

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

**330 Emig Road  
York, PA 17406**



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

March 17, 2008

Prior to the meeting, Commissioner James Roth and Chief Robert Stahl spoke about the Eastern Division International Association of Fire Chiefs 2008 Conference being held at the Heritage Hills Resort on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>. All are welcomed to attend.

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

President Rupert asked for a motion to accept the minutes as published. The minutes were approved.

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

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS:** Chief John Senft stated the board approved various change orders for the construction of the burn building. He also reported that we have received written notification from the State of Pennsylvania that we will be receiving 1.5 million dollars. John wanted to say that thanks to Senator Mike Waugh and his office for helping us receive the money. Cleaning contracts, grounds care, and a few miscellaneous items were also discussed at the board meeting.

**RADIO COMMUNICATIONS:** Assistant Chief Chris Krichten stated there was a meeting last Thursday night. The next meeting is scheduled next Wednesday night for the paging system.

Chief Dave Nichols brought up concern that this organization needs to press the county to get immediate feedback on getting talk groups for the fire service.

Chris Krichten states there are 78 channels available for the fire service. They are recorded, but not monitored. He says that you don't have to ask a dispatcher for a channel, just tell your personnel to go to that channel to communicate.

The Radio Committee consists of the following members: Chairman; Chief Richard Shank, Robert Bissey, John Fornadel, Chris Krichten, Steve Buffington, & Nate Kirchman.

**911:** Audrey Rychalsky reported Bob Brag is no longer working at the 911 center. She also stated is you are having issues with the radios, contact the supervisors. There is a meeting scheduled on March 26<sup>th</sup> about the paging system.

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

## **Activity:**

📣 For the month of February the Fire School hosted 35 events which accounted for 136 hours of activity, with 99 of those hours being scheduled classes. Two Hundred five students attended classes for a total of 2,317 student hour at the School last month. Even though we had fewer hours of classes for February than January, we did have more overall Student hours. The increase was 862 Student hours

- 📢 Classes scheduled, but not run due to insufficient enrollment:
  - Introduction to Volunteer Emergency Services Management – 4
  - Legal Aspect for the Fire Service – 4
  - NIMS 100 – 6
  - NIMS 700 – 1

### **Did you know that your Fire School has a video library of over 300 VHS Tapes and DVDs?**

- 📢 These valuable training resources are available for loan and have recently been used in Fire Officer I program conducted in East Prospect

### **High Speed Internet:**

- 📢 The following is an excerpt of E-mail up date from Amy LaPort, Account Manager, Double Dog Communication (the Firm we have engaged to obtain High Speed Internet):  
Here is the latest update on the High Speed Internet project. As you know, we tried to get service from 50 feet in the air, and unfortunately were not able to. So - our next alternative is to get service from the WARM tower. We have equipment up there, but we need permission from them to access it. We have tried to contact them about this a few times and have been told that their current priority is getting a new station up and running. They promised to talk to us about this opportunity in April. We will keep you posted on our progress. We know that you need high-speed access ASAP and are doing everything we can to get the best service to you as quickly as we can. We appreciate your patience.
- 📢 The Fire School intends on making weekly phone calls to verify the progress of this

### **The ENTRY LEVEL Program:**

- 📢 We addressed the “excess of students” we had with the January course with the scheduling of a second ELIS. This “second” ELIS course began on February 23, 2008. **We had 25 students registered for this course, 19 of which showed up for class.** We have not scheduled a “second ELFG Fire Ground Support Course” We do have ELFG courses scheduled for our Summer day time series and our Summer / Fall evening series.
- 📢 Our upcoming Entry Level Interior Firefighter class has now been scheduled. It is scheduled to begin on June 14<sup>th</sup> and run on Saturdays and some Sundays and is scheduled to conclude on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Fire Instructor Hoover has 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). This series of Classes is scheduled to begin June 18, 2008 with the ELIS (Introduction to the Fire Service) Class and to be followed up with the ELFG (Fire Ground Support) Class beginning July 7, 2008

### **Attendance:**

- 📢 **I cannot stress enough how important it is for students to attend the classes that they have been pre-registered for! This along with the Importance of being on time for Class! READY to take the CLASS!** Due to Class Minimums and Maximums and other factors failure to attend when you have signed up for MAY result in the class being canceled or other hardships that impact fellow students and the courses

### **Camp Survivor, 4 H Summer Safety Camp”**

- 📢 On June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008, The Fire School will be host to ONE Day of the 4H Center’s week long Safety Camp. This will be in cooperation with the Manchester Twp. Fire Department and members of the Firefighter Combat Challenge Team. We still need some volunteers to assist with our safety demos and skills on that day. Please contact your Fire School if you are able to lend a hand for the day.

### **Firefighter I Testing**

- 📢 We do not have any tests scheduled at this time. Local testing will rely on an active Fire School committee working in conjunction with Program Coordination and school staff to organize, orchestrate and oversee such activities. The program coordinator looks forward to the establishment of an active Fire School Committee.

### **New Classes Scheduled:**

- 📢 **Coming in this Year, We are working with PAg (Penn State) Rescue training to bring you the following courses:** Intro to Farm Emergencies **(This is a prerequisite for other courses in the series)**, Managing Tractor Emergencies, Managing Farm Machinery Entanglements, Farm Chemical Emergencies, Farm Confined Space Awareness, and Farm Confined Space Operations.
  - These classes ARE NOT funded like most Firefighter training is here in Pennsylvania. **Linda Spahr of Cooperative Extension** has secured Grant money for most of these courses. She is also continuing to search our funding to provide this valuable training to York County

☞ We have included some other new offerings for this year they are as follows

- **Automatic Detection & Suppression Systems**
- **Basic Rigging for Rope Rescue**
- **Calling the Mayday; Hands-on Training for Firefighters**
- **Fire Attack in Sprinklered Properties**
- **NIMS 100 (Orientation) and Certification**

☞ Do not forget the New Courses we added last year and are running again this year:

- **Introduction to Volunteer Emergency Services Management**
- **Legal aspects for the Fire Service**

#### **Current and Future Schedule:**

☞ The 2008 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.

☞ The 2008 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 as they come along**.

☞ Lobar Construction has demonstrated to 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 as both construction and training continue

#### **Burn Building and Scheduling:**

☞ Progress continues on the NEW Building (Live Fire Training Prop). The third floor, columns and roof have been poured. ANTICIPATED completion is projected to be Late August or Early September. **There is a Possibility that it MAY BE COMPLETED 1 to 2 MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE**

☞ 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 are helping us meet this goal**

Skip added the burn building is starting to look interesting. He asked that everyone to look at it from a distance for safety purposes.

**YORK COUNTY ATR:** John Sanford reported there was 1 call. It was a water assist. Also, he reminded everyone about the Trench rescue week-end being held on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 20<sup>th</sup>.

**OEM:** NO Report

**FIRE POLICE:** Jim Robertson reported there is a banquet next month. There are 84 members from 37 companies and 4 guest members altogether.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Chief John Senft brought up about cleaning company that was recommended by the Board and approved by the members at last month's meeting. A contract was presented by the cleaning company and given to Mike Craley to look through. Mike stated the contract was to favor the cleaning company and the Fire School, and advised the board not to sign the contract. Commissioner James Roth made a motion to rescind the motion to go with Cleanway Cleaning Company. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ryan Brenneman Motion Carried

Fire School committee: Joe Yahnke will head it up the committee. The following are members of the Fire School Committee: Tony Myers, Chris Krichten, and Ryan Brenneman. If anyone else is interested in joining the committee, contact Joe directly. Carl Avery has his contact information for anyone who needs it. There is a lot to be done.

A month or two ago, Chief Richard Shank volunteered to be a representative from our organization for the South Central Task Force. The Task Force would prefer to have another representative who is not part of the South Central Task Force already.

Treasurer Robert Bowman stated that he needs (3) volunteers for the audit committee to review the bills and receipts.

Motion was made by Chief Buffington to pay the bills. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Chief John Senft. Motion Carried

**NEW BUSINESS:** President Skip Rupert stated that at the past elections, there was no nomination for the Secretary's position. President Skip Rupert appointed the secretary's position to John Fornadel. Heather Marsteller will continue to record the minutes. John will handle the legal paperwork.

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

Motion was made by Robert Bowman to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Chief John Senft. Motion Carried

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008, at the new 911 Center.

Sincerely,

*Heather Marsteller*

Heather Marsteller  
Recording Secretary