

March 18, 2002

President Skip Rupert called the regular meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order. Sixty-three members were in attendance. Following the pledge to the flag a guest speaker from the York County Special Rescue Task Force gave a brief presentation. The speaker gave an overview of why the Task Force was formed and what they are available to do. On the average they have a turnout of twenty-five personnel per call. They have four dedicated stations at this time. Stations 9, 36, 46, & 61 are the current participating stations. They are trained and available to assist at trench rescues, structure collapses, confined space rescues, rope rescues and ice water rescues. It was stressed that they should be dispatched to respond, rather than standby in quarters. They will stage somewhere near the scene if it is unsure whether they will be needed or not. This is due to the fact that they are coming from different parts of the county and the response time factor. They have no problem with being canceled if it is determined they will not be needed. The minutes were then read and approved. Bob Bowman presented the treasurer's report. There was a motion by Mike Miller, second by Joe Stevens to accept the treasurer's report as read.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Board member Barry Myers reported that the Township had reviewed the plans for the school. They had a page of questions. Director Paul Schaefer is to review the questions with the Township. Barry also reported that the Fire School's insurance has increased to \$10,096.00. The new computer for the Fire School was purchased and is here. The Board discussed Dover Township Fire Department taking bids on a 1983 Pumper, to be brought up under new business.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: No meeting last month. Next scheduled meeting is in April. Cindy Dietz from 911 reported that Orbicom, the vendor for the CAD, which is currently installed at the 911 Center, has offered three years of software upgrades free of charge to the Center. If the 911 Center can get approval to upgrade their computers they are going to accept the upgrades from Orbicom and try to make use of the current CAD, until another system can be purchased. When this comes about input will be sought from all three groups of the emergency services in the form of a committee headed by the Operations Manager.

Cindy also reported that Telecommunicator's Week is in April. The 911 Center will be hosting an open house that spans all three shifts. Emergency services personnel will receive invitations to stop in and visit. There will be tours, refreshments, and door prizes.

FIRE SCHOOL: Director Paul Schaefer reviewed last month's classes and attendance. He reported the testing for the Firefighter I class will be on April 5th and 6th. Notification letters will go out to those taking the classes. Possible dates for the On the Road RIT Team Class are August 10th and 11th.

HAZMAT: Director Paul Schaefer reported five calls last month and eight calls for the year. The Shelter Tent and heater were set up and reported to be working well. Hazmat members attended the Railroad class last month and are in the process of getting physicals. No report from Penn Township Haz-Mat.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Chief Nichols reported he had very little feedback since last month's meeting. He stated the color of the tags and the cost associated with changing colors seemed to be a concern. There was a motion made by Joe Stevens, second by Paul Jennings to accept the countywide accountability guideline as presented by the committee. Discussion followed. Chief Keith Kuykendall discussed the expense for stations in Northern York County to change and match the York County Standard when they respond on more calls with Adams and Cumberland Counties.

Chief Bud Strickler questioned the durability and placement of the tags. President Skip Rupert asked for those in favor or opposed and decided to take a hand vote. With twenty-seven members in favor and 17 opposed the motion passed.

Chief Nichols will see that President Rupert gets a final copy to sign by next meeting. Cindy Dietz will email the final copy to the Chiefs.

President Rupert asked about implementation and enforcement of the guideline. Chief Nichols and his committee will discuss and advise at next meeting.

FIRE PREVENTION: No report

EMA: Tom Graybill reported the next Drought Task Force meeting would be on March 25th at 10am at the Solid Waste Authority, 2700 Blackbridge Road. He reported the State EOC needs a representative from the Fire Service.

Tom reported that the current Burn Ban is to expire on March 29th. Chief List requested to know if orchards are exempt from the burn ban. Tom will check and forward an email out to the chiefs. A motion was made by Rick Shank second by Dave Nichols to extend the burn ban another 30 days. Motion carried. Bud Strickler stated seventeen signatures were needed for the Forestry Bureau. A sheet was circulated for those in favor to sign. The signatures would be forwarded to Kay Carman to handle the extension.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: President Rupert stated that Rescue 24 was inspected and is classified as a heavy rescue. The following teams to do rescue inspections were announced. Paul Schaefer and Tom Landis. Bud Strickler and Richard Searle Jr. Mike Miller and Skip Rupert. Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the bills. Motion by Marlin Mellinger, second by Bud Strickler to pay the bills. Bob Bowman stated that dues were slow coming in and reminded everyone that their 2001/2002 dues are payable now.

NEW BUSINESS: Barry Myers stated the Board of Governors discussed the possibility of submitting a bid on the 1983 Pierce that Dover Township has for sale. If purchased it would replace the West York Engine at the Fire School. Discussion followed. Commissioner Roth made a motion; second by Bud Strickler to submit a bid of \$17,500.00 to Dover Township on the 1983 Pierce. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: Tom Graybill brought brochures from FEMA on "What to do After the Fire" he invited everyone to take as many as they needed. Chief Steinfelt suggested the Association purchase a new flag for the school. Director Schaefer said he has one just hasn't gotten it up yet. Chief Gemmill reported that the Red Cross has a program to get drinking water to people with wells.

President Rupert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Rick Shank, second by Bud Strickler. Meeting adjourned by President Skip Rupert.

Note: 2001/2002 dues are now due. They are \$10.00 for the two years. Make checks payable to the Fire Chiefs & Firefighters Association.

Next months quarterly meeting will be hosted by VFIS on Monday April 15, 2002 at 7:30 pm. Don't forget to bring your reports. Refreshments will be served prior to the meeting.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary