

April 21, 2003

The quarterly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association was called to order by President Skip Rupert. Sixty-two members were in attendance. The meeting was held at Station 49-1, Parkville Fire Company. President Jeff Parks gave the address of welcome. Association member Neil Doyle gave the response. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted. Bob Bowman presented the treasurer's report. There was a motion by Commissioner Roth second by Chief Yingling to accept the treasurer's report. President Rupert thanked Vice President Dietz and the Board of Governors for covering while he was away.

Roll call was taken.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chairman Kevin Lain reported there would be a meeting held at Station 24-2 on May 13th at 6:30. The Board has already discussed the following items and will continue with them at their next meeting.

- Investments and Equipment. Discussion followed by the body on disposing of the Hanover Truck. Commissioner Roth stated to go ahead and dispose of it they did not want it back. The Board will advertise.
- Paul's replacement. He will have been Director 25 years in August. The Board will advertise in the PA Fireman for a Fire School Coordinator.
- Assigning committees. Chiefs Erik Brown and Greg Chandler have expressed interest in the Radio Committee. Anyone else interested in being assigned to any of the committees should submit their names to the Board ASAP.
- Hazmat and HAMER 20. The Board will be looking at SOG's and the team in general. They will be speaking with Chief Rich Godfrey. There was discussion on a Response Trailer.
- Chaplain. No further discussions on communications or alerting devices will be had at this time. Members from different stations spoke of problems in the field regarding the Chaplain.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Rob Bissey reported that the committee met on April 10th. A new application for Engine 26-1 was received and approved. Applications to renumber Engine 26-2 (former 26-1) and Engine 26-3 (former 26-2) were also approved.

- The game playing on 33.88 has seemed to die down. There are still problems on Med 10. It was discussed that a letter might need to be written to Gettysburg if things didn't improve.
- Proposed a countywide guideline for AED Medical Assist dispatches for the Fire Departments.
- Proposed revising the Fire Dispatch by eliminating the "equipment due" on the first voice. The question was asked what Lancaster County is doing to help the situation?
Chief Nichols also suggested taking out all the dual tones would be another way to save on airtime since they are no longer necessary with simulcast. Cindy Dietz will check into why this hasn't been done.

Chief Lloyd wanted to know why the Association was waiting to do anything about the people playing on the radio. Chief Bissey advised the devise to track these people costs approximately \$1500.00.
- Next Meeting May 8th 7pm at the Comm Center.

911 PROJECT: Chief Bissey gave the following updates on the project:

- After combining several entries submitted by the 9-1-1 Dispatchers a Mission Statement has been voted on and adopted.
- Several CAD vendors have given demos.
- Good input is being received from Mike Weaver (Lancaster Co 9-1-1 Director) regarding CAD and Orbacom.
- Facility – The County Commissioners have agreed to move. Property was looked at on Smile Way in the City Industrial Park. It is currently the Columbia Gas building. Sale price is 4.5 million dollars. Stewart & Tate own the building. It sits on 9 acres.
- Radio Frequencies – Ralph Haller with Fox Ridge Consulting who is an ex-FCC employee knows the ins and outs of radio coordination may be hired in that capacity.
- Grants – Mr. Fasick is looking into grants for facility upgrades and the Homeland Security Act.

911: Cindy Dietz reported there would be Sky Warn Training held at the Pleasant Acres Annex on Saturday May 3rd at 10:00am. Chief Aldinger from Station 23 requested to know if there was a problem with the Pleasantville Tower today. He stated his station had a delayed response to a call due to no pager activation. He was advised he needed to contact the shift supervisor when problems like that occurred. Chief Lain asked if an additional resource column could be added to the current boxes to indicate next due “Certified RIT Teams”. He was advised that there were no immediate plans to redo the current 1200+ boxes, but it may be an option to consider if enough departments think it’s necessary when we go to load CAD.

FIRE SCHOOL: Director Schaefer said he had checked on the grant and it had gone through. We may not receive it until after June. There were 498 students to date. The Essentials program started on April 15th. The Retention and Recruitment program will be on Wednesday night, it is not full so anyone may show up. Structural Burn scheduled for the 3rd & 4th, at this time it is full but you can get on the waiting list. June 20th & 21st is the Firefighter 1 Certification Class.

HAZMAT: Director Schaefer reported 8 calls for the month and 21 for the year. Still getting physicals for members. Hazmat Refresher is scheduled for September. May 14th there will be an Awareness Refresher. Chief Godfrey reported that WMD equipment is being funneled down from the South Central PA Task Force the team has received a Hepavac. He is looking for more things to come down. Penn Township Hazmat no report.

SPECIAL RESCUE TASK FORCE: No Report

EMA: No report.

Chief Nichols wanted to know if a Mutual Aid agreement would be forthcoming for members on the Task Force. Tom Graybill will look into that.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Chief Dietz stated that April 15th was Candidates Night, fifteen out of sixteen candidates participated and a Political Science Professor from York College was there to mediate. Twenty-five people attended. Fourteen departments were represented. The turnout was extremely poor and Chief Dietz could not understand how this could happen from a group who was so adamant they wanted to proceed with the Candidate’s Night.

Bob Bowman requested that we dispense with writing checks to host companies. He recommended that since most departments give the checks back, we could have a standing offer of a check for \$40.00 that would be written if requested. Motion made by Chief Dietz and seconded by Chief List to accept Bob’s proposal. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Roth to pay the bills seconded by John Fornadel. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Gemmill wanted to know if the Chief's Association could file charges against an individual (regarding the problems with individuals playing on the fire radio). Chief Nichols asked about the DA's Office and the use of voice recognition equipment. Chief Godfrey wanted to know who held the rights for Med 10.

Chief Senft stated he thought we should appoint a Ways & Means Committee to help establish funds since we have lost 50% of our operating expenses.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: Chief Bissey stated that Charlie Schwab, Operations Manager at the 9-1-1 Center had been left go today the details were unknown.

Chief Nichols said that Emergency Services Day would be at the West Manchester Mall on Saturday May 17th. Anyone wishing to participate should contact him.

Commissioner Roth stated that Grangeville Hazmat had been soliciting the western quadrant of the county for funds. The Commissioner distributed copies of correspondence to the residents as well as several news articles regarding the situation.

Chief Snyder stated that we should be checking to make sure that all the organizations listed as resources in the resource manual are insured.

Jerry Ozog a representative from HACC for the York area, introduced himself and passed out his business cards.

Chief Gemmill said he thought Candidate's Night (the program) went well.

Captain Herman said that Chief Billy Goldfeder would be at Station 24-1 May 15th at 6:30 to give a presentation. Members of the Northeastern Mutual Aid Association may attend for free. Non-members may attend for \$10.00. Contact Kraig if you are interested. He also stated that the problem at the basket Bingo held at their station was not the department's fault, but the people who rented the fire hall. There are no charges against the department.

Chief John Fornadel made a motion to adjourn seconded by Bob Bowman. Meeting adjourned by President Skip Rupert.

The following stations still owe dues for 2003/2004 – York New Salem, York Twp., East Prospect, Yorkana, Pennville, Glen Rock, Seven Valleys, DDSP-LF, Lake Aldred, Maryland Line, and McSherrystown.

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, May 19, 2002 at the Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary