

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

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



MONTHLY MEETING
THIRD MONDAY

April 18, 2005

President Skip Rupert called the quarterly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order and led the pledge to the flag. There was a moment of silence for retired Chiefs Scott Brown from Loganville and Marvin "Buck" Brothers from Goldsboro/York Haven who both recently passed away. Twenty-eight members were in attendance. The meeting was held at VFIS, Gladfelter's Insurance Agency. Lori Gillen, insurance representative, introduced various associates from VFIS. Dave Weiress from VFIS gave the welcoming address. President Rupert gave the response and thanked VFIS and Mr. Gladfelter for all the support they give to the fire service in York County.

Roll call was taken.

Minutes of the previous meeting were then approved as posted. Bob Bowman presented the treasurer's report. There was a motion by Ken Royal second by Chief Shank to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chairman John Senft reported meeting with the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. There were 4 – 5 members present. The following items were discussed:

- Fire School Operations
- Reorganization of the Fire School Committee
- Capitol Projects
 - Re-permitting / remediation for the retention pond
 - Repairs to the burn building

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Rick Shank reported that the committee had met on April 7th. Designations for Duty Officer 68, Utility 68-1 and Utility 68-2 were approved.

- Stations 12, 45, 53, 65, 66, 67, 68, and 69 have not turned in their CAD boxes. If they are not turned in the CAD Committee will be completing them for you.
- Fire Incident Type Policy has been finalized and will be sent out via email.

Chief Snyder asked about the standards list he submitted. Chief Shank stated that the committee was still in the process of reviewing them.

911: Tony Flores Information Services Administrator for the Department of Emergency Services introduced himself and spoke about the MDC program rolling out for Fire Departments when the CAD System is established. He did not offer any certainties on how the system would be implemented but offered information on how the police program works and what might be expected. He asked the group for any questions they might have on Mobile Data Computers.

Chief Cadden asked what information the computers would provide emergency responders and what the cost might be.

Mr. Flores replied:

- Mobile CAD dispatch.
- Mapping
- AVL

- They are 2 years out on the cost. Currently the police departments pay \$100.00 per month per unit. This covers the laptop, airtime, and repairs. There would also be a one-time fee to mount the equipment. The police departments have 3-year service agreements, which sets their fees for 3 years at a time.

Chief Snyder asked if it works on a cell phone network and could it work on the new radio frequencies.

Mr. Flores replied it is currently working off GPRS (Generated Packet Radio System), but they are moving on to the Edge network. It cannot work off the new frequencies.

Chief Shank asked if currently installed computers could interface.

Mr. Flores replied that there are no parameters set for Fire Company owned computers.

Chief Witmer asked if the mapping would allow departments to locate water sources.

Mr. Flores replied that it would if that was a level the county chooses to have in the mapping.

Chief Dietz asked if it would follow the current radio program, in that the user pays a fee to the County, and the County would then cover equipment, costs, and maintenance.

Mr. Flores replied that he was not at liberty to say for certain how the system will be administered.

President Rupert said it was not too early to start looking at what departments would like to see in the way of mapping. Mr. Flores said he would be back for another meeting at the appropriate time.

Audrey Rychalsky reminded everyone of the upcoming radio demos.

- April 20th 6pm – 9pm M/Acom at the Holiday Inn
- April 27th 6pm – 9pm Motorola at the Harrisburg West Conference Center

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

Statement:

FDIC: Mr. Rupert and I have just returned from spending the week at the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. While in attendance, I attended the following classes and participated in a mini-summit: Vehicle Extrication, Flashover Simulator, Highway Incident Safety, and an overview of a Fire Department (Phoenix, Arizona) management school. The mini-summit's topic was the Fire Fighter Life Safety Initiative (FFLSI) and was sponsored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the National Fire Academy (NFA). I had the privilege of working with such notables as Doctor Burton Clark of the NFA and Tim Dunkle of the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy. Many of you may be familiar with the FFLSI. The initiative was the result of a summit held last year in Florida. Our task at the mini-summit was to come up with ideas and methods on how to achieve the goals of the original summit. Our focus was on those initiatives most closely associated with training. The NFFF and NFA will take the recommendations from our meeting and distilling them into methods and objectives that will become part the FFLSI. The goal is to reduce Line of Duty Deaths by 25% in five years and 50% in ten years. Your Fire School has a copy of the initiatives and the accompanying PowerPoint Presentation. Please feel free to contact your Fire School if you would like to know more.

Flash Over Simulator: As mentioned above, your Fire School Coordinator participated in Live Fire training in a Flash-over Simulator. Many instructors prefer to refer to these simulators as Fire Behavior Simulators. The lessons available and the safety provided in these training systems become self-apparent when you actually witness the room flash over and the buildup leading to it. As the program coordinator of your fire school, I would recommend we continue to research these devices and work to obtain and use one of these devices at our school and in our classes.

Questions Concerning Instructors and ETAs: At last month's Chiefs' and Firefighters' Association meeting several question were posed as to selection of instructors and the Education Training Agency providing the

programs. I want to assure the members of the association that these questions were taken seriously. Generally speaking, most of this year's schedule is in place and MAJOR changes are not planned in the immediate future. As your Program Coordinator, I will work with your board of governors to develop an appropriate response to the concerns voiced. We are working on accessing more and varied instructors and, since prior to last month's association meeting, Jerry Ozog of HACC and I have been planning a meeting to discuss 2006 activities here at your Fire School. While it is my goal to be responsive to the Association's needs, wants, and desires, it is important to remember that there are persons in our Association who are not seeking the changes that some inquired about last month. It will be my goal to deliver a balance that fulfills the goal of delivering safe and high quality Fire and Rescue Education to the First Responders of York and its surrounding counties.

Class Room III, Basement Wall: At last month's Board of Governors meeting, there was discussion of building a wall in a basement area to help us secure our records and to improve the usability of our third classroom (Basement). I have met with one contractor, and discussed the project with Chief Shank of Manchester Township. As we discussed this project, it became clear we that could easily encounter some Safety and Code Issues associated with the project. Arrangements are being made to meet with the Manchester Township Codes officer (at no cost) to seek input and information on how to proceed and to assure compliance and safety.

Burn Building Engineering Report: We have received our Engineering report from C. S. Davidson on the Burn Building. The written report is 10 pages long and the appendix is approximately 47 pages long. Black and white copies for each of the Board of Governors will be distributed before this month's meeting. The recommendations are:

A. Immediate priorities (Work recommended to be performed within one year):

- 1. The damaged exterior concrete lintels should be removed and replaced in kind*
- 2. The Deteriorated areas of concrete roof and floor slabs should be patched and repaired with approved concrete repair methods*
- 3. The warped and deteriorated steel grates should be replaced at which time the slab spalls at the opening should be patched and repaired. The new grates should be detailed to allow slip between the concrete slabs and the grate frames*

B. Long Term Priorities (work recommended to be performed with in 3 - 4 years):

- 1. The CMU Block corner at Side "B" and Side "C" should be rebuilt*
- 2. Masonry control joints should be cut and installed into the Exterior of the CMU walls; two Joints on walls B and D and one joint on walls A and C are recommended.*
- 3. All cracked masonry grout joints need to be repointed*

The Board of Governors has the responsibility to determine what course of action to follow after their review of the report and our fiscal resources.

Fire School Activity: Your Fire School continues to be a busy place. We are maintaining our trend toward increased usage into the fourth straight month of this Year. For the year to date we have achieved a 236% increase. This month's number of hours of use has jumped back up from last month. We anticipate 427 hours of use at your Fire School by the end of this month. This is a 253% increase from last April's numbers. We continue to work toward maximizing the investment that the York County Commissioner has made in our operation by supporting the County Department of Emergency Services and its 9-1-1 Center and Local Law enforcement agencies. Penn Dot's use of our facilities takes place through the use of an "AGILITY" agreement. The Agility agreement has resulted in hours of work to clear brush and dead and dying trees at your Fire School. This is truly a beneficial exchange of services for your Fire School. We also are used by agencies and organizations such as our County EMA, York County Junior Firefighters Association, York County School of Technology and York Technical Institute. Our goal here is always to maximize the use of YOUR Fire School.

PLEASE PREREGISTER EARLY: *It is vital to our operation and YOUR enrollment that you register EARLY!* This is important for two big reasons: first, unfortunately, the ETAs such as BCCC and HACC cannot wait until the last minute when they have to line up special instructors for these classes; second, EARLY Pre-registration does assure you a spot in class. Popular courses like the Basic Vehicle Rescue Series, Structural Burn Session and even the Essentials Class registrations are flowing in. Soon some of these courses will have to be closed out due to FULL enrollment; check our scheduled offerings and make sure you sign up early for those classes you want and need.

Current Schedule: The 2005 Class schedule has been completed and has been mailed to all York County Stations. The new schedule is also available online at our web site www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org just click on the [Click Here to See Available Classes](#) link on the home page and it will take you directly to the listing of classes. We will continue to send out training announcements monthly. If you are your company's training officer, please make sure they get posted. If you are a firefighter or another Officer; MAKE SURE YOU ASK YOUR TRAINING OFFICER, "Where are the training announcements?" We will be e-mailing periodic reminders of individual courses and information throughout the year. Your School Staff continues to work to improve our communications with all fire and rescue personnel in and around York County; if you'd like to be on our E-mail list, please e-mail me your information at YorkCoFireSchool@aol.com and we will see that you are added to the list.

Fire Fighter I Testing: Make sure you mark down July 15 & 16, 2005. These are the dates of the Firefighter I certification testing to take place here at your Fire School. If you are planning to take the test, please make sure your prerequisites are in order. We do have classes scheduled this spring to help you be READY for the test in July. Firefighter I testing is your option to take. It is not a requirement, however it can help your department procure grants and it also provides a national registry of your qualifications as a Firefighter. Potential Candidates should make sure they have a minimum of Hazardous Awareness and that it will be current on the test dates; this also goes for First Aid and Professional Rescuer CPR. You should also make sure you have a DOCUMENTED Structural Burn Session. There is one Scheduled for June 18 & 19 [*the June class, however, may not leave you enough time to get your certificates back prior to the test*]. Also, we will have a Fire Fighter I review class in June; those who take the review class tend to do much better on the test process. Just last week we sent out Firefighter I requests for application via both e-mail and regular mail. To the best of my knowledge there have been no fee increases this year. The fee last year was \$175.00 (\$25.00 for the written exam and \$150.00 for the practical). Your Fire School has copies of the skill sheets for all 26 stations, 12 of which (randomly chosen) will be on the test. Candidates are welcome to get copies of the skill sheet to help them in their studying for the test. The FIRE SCHOOL CANNOT TELL YOU, which 12 Stations will be selected.

Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge: The list of teams for the Mason-Dixon Extrication challenge continues to grow. We now have Litchfield, Ohio; Chili, New York. Hagerman Fire Department from Long Island, NY; Mechanicsburg, PA; Flemington, New Jersey; Brighton Fire Department of Tonawanda, NY; Blue Valley, Pa; two teams from Hackettstown, NJ; with possibilities of teams from Hamilton and Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. Our Extrication Challenge will take place May 6 – 8, 2005. These teams and others will be welcomed to attend this event at your hometown Fire School.

Extrication Workshop for Junior Fire & Rescue Personnel: Mark down September 30, October 1 & 2, 2005 for another extrication event, the Extrication Challenge Workshop. This event, geared toward Junior Fire & Rescue teams, (*but Rescuers from all levels can come and learn*) is one the best hands-on training formats for future rescuers. If you have a team of juniors, it is not too early to plan for this Fall. Contact your Fire School and we (Mr. Rupert and I) will be glad to help you get started.

Coming Events (with current, [as of 4/18/05], class enrollment numbers following each in brackets {}):

- ◆ April 21, (19:00-22:00) FIRE FIGHTER SAFETY AWARENESS {15}
- ◆ April 23 & 24 (08:00-17:00), Basic Fire Police (FIPO) {16}
- ◆ April 23 & 24 (08:00-17:00), Pump Operations II {11}
- ◆ April 26, 28 (18:30-22:30) 30 (08:00 -17:00), Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVOC) {11}
- ◆ April 30, May 1, (08:00-17:00), Managing Co. Tactical Operations - Preparation {16}
- ◆ April 30, May 1, (08:00-17:00), Aerial Apparatus Operations (AELA) {8}
- Haz-Mat Awareness Level Annual Refresher Training (HMAR) 18:30-20:00 {2}

- ◆ May 3 Haz-Mat Awareness Level Annual Refresher Training (HMAR) 18:30-20:00 {2}
- ◆ May 3 & 5 Haz-Mat First Responder Awareness (RIHM) – 08:00-12:30 {0}
- ◆ May 4 Haz-Mat Operations Level Annual Refresher Training (HMOR) 18:30-21:30 {4}
- ◆ May 6, 7, 8 Bloodborne Pathogens & Infectious Disease (BIDA) – 08:00-12:30 {0}
- ◆ May 6, 7, 8 Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge
- ◆ May 9, 11 & 14 Incident Command System (ICS [NIMS]) 5/9 & 11, 18:30-22:30 & 5/14, 08:00-17:00 {2}
- ◆ May 10 PA Essentials of Fire Fighting (EBM) begins– 18:30-22:30 (Nighttime course){30}
- ◆ May 11 Bloodborne Pathogens & Infectious Disease (BIDA) – 08:00-12:30 {0}
- ◆ May 11 Haz-Mat First Responder Awareness (RIHM) – 08:00-12:30 {0}
- ◆ May 10, 12 & 15 Tanker Water Supply (TAWS) 5/10 & 12, 18:30-22:30 & 5/15, 08:00-17:00 {3}
- ◆ May 13 Ropes & Knots (BCCC-ROKN) 19:00 – 22:00 {7}
- ◆ May 14 & 15 Basic Life Support & Haz-Mat Response (HMBLS) – 08:00-17:00 {0}
- ◆ May 16, 18 & 22 Pump Operations II (PUOA) 5/16 & 18, 18:30-22:30 & 5/22, 08:00 – 17:00 {1}
- ◆ May 17, 19 & 21 Pump Operations I (PUOP) 5/17 & 19, 18:30 – 22:30 & 5/21, 08:00 – 17:00 {2}
- ◆ May 21 & 22 Advanced Fire Police (FIPA) 08:00 – 17:00 {5}
- ◆ May 25, 6/1, & 4 Fire Fighter I Certification Review Class (FFI-REV) 5/25 & 6/1, 18:00 – 22:00 & 6/4, 08:00 – 17:00 {1}
- ◆ June 13 PA Essentials of Fire Fighting (EBM) begins – 09:00-13:00 (Daytime course) {2}

President Rupert Spoke about his trip to FDIC, he said he had an excellent leadership class presented by Mo Baxter on how to deal with your people back at the station “Axioms of Leadership”. There was also a briefing presented by Brunacini “Training your Managers” which was very disappointing and was more of a sales pitch.

President Rupert reminded everyone of the upcoming Extrication Challenge being held the 1st weekend in May, at the Fire School. Help is still needed. Boots, jeans, t-shirts, safety helmets, and gloves will be the attire of the day. Tom and Kyle Wehr, of Wehr Engineering, have donated a Glas-Master to be raffled off at the challenge.

YORK COUNTY ATR: Chief Cadden reported that you should call early if you need the team. Ongoing training.

EMA: no report

FIRE POLICE: Jim Robertson reported on March 28th their first meeting was held for this year. They installed new officers. He spoke about making two plaques using old Fire Police badges and patches. One was given to the Fire Museum and the other to the Police Museum in York City.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Chief Shank said that the Mayday Committee will be meeting on May 4th at 1530 hours at Station 24-2 to discuss the policy.

Motion made by Ken Royal to pay the bills seconded by Chief Hale. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Chief Cadden asked what is the status of the Glen Rock Tower.
 - Paul Zimmerer of 911 advised that the tower was back in service. Ryan Warner or Don Miller is supposed to be making notifications when a tower is placed back in service.

Chiefs Cadden and Snyder both agreed that the signal as of today, is still weak and the voice volume is low. Discussion followed on possible reasons why the volume would be low across the county. Paul will have it tested tomorrow.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Lori Gillen reported that Dr. Bill Jenoway, who spoke at the Fire School about a month ago on the SR60 topic, would be at Station 23 on May 24th at 6pm for another presentation. Dave Gemmill said that everyone needs to push their legislators so it goes through.

- Bob Bowman said that VFIS was sending the leftover food from the meeting out to the fire scene at J & K Salvage.

Motion to adjourn by Chief Dietz second by Ken Royal. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

The following stations still owe dues for 2005/2006 – 2, 5, 8, 11, 13, 15, 19, 25, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, 46-3, 52, 65, 69 (4yrs), 71, 72, 104

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, May 16, 2005 at the Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary