

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

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



MONTHLY MEETING
THIRD MONDAY

May 16, 2005

President Skip Rupert called the regular monthly meeting of the Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association of York County Inc. to order and led the pledge to the flag. Forty people were in attendance.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published. President Rupert asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report Chief Tony Myers made the motion, seconded by Chief Joe Snyder. Motion carried.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chairman John Senft reported meeting with the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. The following items were discussed:

- Facility
 - Working with CS Davidson
 - Plans for structural improvement to the burn building
 - Sent out Request for Proposal
 - Sampling and permitting for DEP for the retention pond
- Working on a policy for the use of the facility, specifically the burn building.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Chief Shank reported that the committee met on May 12th.

- Cindy Dietz revised the fire incident policy to clarify things for the dispatchers and make it a little easier for them. There were no changes for the fire service.
- ATR Team requested personnel ID designations. A representative from the team will be invited to the next Radio Board meeting to discuss the designations.
- Harley Davidson and the PSP Fire Marshall were denied in their requests for unit/personnel designations.
- Radio coverage building density maps are being circulated to the Chiefs for the county project.
- There will be a second set of coverage maps coming around to identify radio coverage problem areas.
- J & K fire was reviewed at the meeting and several problems were identified
 - EMS still not going through command with their requests.
 - Fire Police are identifying themselves as Fire Police Command and calling by phone and making requests.
 - Many non-essential phone calls were made to the Center from personnel asking where equipment was going or what was on fire.

The next committee meeting will be on Thursday, June 9th at 7pm in Meeting Room #1 at the Pleasant Acres Annex.

911:

Project Director Rob Sterner reported on the Emergency Services Center project.

- The schematic design phase of the facility has been completed. The price has gone up. The reason for this is the increasing prices in steel and concrete, which is what the post 9-11 facility is primarily constructed of. Currently the price has increased by 1.5 million with no changes.
- The geo-technical report will be finalized this week.
- The land development package will be sent to Springettsbury Township next week.
- Rob thanked everyone who helped complete the building density maps.
- Coverage maps for problem areas are now being circulated.
- The county will be creating a 3rd overlay for the maps and this will be a zoning layer, which identifies proposed construction.

- Approximately 140 people attended the radio demos.
- Four zone meetings are being held for Fire and EMS to further refine the needs of the departments. A new survey form was sent out to capture more specifics from each service. The following are a list of the scheduled zone meetings. You may attend any meeting.
 - Zone 1 Station 6 May 18th at 7pm.
 - Zone 2 Station 24-2 May 18th at 7pm
 - Zone 3 Station 47 May 24th at 7pm
 - Zone 4 Station 18 May 24th at 7pm

Rob said they would attempt to have a make up meeting for those who are unable to attend the scheduled zone meetings.

Paul Zimmerer, 911 Asst. Operations Manager, advised he wanted to review what was presented at last months meeting by Tony Flores, for those who were at the J & K fire. Laptops in the fire apparatus are not part of the current project. They will be a second project probably 2 –3 years out. The reason for the information last month was just for departments to be aware of where the County is headed.

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

Statement:

Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge:

Our Extrication Challenge took place May 6 – 8, 2005. It was very successful in its primary goal of bringing Rescuers together to share their ideas on vehicle rescue. To reinforce that point, I shall quote Brian Rohrbaugh of the Ephrata Area Rescue (who volunteered to help at the event), ***“We picked up at least one idea from the teams at every scenario. This was an enjoyable and educational weekend.”*** The eight teams participating this year were: Litchfield, Ohio; Chili, New York; Brighton Fire Department of Tonawanda, NY; Blue Valley, PA; Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; Mississauga, Ontario, Canada; and Tri-County Teams 1 and 2 from Hackettstown, New Jersey. The general impression of those attending was that this was a productive and educational event that produced positive results for those in attendance (including board members Chief Barry Myers and Chief John Senft). Mr. Rupert, Event Chairman and Head Judge, was instructed to secure dates for a 2nd Annual Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge. Those dates are tentatively May 5, 6 and 7, 2006. This date will help us avoid the conflict we had with Mother’s Day this year. We strongly hope to see MORE Pennsylvania TEAMS next year. Both East Prospect and Mechanicsburg have indicated their intentions of forming a team; there is even a rumor of several departments from the area forming a “composite” team for next year. Mr. Rupert and I have not had an opportunity to review this year’s event in total yet. Preliminarily speaking, we do feel that we have areas of the event (that do not have to do directly with the challenge/educational portion) that need improvement. As we review and make our post extrication challenge recommendations, we feel that next year’s event will be even more successful than our 2005 Challenge.

FDIC:

While at this year’s FDIC, and after consulting with President Rupert, advanced registrations were made for two persons for next years FDIC. A \$100.00 per registration deposit was made. This will assure whomever we send next year their choice of training packages, and early access to motel reservations, etcetera.

Questions Concerning Instructors and ETAs:

On June 15th, 2005, I will meet with HACC staff and will be discussing future educational projects with them. We have already made a contact with Jeff Snyder, an Instructor with HACC in regards to a Fall Confined space class. Please DO NOT see this in any way as a rejection of those instructors who have served this school for many years. It is a goal of mine to offer a mix of instructors and educational opportunities to the Fire Service of York County and its surrounding areas. We ARE NOT eliminating any instructors at the school. We ARE looking to expand our teaching pool. On a personal note, I strongly recommend taking the same class from different instructors. While their course outlines are the same, each instructor brings their own personal twist to the presentations. By taking the same course twice from different instructors, you will have a broader knowledge base to build upon. Look for some new class offerings in the fall.

Class Room III, Basement Wall:

We are still waiting for a courtesy visit from the Manchester Township codes officer to assure our basement wall project complies with the appropriate safety codes. Chief Senft and others have volunteered to check with some other resources for guidance. Once we have our questions addressed, we will proceed to obtain a minimum of 2 estimates and select a contractor.

Burn Building Engineering Report:

The Board has reviewed the report and is seeking estimates to conduct the suggested maintenance of our burn building.

Fire School Activity:

The activity at the fire school has dropped some this month with only a projected use of 204.5 hours. This is down from the previous month's total of 319 hours. The 319 is down from the projected total from last month as the Department of Emergency Services 9-1-1 Training concluded early and several other classes being canceled due to lack of attendance. The Fire School has noted a disturbing trend lately of persons pre-registering for a class then not attending. There is discussion by the board as how to address this issue. The Fire School CANNOT accomplish this alone; we need the continued and strong support of the Fire Chiefs and Training Officers of York County to make our school successful.

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 plan on taking the test, please make sure your prerequisites are in order. Firefighter I testing is your option to take. It is not a requirement, however it can help your department obtain 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 is current** on the **test dates**; this also goes for **First Aid** and **Professional Rescuer CPR**. They should also make sure they 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. 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 sheets to help them in their studying for the test. The FIRE SCHOOL CANNOT TELL YOU, which 12 Stations will be selected.

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.

Community Service:

Recently we have had two persons associated with the Criminal Justice System, and one other person, working at the Fire School on (school-based) community service projects. This "free" labor has gone a long way to spruce up things at the Fire School; items that have been worked on are: Painting of the Yard Hydrants, PIV, Sprinkler Simulator, Hose stations, the Exterior of the Smoke Maze as well as cutting weeds and various landscaping jobs. The Fire School is a willing host in all forms of Community Service; please feel free to contact us at anytime.

Current Schedule:

The initial 2005 schedule has been completed and mailed to all York County Stations. The 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 continue to send out training announcements monthly. If you are the training officer, please make sure they get posted. If you're 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. 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.

Remaining May Courses	
17, 19 & 21	Pump Operations I (PUOP) 5/17 & 19, 18:30 – 22:30 & 5/21, 08:00 – 17:00
21 & 22	Advanced Fire Police (FIPA) 08:00 – 17:00
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

June Courses	
1	Haz-Mat First Responder Awareness (RIHM) 18:30 – 22:30
4 & 5	Rural Fireground Water Movement (RFWM) 08:00 – 17:00 at Eureka VFC in Stewartstown Rope/High Angle Rescue I (RORE) 08:00 – 17:00
6, 8, 13, 15, 20 & 22	Haz-Mat First Responder Operations (IAFF) 18:30 – 22:30
7, 8 & 11	Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVOC) 6/7 & 8, 18:30 – 22:30 and 6/11, 08:00 – 17:00
13	<i>PA Essentials of Fire Fighting (EBM) begins – 09:00 – 13:00 (Daytime course)</i>
14, 16 & 18	Incident Safety Officer (ISO) 6/14 & 16, 18:30 – 22:30 & 6/18, 08:00 – 17:00
14, 16 & 19	Basic Vehicle Rescue Awareness (BVRA) 6/14 & 16, 18:30 – 22:30 & 6/19, 08:00 – 17:00
18	<i>Heavy Vehicle Rescue (Truck) (BCCC-HVRT) 08:00 – 17:00</i>
18 & 19	<i>Structural Burn Session (SBS) 08:00 – 17:00</i>
25 & 26	<i>Managing Company Tactical Operations – Decision (MCTO-D) 08:00 – 17:00</i>

Carl Avery and President Rupert both thanked the City Explorer Post, Glen Rock Junior Fire Fighters, and Chief Wolfgang from Station 42, for their assistance at the Extrication Challenge, as well as the Union Fire Company (Station 23) for hosting the Saturday night social and the Sunday awards presentation. President Rupert said that they have t-shirts, mugs, and hats leftover from the event for anyone who is interested in purchasing them.

YORK COUNTY ATR: Chief Myers reported that the team responded to assist West York with a vehicle into a structure.

- Yearly confined space and rope rescue classes are being taken.
- Offered to come out to do ATR presentation at your station. Contact Chief Myers if interested.

HAZMAT: Tom Graybill reported 31 calls for the year. Just finished up a Hazmat Technician Class. They have 5 new technicians and 14 from other companies. Twenty recerts were done. There are a total of 53 team members at this time, however that is under review, as some of these members have not completed their requirements to remain on the team.

Tom discussed the following upcoming trainings being offered:

- Transcaer Project – Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response
July 16th at 0830 hours, Springettsbury Fire Station 3013 East Market Street. Call 840-7497 if interested in attending.
- Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings
June 2nd 1800 – 2200 hours, Meeting Room #1 at the Pleasant Acres Annex. Must register by May 27. Contact Bernadette Lauer 840-7493.
- Toxic Industrial Chemicals/Toxic Industrial Materials Agents of Opportunity for Terrorism
June 13th 0800 – 1600 hours, Drexel University Philadelphia, PA. No Charge. Register online at www.drexel.edu/med/agents-symposium.

President Rupert asked if there had been any progress made with the Mutual Aid agreement for out of state Hazmat teams. Tom advised there is no progress to report at this time.

FIRE POLICE: Jim Robertson reported that their next meeting would be on Monday night, when they will be holding their memorial Service at Station 41.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- President Rupert asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion to pay the bills by Commissioner Roth, seconded by Ken Royal. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- President Rupert advised the body that we needed a station to host the July quarterly meeting. Anyone interested see Cindy.
- Chief Shank reported that the Mayday Committee met and a copy of the draft policy will be sent out via email for critiquing and discussion at next month's meeting.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Chief Senft Thanked Carl Avery and President Rupert for their work on the Extrication Challenge. He said it was a fine program.
- Lori Gillon from VFIS reminded everyone about the SR60 Meeting being held at Station 23 on Tuesday May 24th at 6pm. So far only 6 people have pre-registered. June 11th there will be an Instructor Level EVOG class. Train the Trainer. Friday and Saturday.
- Bob Ditzel from the York County Fire Fighters Association reminded everyone that the deadline for parade registration for the County Convention is June 1st. The next meeting of the York County Fire Fighters Association is on Thursday May 19th at 7pm at Station 35. He also expressed that Explorer Post 610 wanted to convey their thanks for allowing them to participate at the extrication event.

Motion to adjourn by Chief Dietz seconded by Bob Bowman Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

The following stations still owe dues for 2005/2006 – 8, 11, 42, 44,

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, June 20, 2005 at the Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary