. Motion to close by Chief Bissey, second by Chief Shenk. Office Closed.
- Vice President – Brian Bastinelli. Motion to close by Bob Bowman, second by Chief Yingling. Office Closed.
- Secretary – Cindy Dietz. Motion to close by Bob Bowman, second by Rick Witten. Office Closed.
- Treasurer – Bob Bowman. Motion to close by Chief Keith Miller, second by Chief Hoover. Office Closed.
- Board of Governors – (nominees not available for minutes) Motion to close by Chief Keith Miller, second by Rick Witten. Office Closed.
- Election Results –
 - President Skip Rupert
 - Vice President Brian Bastinelli
 - Secretary Cindy Dietz
 - Treasurer Bob Bowman
 - BOG - Dave Gemmill
 - Jan Cromer
- While waiting on the vote counts, the following new Chiefs were recognized.
 - Chief 43 – Scott Gingerich
 - Chief 39 – Ron Witmer
 - Chief 54 – Ira Walker
 - Chief 18 – Bob Kroh
 - Chief 47 – Troy Snyder
 - Chief 35 – Dan Deller
 - Chief 2 – George Boyer
 - Deputy Chief 58 – Kevin Hale
 - Deputy Chief 43 – Mike Smithson

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS: Tom Graybill reported that on March 15th – 19th there would be a WMD Symposium being held at HACC. The Terrorism Task Force has free spots available, if you are interested in attending contact Tom.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: President Rupert stated that there would be a new BOG members meeting with the old BOG members immediately following this meeting. They will decide on the new Rescue Spec Committee at that time. Bob Bowman presented the bills. Motion made by Chief Hoover and seconded by Dep. Chief Hale to pay the bills. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: President Rupert introduced Association Attorney Michael Craley. Attorney Craley spoke about the Hazmat resolution and then it for the body.

- Tony Surtasky asked where the equipment would be kept in the future?
 - President Rupert advised he would be working with the EMA Office to come up with a solution.
- Chief Walker asked about monies from outstanding bills?
 - President Rupert stated that money would come in to the school. The old Hazmat bank account would stay with the Association.
- Chief Snyder asked how long it would be until it takes effect.
 - If the members vote to accept the Resolution a meeting will be scheduled to finalize the transition.
- **Point of Order** – Commissioner Roth took a few minutes to explain the origin of the Hazmat Team. He explained that the County funded the Hazmat Team and now we are simply turning it back over.
- Chief Shenk made a motion to accept the Resolution, seconded by Chief Bissey. Motion carried.
- President Rupert asked if the Association was going to be sending anyone to FDIC this year.
 - Chief Senft made a motion to send Carl Avery as a delegate to FDIC. John Fornadel seconded the motion.
 - Commissioner Roth amended the motion to send two delegates one of them being Carl Avery. Motion Carried.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: Fire Company President Don Harlacker invited everyone to stay and look at the equipment after the meeting. He thanked everyone for coming and cautioned members to drive safe.

- Bern Anthony reported he had the certificates for the November Essentials Class. He also spoke about hazards associated with Yankee Candles and recent reports of structure fires attributed to them.
- Chief Witmer reported that they would be hosting a Hazmat Ops Class March 7th and a Pump Ops Class on March 2nd, 3rd, 9th, and 10th at Station 39 if anyone were interested in attending.
- Chief Senft said he would like to recognize Paul Shaefer and the Hazmat Team Members as both transition. Chief Senft also introduced, Mike Shanabrough as the newly appointed City EMA Coordinator responsible for the planning in York City.

Motion made by Bob Bowman to adjourn, seconded by Chief Miller.

Meeting adjourned by President Rupert.

The following stations still owe dues for 2003/2004 –Seven Valleys, DDSP-LF, Lake Aldred, and McSherrystown.

Next meeting scheduled at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 16, 2004 at the Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary