

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

**330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406**



**Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday**

March 16, 2009

President Rick Shank called the monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order and led the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence. 59 people were in attendance.

Prior to the start of the meeting Dick Sterner, from the American Red Cross, gave a presentation of the services they offer to firefighters and any fire victims that may need assistance.

President Rick Shank asked for a motion to approve the minutes as published. 1st: Chief Buffington 2nd: John Fornadel Motion Passed

Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the balances of the treasurer's report.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chief John Senft: The Board met prior to this evening. We did not have a quorum. We made progress on some things. We are drawn down the funding. We have reviewed cash flow issues, and looking to pay the principal of the line of credit.

COMMUNICATIONS: Chief Buffington: There will be a meeting this Wednesday.

911: Eric Bistline: We are progressing along very well. We have been getting back good comments from everyone. We are still tracking the trouble tickets. The schedule for Fire Service cut over is now looking like the following: Profiling the radios from the end of April to the middle of May. During the month of June, training will be conducted. There should be a 30 minute training video available showing the York County radios, and how to work them. It is looking like a cut over date sometime in the middle of July with both the Fire & EMS.

Paging Issues: Two towers in the southern end of the county had issues, but have since been fixed (Red Lion & Cross Roads).

Several chiefs brought up some of their issues/concerns they have been having.

- Chief Buffington brought up the topic of only doing a partial cut-over to the system, instead of everyone. That way if an issue is to come up, it will be noticed earlier with the busier departments.
- It was asked about updates on the Fire Cap codes, some departments are not receiving them.
- Chief Krichten brought up the concern that his department may be responding to two separate calls, and one box is canceled. Well which call or piece of equipment is canceled? It was asked if 911 could include a box # or apparatus number on the paging update.
- Chief Brenneman stated that there was a Petition to release box the box alarm maps to everyone who wanted them. It will be discussed in New Business

We are still working on the issue involving the black screens on the pagers. The company says they have cracks in the screens, but you can't see them.

Bank Charger Issues:

There are not enough of the BC3000 chargers to go around, so that is not an option anymore. They will be around to repair or replace the bank chargers with new ones. At that time, they will also fix the issues with the portables, batteries, the chargers. They will fix everything one time, and should not have to come back.

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

Activity:

- ☛ For the month of February, the Fire School hosted 62 events, which accounted for 288 hours of activity. This resulted in an outstanding 4606 Student hours. **NO YCFS sponsored classes had to be canceled during this month**

LODD Investigation Presentation:

- ☛ In April of 2007 the Prince William County (Virginia) Department of Fire and Rescue (PWCF&R) experienced the Line of Duty Death of Technician I, Kyle Robert Wilson in a residential fire. Now the PWCF&R is graciously offering to have members of their LODD Investigation team to come here to York County and present on their findings. The LODD Investigation team produced a 179 + page report of their detailed investigation and recommendations. The presentation is approximately 3 Hours in length. Persons who have attended these presentations before highly recommend it for its content and format.

Please let me know, what is a better time for me to schedule this event: A – as an evening class, during the week, or, B – as a day time class, during the weekend?

- Your Fire school has a copy of the report and the accompanying NIOSH report
- Let us Never Forget, Let us always Learn, Let us reduce the number of LODDs by building on the experiences of others

Stricter Standards in 2009:

- ☛ Bucks Community College has announced it will be strictly following its standards of attendance at courses. **THE MINIMUM OF 15 for MOST CLASSES MUST BE ADHERED TO!** If we fail to have enough Students pre-registered 10 days prior to a class, it will be canceled.
 - Classes involving **LIVE FIRE TRAINING** must have a **MINIMUM of 20** to run – This means, for example, If and ELIF (Entry Level – Interior Firefighter) class has a roster of less than 20, but more than 15 it will run, but will conclude with a skills day instead of a live fire. Classes such as Structural Burn Session (SBS) and SBS refreshers **MUST** have a minimum of 20 students.
 - Payment in lieu of enrollment, The College does have a formula for payment in lieu of enrollment it is as follows
 - Classes up to 6 hours, \$20.00 per student under the minimum
 - Courses over 6 hours, \$50.00 per student under the minimum
- ☛ The Fire School Committee is reviewing these stricter standards and their impact on the courses taught for ideas as to how we can best assure training opportunities to you, our consumers, while maintaining fiscal responsibility

The ENTRY LEVEL Program:

- ☛ Fire Instructor William Staub has prepared a schedule for the ELFG class that **begins on April 11**, check out our flyers or the website http://www.yorkcountfireschool.org/ycfs_courses.html for details
- ☛ The regular Spring Series of the Entry Level Programs (ELIS, ELFG, ELEF) is currently **FULL (* this does not include the classes listed above)** We are still accepting pre-registrations **ON A STAND-BY BASIS** (This means, if for any reason a student who was preregistered does not show up for the first day of class – for any reason, there spot will be filled by somebody on the stand-by list and is present).
 - **Instructor Staub May also have some opening available in his “EL” series**
- ☛ The fourth segment of our Spring Entry Level Series, Entry Level Interior Firefighter is scheduled to begin on May 30th; we anticipate this class filling rapidly.

Current and Future Schedule:

- ☛ The 2009 schedule is available online at our web site www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org, just click on the [Click Here to See Available Classes](#) link on the home page.
- ☛ The 2009 Schedule has been published. **We are constantly updating it.** Watch your department / company Mailings for **Updates and New Classes**. We will also **update our Website with new additions (including 2009) as they come along.**
- ☛ York County Fire School will host a class from SafeIR. It is titled Tactical Thermal Imaging Training for Firefighters. This well respected company (they have presented at FDIC; some members from local departments have attended their presentations and speak highly of them) will present a 2 day class on the tactical use of TICs. The class would be product specific to MSA Thermal Imaging Cameras (this company is recognized by MSA to present this training). The class and the efforts to bring it here to you in York County are the direct result of your feedback requesting additional training in Thermal Imaging.
 - **THE CLASS IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 15 & 16, 2009**
- ☛ **COOPERATION IS KEY – The FIRE SCHOOL’s schedule is packed tight this year, several weekend we have multiple classes going on. The Fire Instructors have really stepped up in their cooperative efforts to maximize training on our existing training area. Student need to recognize this also, if multiple classes are being conducted on the drill grounds, Students should follow these simple guidelines**
 - **STAY WITH YOUR GROUP**
 - **STAY in you designated training area**

- FOLLOW STRICT ACCOUNTABILITY PROCEDURES
- BE DISCIPLINED follow you instructors direction and ALWAYS work through them
- ALWAYS THINK - SAFETY FIRST

Burn Building:

☛ SCHEDULING THE NEW BUILDING: The Fire School Committee is scheduled to present its proposed new "Use Policy" for the Structural Burn Building at tonight's Board Meeting. As soon as a policy has been adopted, we will start to consider scheduling the building for Live Fire Training. NON-LIVE fire training that uses the SBB is being scheduled now.

YORK COUNTY ATR: John Sanford: There were no calls for the month. Several members re-certified in ice rescue last month.

OEM: Tom Graybill: Tom handed out a list of Hazardous Materials.

HAZ-MAT TEAM: Bob Boeckel: There were numerous calls for the month. There were 2 hot responses in 24 hours. One was for mixing chemicals during an attempted suicide. It was off the shelf cleaning products that the person tried to use. Everyone needs to be aware of the potential hazards that are out there nowadays. There is a Haz-Mat Technician class being held on June 6th, 7th, 27th & 28th.

FIRE POLICE: James Robertson: Elections were held in February. All the members were elected back into position except for the Vice President. April 18th is our Annual banquet in Nashville. April 27th, will be our monthly meeting in held in Winterstown.

RESCUE SPECS: John Sanford: A motion was made to table the vote till next month 1st: President Shank 2nd: John Sanford Motion Passed

RIT COMMITTEE: Buffington: No Report

FIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Ryan Brenneman: We are waiting on the BOG on the Fee schedules. A motion was made to accept the use of the Burn Building Policy. 1st. Chris Krichten 2nd: Chief Buffington Motion Passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No Business

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made to pay the bills. 1st: Chief Buffington 2nd: Kris Krichten Motion Passed

President Shank brought up that last month he asked for volunteers for the Fire Prevention committee. He received one volunteer, and still need more volunteers. If he has to, next month he will appoint members.

A motion was made to release of the box alarms of every department and the maps to those who want them. The vote is needed to have them as they exist. 1st: Chief Brenneman 2nd: Chris Krichten Motion passed Chris Krichten asked if they could be put on the website. That will have to be looked into.

Chief Gingrich asked if the County has any protocols. He stated that he received a page that an ambulance was being sent to his area for a burn victim. 10 minutes later, his department was dispatched for smoke in a structure. Why wasn't it a structure response for the burn victim? President Shank said to talk to a Supervisor to file a complaint. Get a tracking number, and then follow up on the issue.

EMSA formed their own communications committee.

President Shank was asked by Jeff Joy to go to a meeting with the School Boards of York County on numbering and lettering of the schools. Is there a standard on how you number a building? No one can find anything. A motion was made that a group be formed and uniformly decide how to letter and number the schools.

1st: Commissioner Roth 2nd: Chief Shank Motion passed Chief Buffington was informed by President Shank to look into it.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Next monthly meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, April 20th, 2009, at Seven Valleys Fire Company.

Bern Anthony brought it up that he was approached by a homeowner who has two buildings in Stoverstown that are open to fire companies who want to use them for fire training. The DEP will not allow Live Fire, for it is too close to the road. They can still be used for forcible entry, ladder evolutions, etc. See him if you are interested.

Motion was made by Bob Bowman to adjourn the meeting. 2nd: Commissioner Roth Motion Passed

Sincerely,

Heather Marsteller

Heather Marsteller
Recording Secretary