

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

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



MONTHLY MEETING  
THIRD MONDAY

April 19, 2004

President Skip Rupert called the quarterly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order. Fifty-one members were in attendance. The meeting was held at VFIS, Gladfelter's Insurance Agency. Lori Gillen, insurance representative, introduced various associates from VFIS. She also announced that there were two chairs in the room that had envelopes taped under them one had a free pass to the Expo and the other to the Fire Museum in Harrisburg. Troy Campisi, President of Gladfelter's Insurance, stood in for Art Gladfelter who was away at a prior engagement, and gave the welcoming address. Chief Ira Walker gave the response.

## **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 Chief Mike Miller seconded by Ken Royal to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS:** Chairman John Senft reported meeting with the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. Committee members Barry Myers and Dave Gemmill were not present. The following items were discussed:

- Facilities
  - Improved lighting on the fire ground
  - Record keeping
- Financial budget preparation
- Long-term financial planning
- Workers compensation issues

Chief Troy Snyder requested to know who would be doing the pump testing this year. Chief Senft advised that Carl Avery has submitted a procedure for pump testing at the school. Essentially workers at the school will assist but Departments will be responsible for testing their own equipment. The Board is looking at possibly getting some new testing equipment and expanding the draft pond.

Chief Senft thanked all the new attendees for coming to the meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**RADIO COMMITTEE:** Chairman Rob Bissey reported that the committee had met on April 8<sup>th</sup>. There were no new applications to act upon. Rob reminded Departments to send in their updated applications as new equipment is purchased.

- There was one EMSA Representative Bruce Yealy, present who stated that they believe they have come to an agreeable solution after meeting with the 911 Center. The proposal he is taking back to the EMSA Meeting for designations is as follows:
  - EMS Ambulance Service # (indicates the highest ranking EMS Officer, Chief or Captain)
  - EMS Ambulance Service # A (indicates a Captain or Lt)
  - EMS Ambulance Service # B (indicates a Lt)
  - EMS Ambulance Service # C (indicates a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. if needed)

Questions were fielded from the floor from Delta Cardiff and Fawn Grove regarding the EMS Designations.

- Rob asked for feedback on “Train Derailments” there is nothing on the Fire Run Cards, what do you want dispatched?
- Rob also asked for feedback on what members would like to see on an automatic Mayday Response. Any thoughts on either response can be emailed to Rob Bissey, Rick Shank, Cindy Dietz, or Audrey Rychalsky for discussion at the next Radio Committee Meeting.
- West Manchester Twp. water tank project is done and up and running.
- Distortion on dispatch may be due to simulcast being off.

**911:** Audrey Rychalsky reported that daily radio issues now fall under her domain. Please contact her for any problems.

- Hiring Dispatchers and Data Entry Specialists at the 911 Center.
- 1 hour training course has been developed to try and clarify the nature code issues the Dispatchers have been having. The Dispatchers will all have this course over the next two-week period.
  - Chief Cadden reiterated they still are not receiving adequate information from the Dispatchers.
  - Chief Griffith wanted to know what was being done about simulcast; he had received a letter from Kay Carman. He also stated that the dispatchers should be distinguishing when a call is in the Northern or Southern end of the County. He said the Dispatchers are not answering the radio traffic. Operations Manager Rychalsky will speak with Chief Griffith after the meeting to try and resolve some of his issues.
  - Captain Eash cited two calls they had problems with this month. The first call was an Industrial Accident that was not dispatched appropriately. The second was a call at McDonald’s where the 3<sup>rd</sup> due station was not automatically replaced when they failed. During that time frame he stated that the Dispatcher issued the same zone channel to two stations.

Cindy Dietz emphasized that the CAD Box deadline had passed and there were still several stations that had not submitted preliminary information. If the information is not turned in the County will be forced to do the CAD responses.

Bob Fasick reported:

- He is now solely in charge of the 911 project.
- He has filed for eleven T-band licenses and will be filing for 450mhz radio licenses by the end of the week.
- Kimball and Associates have been signed on to assist with the project. They will be doing a 90-day study to evaluate the needs. Between 30 – 45 days into the study there will be a meeting that is open to the public.

Chief Walker asked if a meeting had been held with the Commissioners regarding radios yet. Mr. Fasick advised that was all part of the study and they will be speaking with the Commissioners.

Chief Snyder asked if a CAD had been chosen yet. Mr. Fasick deferred all questions regarding the CAD project to Audrey or Cindy. He did advise that no CAD had been chosen yet, but the RFP was almost ready to go out.

**FIRE SCHOOL:** Carl Avery reported 146 ½ hours of trainings and meetings have been held at the school so far this year.

- Met with Joe Roth regarding the retention pond and went over reporting procedures for DEP.
- Met with Gary Fulton regarding the FFI Testing. The test will be held at HACC on November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Carl is to become certified as a test site coordinator.
- Fire School is available for many uses. Contact Carl if you have a need and he will coordinate.

Bern Anthony reported on the students at Vo-Tech. He said nineteen of them went through the structural burn class this past weekend.

An extern from York Technical Institute “Catherine” will be helping out at the school for the next twelve weeks.

**YORK COUNTY ATR:** No Report

**EMA:** Tom Graybill reported on the following:

- June 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> holding a Water Safety Class.
- May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> Technician Refresher Class is being held.
- May 9<sup>th</sup> Skywarn Class
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> 16 hr. Incident Command Class.
- On April 10<sup>th</sup> at noon the new Hazmat Team went in service.
- Scott Barnett is the new Hazmat Chief 91.
  - Chief Shellenberger asked where the Hazmat vehicles were being housed. Tom advised for the time being they were still being housed at the Fire School.
  - Chief Cadden inquired about the response protocols for Hazmat 91. He requested a mutual aid agreement be established with Harford Co. and Baltimore Co. due to their proximity to his first due area. Chief Barnett will look into working something out.
- Rich Godfrey is Deputy 91A, Bob Boeckel is Deputy 91B, and Chris Bunty is Deputy 91C. There is still a fourth Deputy position open.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Motion made by Glenn Daniels to pay the bills seconded by Ken Royal. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:** Chief Shank suggested a moment of silence for the fallen Chief from Yoe Fire Company.

- Chief Walker relayed details of a call a week ago at 2:20 am for a wreck, where Met Ed had a very poor response. Initial time for a poles and wires call was 1 ½ hrs for the Representative to show even though they were given adequate information on the initial call to Met Ed to dispatch a crew. Six hours later a crew arrived. Chief Walker reported this to State Representative Saylor who in turn contacted Ernie Waters at Met Ed to complain.
  - Chief Shank advised Dave Gemmill and himself met with the PUC last month regarding GPU.
- Chief Senft issued an open invitation to join the City Fire Department at their 128<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Service. This will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their first line of duty death in York City.
- York City is also hosting a WMD Training Program starting tomorrow for the next three days. Presented by Texas A & M and paid for with Federal grant money. Emphasis is on public work providers. There are a few openings if anyone is interested and able to attend.
- Dave Huffnagle volunteered to host the "Show Your New Apparatus Meeting" in August and will provide the food.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The following stations still owe dues for 2003/2004 – DDSP-LF and Lake Aldred River Rescue.

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, May 17, 2004 at the Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz  
Secretary