

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

330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406



Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday

March 19, 2007

President Skip Rupert called the regular monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order and led the pledge to the flag. There were forty-five people in attendance. President Rupert reminded everyone next month's quarterly meeting will be held at Airville Fire Company.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published.

President Rupert asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Chief Herman made the motion, seconded by Chief Snyder. Motion carried.

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

- Geotechnical work for the new burn building was approved.
- Finance meeting to be held April 3rd
- Reviewing insurance information
- Vehicle titles and registration issues
- Purchase of heavy equipment

COMMUNICATIONS: President Rupert advised there was a thank you from Mose Baker's family posted on the board.

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chief Shank reported that the committee met prior to this meeting and approved the following designations: Mobile Command 91, Deputy 23, and Utility 29.

- 840-2924 is the York County Radio Hotline to report non emergent problems.
- April 3rd is the next meeting
- The Firehouse Software Interface is just about ready to connect to. Cindy is working with Strinestown and Spring Garden Twp to test.
- Discussion to be brought up for a vote – Fuel leaks of 5 gallons or less to get a fire miscellaneous response.
- 911 Radio Techs still needs to see several departments regarding base station placement.

911: Audrey Rychalsky reported that all 22 tower sites have been acquired. Bob Bragg then gave the following radio project update:

- The Radio project is progressing smoothly. All 22 sites are currently under lease which means we can fully proceed with Zoning & Building Permits.
- The County currently has 8 tower sites built that are awaiting equipment and antennas. They are Ramsey Hill, Yocumtown, Crossroads, Glen Rock, Lower Chanceford, York 94 (Shrewsbury), Iron Ridge and Spring Grove.
- Ramsey Hill, Yocumtown, Crossroads, Glen Rock, Lower Chanceford, York 94 (Shrewsbury), Iron Ridge and Spring Grove have Microwave equipment installed. They are currently waiting for the dishes and cables.
- York 89 (Gatchellville), Manchester Township and West Manchester (Long Term Backup Facility) are currently under construction.
- Queen Street: Received Building Permit. Construction Pending.
- Red Lion, Reeser's Summit, Dillsburg and Fulton: Pending Building Permits.
- The Emergency Services Center (ESC) remains under construction.
- Judicial Center, East Manchester WT, Wrightsville WT, Stewartstown WT and Pleasureville are waiting on drawings before we can begin the permitting process.

- The 911 Communications Vehicle will be at the May meeting.
- A link to the 911 Radio Department and tower site status can be found at www.ycdes.org.

Chief Cromer brought the duty officer designation up for discussion and asked if everyone including York City and Springettsbury Twp officers were going to be called duty officer. At this time they were not. Discussion followed. President Rupert declared the following after hearing all comments:

- Everyone needs to follow the policy
- County needs to remind the dispatchers to follow procedure
- Chiefs need to ask their officer core to follow the policy

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

Hours of use:

- From 2/19/07 to 3/18/07 there were 54 events at your Fire School. This is an increase of 15 events or 38% from last months report. The total hours of use for this reporting period is 272.5.5 Hours, or a 27% increase in hours of use from February's report.
- Since The December meeting, the Fire School has been used for 626 Hours of Training and Meetings. Another way of looking at this is, in the 14 Weeks of this reporting period the total hours of use would equate to 45 hours of classes per week / every week.
- The breakdown for Training use so far this year is 61% Fire and related courses, 14% Police courses, 10% EMS/EMT courses/programs, 7% Department of Emergency Services and 8% other courses/meetings/practices

The ENTRY LEVEL Program:

- **The INTERIOR FIREFIGHTER started on 2-26-06. A special Thanks goes to Manchester Twp Department of Fire Services (Station 24) for the use of class room space at their Station**
- As of Sunday, March 18, 2007 The Spring ELFG (Fire Ground Support) classes have concluded. As you may remember due to the abundance of students we had to run the regularly scheduled class and over flow class to accommodate their needs.
- Due to several factors, Snow being one of them, the next course in the series that was scheduled to begin March 25 is postponed to APRIL 1, 2007. This next step in the program will be The ELEF (Exterior Firefighter) class; again due to student enrollment we will be running two "Parallel" Classes. Both Classes start on April 1st. Instructor Gross will be lead instructor on one class and Instructor Hoover will be the lead instructor on the other Class.
 - The Class roster is split between these two classes and Ms. Marsteller, the Fire School's administrative assistant will be contacting the pre-registered students or their training officers via e-mail to advise them of schedules and which Course they will be in.
 - Ms. Marsteller will also be updating our web site with this information for further reference
 - There will be 2 Classes that run parallel during this time (EACH CLASS HAS ITS OWN UNIQUE SCHEDULE)
 - BOTH CLASSES BEGIN APRIL 1, 2006, **All Entry Level Exterior Firefighter Students** should be in attendance at the Fire School on that date
 - Instructor Gross's Class will meet on these dates: April 1, 15, 22, 29 and May 13
 - Instructor Hoover's Class will meet on these dates: April 1, 15, 22, May 12, 19 and 20

Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge:

- Next meeting of the organizing committee will be April 10, 2007 @ 18:30 Hours at Station 23, If you are interested in participating in this work group please contact Tim Stevens @ tstevens@waltonco.com or Carl Avery @ YorkCoFireSchool@aol.com
- We have received our first three Team applications for this event. As of Sunday, March 18, 2007 we have applications from; East Northport Fire District, Long Island – New York; Lancaster City Bureau of Fire, Lancaster, Pa; Litchfield Fire and Rescue, Litchfield, Ohio.
- Our pre-event donations this year are down from last year. We do anticipate an increase in the number of teams which should make up for any shortfall in donations.
- April 21, 2007 is the cutoff date for applications. At that time we will review applications in hand and the resulting ability to cover the costs of the program, a go no go decision will be made then

Firefighter I Testing (UPDATED INFORMATION):

- York County Fire School will be hosting an IFSAC/PROBOAD Fire Fighter I Certification test this fall. The Written test will be October 12 and the Practical exam will be on November 3, 2007. A cut off date will be established and all monies for the test must be submitted PRIOR to the cut off date – watch for more information soon.
- A prep class for this test will be September 29th

NFPA 1006, Standard for Professional Rescue Technician, Core Competencies Machinery/Vehicle Review Course and Test:

- We are discussing this with HACC
- Targeted Test date for the Core Competencies will be December 8th or 9th, at this point in time the Machinery and Vehicle portions will be push back to 2008
- Exact dates on a review/prep class have not yet been determined

Fire Officer I:

- The Fire School has contacted the State Fire Academy to bring the Academy on the Road (AOTR) Fire Officer I class and certification to YCFS this Fall. The Dates of the classes are October 20 & 21, November 3 & 4 and November 17 & 18. The Fire School MUST HAVE a minimum of 12 candidates to have this course run
- **The Fire School has applications for this program. Applications were included in our last mailing to the County Departments**
 - Candidates for this program must have the following certification
 - Firefighter I
 - Firefighter II
 - Fire Instructor I
- We have scheduled a class for Fire Instructor I beginning May 13
- We DO NOT at this time have a FF II test schedule. The Fire School has NOT got enough requests that we can justify scheduling one here.
 - Make sure you check with HACC and BUCKS as well as the Pa State Fire Academy Web site for upcoming dates and location if you need this certification.

NEW DONATION TO THE FIRE SCHOOL:

- Power Hawk Technologies Inc of Rockaway, New Jersey presented the Fire School with a set of Auto-Crib stabilization units. This new and unique method of vehicle stabilization will be available for our students to use during vehicle rescue training. I would like to remind everyone, that while we are grateful of this no cost to us presentation, the Fire School will not endorse these devices over any other method of vehicle stabilization. We do present them as one of a number of alternatives to accomplish the given task. Each department must evaluate these and other devices to see what best suits their needs and budget.



Current and Future Schedule:

- The 2007 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.

Upcoming Courses: - Please refer to the calendars and catalogs available for tonight's meeting. Courses are still being considered for 2007. The Fire School will mail out completed calendars early in January. Be sure to check out the website for the latest Updates www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org

YORK COUNTY ATR: One Swift Water Rescue call and one structural collapse. Good turnout and good teamwork during the calls. Reminder Trench Weekend coming up in May.

OEM: Tom Graybill reported the new Hazmat unit was dedicated last Saturday. He will be bringing the truck to the May meeting.

FIRE POLICE: Jim Robertson reported their meeting was held on February 26th at the Winterstown Fire Company. Blue lights were a topic of discussion; abuse of privileges and that blue lights may only be mounted on a bar on the roof of a vehicle.

- Upcoming classes Fire Police 101, NIMS 300 and 800 at Strinestown Fire Company.
- April 21st Fire Police Banquet held at Nashville – Barber Shop Quartet entertainment.
- Next meeting March 26th at Craley Fire Department.

Trooper McKenna commented on the blue light discussion. He said he was not aware of any specific blue light crackdown by PSP. He cautioned to just use common sense when responding. Dashboard lights are illegal. He also invited members to contact him; he has a packet put together and available to mail out regarding blue lights.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- President Rupert announced the following members to the Rescue Spec Committee: Dennis Beck Station 29, Josh Young Station 34, Dale Richardson Station 59, Tony Myers Station 61, Shane Grifo Station 46.
- President Rupert asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion to pay the bills by Chief Herman second by John Fornadel. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Senft stated the Board of Governors has been investigating possibilities for obtaining a piece of heavy equipment. Chief Senft said the Board would like to be approved for up to \$30,000.00 for acquisition of a piece of heavy equipment to be used at the school. Discussion followed.

Chief Nichols made a motion that the Board acquire bids and bring them back to the body. Discussion followed. Chief Nichols rescinded his motion.

Chief Herman made a motion to approve up to \$30,000.00 for the BOG to purchase a piece of heavy equipment to be used at the Fire School. Motion second by Bob Bowman, Motion carried.

Chief Shank asked for discussion on the current fuel leak dispatch/policy. Dave Gemmill made a motion that anything less than 55 gallons of fuel would be dispatched under the fire miscellaneous response. President Rupert took a hand vote 21 in favor of the motion, and 10 opposed. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Trooper McKenna thanked everyone – it's been a very busy 1st quarter.
- Chief Senft thanked all those involved with the recent City multiple alarm fires and the explosion and subsequent structural collapse. He thanked 26 ATR members who also responded.
- Chief Hildebrand thanked the ATR team and Stations 63,19,60,and 8 for their assistance with the successful water rescue.
- Cindy Dietz reminded everyone about the CAD demos in March on the 21st, 23rd, 28th, and 30th.
- Chief Nichols asked if someone from the fire school staff was going to be here to move vehicles if it was unsafe for students to roll and move them and instructors were not permitted to move them.
 - Chief Senft stated the Board just wants a list of operators. Students should not be operating the truck. Instructors may move trucks.
- Chief Stein thanked everyone for helping on their call last month.
- Chief Kohler reported Nevin Neff, member from Station 35, was 81 years old and passed away today.
- Dale Ness had a stroke and is in York Hospital.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Bowman, second by Chief Snyder. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, April 16, 2007 at the Airville Fire Company.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz

Cindy A. Dietz, Secretary