

May 17, 2003

President Skip Rupert called the regular monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order. Thirty- eight members were in attendance. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted. Paul Schaefer presented the treasurer's report. There was a motion by Bernard Anthony second by John Fornadel to accept the treasurer's report

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Barry Myers reported they would be meeting to put together a Hazmat Committee. Chief John Senft said that he emailed the Arkansas Division of Forestry to see if they wanted the truck from the fire school. Barry Myers reminded everyone that May 20th was Election Day and to go out and vote.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Rob Bissey reported that the committee did not meet last month but would be meeting on June 12th at the 9-1-1 Center .

- The AED Response Guideline for the Fire Service was completed and approved.
- The new county guideline for Water Supply Events was reviewed.

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

- Facility – The appraisal has been completed for the Smile Way property. The report is not back yet but should be by the end of the month. CS Davidson is doing the engineering report for the building. Planning has also being started for the inside of the building.
- CAD – The committee is still seeing vendors. To date they have seen five out of a list of nine. Rob has a list of questions that are being asked of each vendor if anyone would like to see it.
- The EMA van with radio equipment is back on the road and is available to respond on large incidents. It is scheduled to go in the shop to check for interoperability possibilities sometime in May.
- Radio Frequencies – The County has hired Ralph Haller, a radio consultant, to find additional radio frequencies. He has found several 450 frequencies he believes may be useful.

911: Cindy Dietz reported that all dual tones that were in the system have been removed and if you are still experiencing dual tones going out to contact the Radio Techs at York County. Bob Fasick will be meeting with the Director from Lancaster County regarding the question of what they might be doing to help improve the 33.90 issue.

- Once the first round of CAD vendors have been seen, the field will be narrowed to three and demonstrations will be conducted. Outside agencies will be invited to participate in these.
- A letter from Bob Fasick will be sent out to all police, fire, EMS, agencies as well as the municipalities asking for radio information so that Mr. Haller can determine what is needed.
- Box Alarm assignments are still needed from the following stations
 1. Station 66 (WarringtonTwp, Washinton Twp, Wellsville Boro) Fire and EMS
 2. Stations 16 &17 (Springettsbury Twp) Fire, EMS and Map
 3. Station 67 (Monaghan Twp) Fire, EMS and Map
 4. Station 68 (Fairview Twp) EMS
- New PA Turnpike interchange information was emailed out to all emergency responders. These changes go into effect June 1, 2003.
- If you wish to utilize the new AED Guideline for your department you will need to contact Cindy in writing (email) to make that request. This will not be done automatically.

FIRE SCHOOL: Director Schaefer reported that the grant money for the engine has been held up due to Governor Rendell not signing the release papers yet. There have been 615 students attend classes at the school so far this year. Catalogs for training are available. Fire Fighter I Certification class will be held on June 21 & 22. Aircraft Rescue Class information is in the files and on the back table.

Chief Nichols asked about the Vehicle Rescue Class that had been canceled (not everyone was aware) and would it be rescheduled? Director Schaefer said that the cancellation had been announced on the fire radio and emailed out. He also said it had been rescheduled and held on May 16th.

HAZMAT: Director Schaefer reported 1 call for the month and 22 for the year. Two bills were paid last month and a check was received from the County for Hazmat. Chief Godfrey reported the Decon Task Force received an APD2000, (2) Hepavacs, a Multirad, M8 paper, 256 kits and 295 kits out of money from the old budget for the Regional Counter Terrorism Task Force. There are more items on order for the new budget. Chief Godfrey stated that for anyone who is interested, additional companies may be needed to participate to form a second strike team. He said that for some reason they have been issued double sets of Hazmat Gear. Grangeville Hazmat no report.

SPECIAL RESCUE TASK FORCE: John Sanford reported 0 calls for the month. The May 10th training was rained out. August 23rd and 24th scheduled Confined Space training. September 19th, 20th and 21st Trench Rescue training is scheduled. The Team is buying a snake-eye camera.

EMA: Tom Graybill wished to make a correction the "van" is no longer the EMA Van but the 911 Van, it now belongs to the communications department.

- ACT 147 requests were due in by May 15, 2003
- Federal Fire Grant program: PA submitted 1660 grant applications. Awards to be out by 9/1/2003. PA had 8% of the filings.
- The 2004 Federal Fire Grant is to be \$750 million.
- PA state Grants will also have \$25 million available for funding fire companies. Awards will be based on dual purpose and mutual aid agreements. Max for companies that meet the criteria is \$15,000.00. Base award for companies that do not meet criteria is \$2500.00.
- Much information on grants can be misleading. Grants from USFA are individual fire company based. Many Homeland Security grants will go to the states to be distributed down. In PA there is Counter Terrorism legislation that looks at funding going to Regional Task Forces, who in turn pass equipment to counties to distribute to de-con strike teams, EMS strike teams, Law Enforcement strike teams, etc. and do not get to companies who are not part of the Counter Terrorism Task Force.
- More equipment has been received for Haz-Mat from the Regional Counter Terrorism Task Force. The initial mutual aid agreement signed by the Association will not have to be re-signed. The inventory list has been added as a supplement to the original agreement.
- The TMI drill went well.
- Demos – Tier II Inventory & GIS on May 27, 2003 at 1400 hours. Demoron RAD Suit on May 29, 2003 at 1000 hours at the annex.
- Dauphin County received a Decon Trailer. York County is next on the list followed by Lancaster and Cumberland.

Chief Nichols questioned a list of equipment on the handout and wanted to know who provides the items required for the strike teams, the individual stations or the County? Chief Godfrey said he believed most of it would be supplied to the stations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Chief Dietz suggested that the Association purchases a plaque to show appreciation to Dr. John Altman who was the facilitator at last months Meet the Candidate Night. Motion made by Chief Bissey and second by Chief Rentzel to purchase the plaque. Motion carried.

Chief Dietz contacted Vincent Bolton, General Secretary-Treasurer from the IAFF regarding our returned check to the New York Firefighters 9-11 Disaster Relief Fund, asking what he suggested we do with it. Mr. Bolton replied in a letter that the old fund has been closed and a new fund opened. A motion was made by Commissioner Roth to send the check to the new fund, the New York September 11th Firefighters Counseling Support Foundation. Second by Chief Myers. Motion carried.

Chief Rentzel said that the convener position will be a conflict and will not work for him so he is removing his name from the list. He will however keep members updated on frequency issues since he will be working on Dauphin County's radio project.

Director Schaefer wanted to know if the Association was going to continue with the Helmet Triangles? Discussion followed. Chief Dietz pointed out that they are a part of the SOG outlining the York County Helmet Identification System. President Rupert said he would get with Chief Shenk about ordering more.

Director Schaefer read the bills. Motion made by Chief Rentzel to pay the bills seconded by Chief McAnaney. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: Cindy Dietz said that Jeff Joy from Station 58 was organizing a York County Firefighters Night at the Maryland Fire Convention held in Ocean City. The get together will be held at Finnegans Bayside at 47th St on Tuesday June 17th at 7pm. More details to follow.

Chief Dan Deller expressed his opinion on recent legislature supporting slots in PA and the negative impact they may have on the fire departments when it comes to bingo fundraising. He believes if the slots get much closer we will start feeling the impact here in York. He urged members to contact their local legislator and voice their opinion.

Chief Dietz made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned by President Skip Rupert.

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

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, June 16, 2003 at the Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary