

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

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



MONTHLY MEETING
THIRD MONDAY

July 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. Parkville Fire Captain Jeff Parks gave the welcoming address and President Rupert gave the response thanking the Parkville Fire Company for their hospitality. There were thirty-nine members in attendance.

Roll call was taken. Nineteen out of sixty-five stations were represented and reported.

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

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

- Facility Usage Agreement.
- Funds Investment.
- Capital Purchases.
- PennDOT Agility Agreement.
- Proposal for Burn Building Repairs.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Chief Shank reported that the committee met on July 14th. No applications were submitted for approval.

- Work Details should not be requested through the County or announced on the fire radio.
- One department (Monaghan Twp.) did not complete their CAD responses. The Radio Committee will be completing those responses for the County at their next meeting in August.
- Give regular progress reports (early in the call) when you are on significant incidents. There are different notifications that may need to be made, as well as certain things that are reported will trigger the dispatcher to do certain tasks.
- Road Closings will no longer be announced on the fire radio. Notifications will still be made to the Chiefs. On Fridays a list will be emailed from the PFE Coordinator of all roads that the County has listed as still being closed.
- A group of Chiefs will be traveling to Montgomery County 911 on Wednesday to meet with their Chiefs and discuss concerns about radio systems and paging.

The next committee meeting will be on Thursday, August 11th at 7pm in Meeting Room #4 at the Pleasant Acres Annex.

911:

Project Director Rob Sterner reported on the following aspects of the Emergency Services Center Project:

- Facility – The land development package was submitted to Springettsbury Twp. The plan was returned and must be resubmitted to address storm water runoff. The building design development phase has been completed. They are looking to break ground in early 2006 February/March. Construction is projected to last 1-½ years, with completion anticipated in late 2007.
- Radio - Traveling with a group of responders and radio subcommittee members to Montgomery County, PA on Wednesday to speak with their counterparts on radio systems and alerting. Rob thanked everyone

for completing the additional surveys. The information received from the surveys will be part of the Radio RFP. The RFP should be released in mid August. The response time for the vendors will be 60-75 days. The Radio Subcommittee will assist in reviewing the RFP responses. Selection of a vendor will hopefully occur by the end of the year. The cutover process for the radios will occur in late 2007.

- CAD – New World Systems is under contract. A tentative kickoff meeting is scheduled for July 25th with New World representatives.
 - Phase I – 10 months for basic CAD
 - Phase II – add AVL and MDT (Mobil Data Systems).
 - Phase III – Cut CAD over to the new facility
 - Phase IV – Cut CAD over to the long term back up site.

There is an agreement in principal with West Manchester Twp. to renovate part of their building as a long term back up site. A new tower will also be installed there. The final design of this building will be sent to West Manchester Twp. next week.

Executive Director Eric Bistline sent out an update to all elected officials on the project. This will continue on a quarterly basis in an effort to keep them informed.

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

Statement:

The York County Fire School continues to work on ways to improve its delivery of quality and accessible fire and rescue educational opportunities to the emergency service providers in our area. All while we are also striving to maximize the county's return on investment with us. Our facility strives to be in use as much as possible. One of the ways we do this is opening our facility to Law Enforcement personnel especially member of the County's Quick Response team. In March of this year the Quick Response team recognized the York County Fire School as one of its community of supporters. We also provide classroom facilities to the County of York Department of Emergency Services. This is not only for the Training and organizational meetings of the Hazardous Materials Team, But it is also used by members of the Dispatch Center (9-1-1 Center) for training of there new employees. We also work closely with PennDOT and other users to keep our facility active. Non-Emergency Service Providers such as PennDOT and the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Water Works Association use our facility through rental agreements which generates an income for the school. The agreement we have with PennDOT is slightly different. Our agreement with them is based on an agility pact between the two organizations. This exchange of services enables the school to accomplish some major maintenance projects while in return we provide classroom and meeting space for their organization

The Fire School and its parent organization, the Fire Chiefs' and Firefighters Association of York County continue to chart a path for positive growth and enrichment for the 12+ acre facility. The School's rich, Twenty-five plus year, history provides the strong foundation for future development. The twelve different buildings and training areas on our campus are in various stages of development and re-development. Your Fire School is a living and vital organization. We are constant revitalizing ourselves to keep us a vibrant and effective component for training our areas' responders, all of this while balancing the needs of the school with fiscal responsibility. The Board of Governors, your Program Coordinator and the Staff of the Fire School strive for the proper balance between growth and resources. The dynamic needs of today's modern Emergency Services demand a facility and equipment that is responsive to the needs of the community. As our community and the world we live in develops and grow so do the demands on Emergency Services. Our motto at the Fire School is "Preparing for tomorrow's Emergencies". For us to live up to that, we must maintain and enhance our facilities for the Firefighters and Rescuers of our community. I have spoke of preparing our Fire, Rescue and Emergency Service Personnel and how that is our mission here. We must never loose sight of who is the true beneficiary of these investments in your fire school are. The true beneficiaries are the Citizen and Guest of York County who receive services from the responders we help train.

All of our facilities require regular maintenance and upkeep to keep them available for the most up to date and efficient training for our Emergency Responders. The Board of Governors has undertaken two significant projects in the first half of this year. One is the completion of an Engineering Study and its recommendations to our Burn Building. This is called for on an annual basis under NFPA 1403. Now that the report is complete they are moving on to take the corrective actions called for in the report. The other large maintenance and remediation project is the refurbishing of the Flammable Liquids area. This is a long over-due project that has been dictated by general maintenance, environmental concerns and a pursuit of improved safety. While these constitute major projects we still have several other tasks to address to keep our school relevant, functional and safe. One is a replacement of the

wooden stair case from the classroom level to the training grounds and another is the reapplication of our NPDES permit for our holding pond. Meanwhile other tasks are constantly being undertaken at Your Fire School, from mowing the grounds, to painting the fence around the holding pond, to re-hanging and adjusting the double doors in Classroom 1, to mounting an OS&Y valve simulator on the Hood at the drafting pit. All of this and more goes on to keep your school operating at its highest potential.

Our guiding principles are forged around our mission statement: The York County Fire School's mission is to manage and provide training opportunities while maintaining access to safe, realistic, and consistent training facilities for the Fire and Emergency Service providers of York County and its surrounding area. The York County Fire School has committed itself to a process of continuous quality improvement in its Facility, Course Offerings and support of Emergency Services Education in York County.

Facility Use:

In the First Six Months of 2005 the School was in use for Classes and Meetings for One Thousand Six hundred forty four and one half hours (1644.5). The usage time is broken down into the following Categories;

Fire Training: One Thousand Twenty-one and one half hours (1021.5), this equals 62%

Police Training: One hundred Ninety Six hours (196), this equals 12%

Meetings (includes terrorism task force and Junior Fire Fighters Assoc. etc.): One hundred Sixty Seven (167) this equals 10%

DES 9-1-1 Com Center Training: One Hundred Sixty Hours (160) this equals 10%

EMS Training (primarily EMT Classes): One Hundred Hours (100) this equals 6% (This Number is typically higher in the last six months of the year)

During the 1644.5 hours of use in the first half of this year an excess of One Thousand three hundred Students took part in training programs here at your fire school. While these are impressive numbers they could be much higher. Your Fire School does suffer from enrollment problems. From consulting with other Fire Schools and Training Agencies this appears to be a common problem through out South Central Pennsylvania as well as other areas of the state and country. Your Fire School is constantly looking at ways to help get the word out about our programs. We are always open to new ways to do things, and more than willing to revisit old ways to provide the best training we can to prepare our area fire and rescue personnel to deal with tomorrow's emergencies. Your Fire School is also used as a base office for the County's Juvenile Fire Setting Program. We have not tracked their hours but our facility provides a home base for them to work out of and a place for maintaining their records.

Use of building for June and projected for July:

In June our Facility reached a record high in usage hours hosting Classes and Meetings for a total of 464 Hours. The projected use for July is significantly lower with 271 hours of projected use. This is partially due to the holiday weekend and summer vacations. Still this represents a slight increase for the same month last year. We sadly had to cancel our scheduled Fire Fighter I certification test as we only had 4 persons enrolled. This may be due to some Fire Companies pursuing other testing programs.

Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge:

This May (on Mothers Day Weekend) your Fire School engaged in a major event to bring Rescuers from all over the Northeast to our school for an informative and challenging event. The 2005 Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge. This was a Transportation Emergency Rescue Committee USA sanctioned event where rescuers from our region (Region I, the Northeastern United States) gather together to challenge themselves and each other in realistic rescue scenarios. The teams are evaluated in the areas of Coordination and Control, Safety, Technique and Efficiency. We had teams from Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ontario Canada joined us for our inaugural event. This event proved to be very successful in meeting its goal to bring a world-class event to York County Fire School. It was an event where, as several of the spectators noted, they could get and exchange new ideas on vehicle rescue. This forum has been a seedbed for many new ideas in Rescue and the Fire School recognizes this as one way we can help each other do it better. Plans are underway for next year's event and we hope to see this grow into an annual happening. Your Fire School Program Coordinator is presently looking into Funding sources and is looking forward to the formation of a committee for the Mason Dixon Extrication Challenge 2006.

PLANS AND PROJECTS

The Schools spirit of continuous quality improvement has us repeatedly reviewing our assets and responsibilities so that we may embark on the best course of revitalization, while maintaining a due regard to fiscal responsibility. Generally speaking our projects are evaluated to see how they fit into three main categories. The first category is Safety, the next is upgrading the educational environment and the last being efficiency and appearance. All three of these categories intertwine to one degree or another. It is also noted that the synergy of the three does tend to produce outcomes greater than the sum of the parts. The list of Projects pending exceeds our short-term abilities to meet them. This does not however lesson their importance or their need. It falls to the wisdom of the Board of Governors to assign priorities to the various projects and fund them with the available resources. The following list is present in no particular order of importance. The associated numbers are merely for ease of reference

Projects Pending

	Project	Safety	Educational	Efficiency
1	Improved Classroom adjuncts projectors computers DVD player etc		XXX	
2	Redesign and upgrade various aspects of our Flammable liquids area	XXX	XXX	XXX
3	Remodeling project to Create a Office / Command Post on the training grounds	XXX	XXX	XXX
4	Number Building and Install a Directory		XXX	XXX
5	Obtain and Install a Fire Behavior Simulator	XXX	XXX	
6	Improve Seating and Rehabilitation areas through out the training grounds	XXX	XXX	XXX
7	Improve Vehicle Rescue training area with Concrete pads, and props to improve realism of training	XXX	XXX	XXX
8	Improve/Upgrade Technical Rescue Area (including HAZ-MAT training area	XXX	XXX	XXX
9	Repaving Project to maintain and upgrade existing facilities			XXX
10	More First Response Emergency medical gear (on training Grounds)	XXX		
11	Reinstate administrative assistant position for improved record keeping (even if it means reduced hours or salary)			XXX
12	Pursue computer upgrades including a LAN		XX	XXX
13	Recondition and upgrade Flammable Liquids area	XXX	XXX	
14	A Loader/Back Hoe to facilitate maintenance and Rescue Training		XXX	XXX
15	HAZ-MAT Tanker Prop for operations and technicians level training		XXX	
16	Create Vehicle Rescue training trailer		XXX	
17	New Air Compressor for SCBA	XXX		XXX
18	Continue improvements to Campus Fire Station	XXX	XXX	XXX
19	Continue to upgrade the Burn Building with the addition of a Fire Escape		XXX	
20	Various landscaping projects to enhance access to all parts of our facility as well to improve the over all appearance.	XXX	XXX	XXX
23	Establish an annual Hose Replacement program	XXX	XXX	

Upcoming Classes:

Pre-registration Forms are available at Your Fire School, or Check with Your Company's Chief or Training officer. Universal Pre-registration Forms and more information are also available on our Web Site: www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org

Hazardous Materials First Responder Awareness (RIHM), 4 hours

Presented: August 4, 18:30 to 22:30 Instructor: Lane

Terrorism Operations (Domestic Preparedness) (TODP), 8 Hours

Presented: August 6, 08:00 to 17:00 Instructor: Lane

Basic Vehicle Rescue Awareness (BVRA) (part 1 of a 3 part series), 16 hours

Presented: August 6 & 7, 08:00 to 17:00 Instructor: Nichols

Emergency Vehicle Driving Training (EVOC), 16 hours

Presented: August 8 & 10, 18:30 to 22:30 & August 13, 08:00 to 17:00 Instructor: Lane

HAZ-MAT First Responder Operations IAFF (IAFF), (24 Hours)

Presented: August 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 & 25, 18:00 to 22:30 Instructor: Lane

Basic Vehicle Rescue Technician (BVRT) (part 3 of a 3 part series), 16 hours

Prerequisites: BVR Awareness and BVR Operations courses (certificates needed to test) Presented: August 13 & 14, 08:00 to 17:00 Instructor: Clouser

Pump Operations II - (PUOA) 16 hours

Prerequisite: IST; PUOP

Presented: August 15 & 17, 18:30 to 22:30 & August 20 08:00 to 17:00

Instructor: Lane

Structural Burn Session (SBS), 16 hours

Presented: August 16 & 18, 18:30 to 22:30 & 21, 08:00 to 17:00 Instructor: Gunnet

Incident Safety Officer (NFA) (ISO), 16 hours

Presented: August 22 & 24, 18:30 to 22:30 & August 27, 08:00 to 17:00 Instructor: Lane

YORK COUNTY ATR: No Report.

HAZMAT: President Rupert read a letter from Mr. Murray on the Hazmat Mutual Aid issue. In the letter it stated they will begin doing a reassessment starting mid August.

FIRE POLICE: No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Chief Shank reported that the May Day Committee would have the policy ready for the September Meeting, so that it can be reviewed and then voted on at the October Meeting.
- President Rupert asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion to pay the bills by Ken Royal, seconded by Chief Cadden. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- May 5th, 6th, & 7th 2006 are the dates approved by the Board to hold another Mason Dixon Extrication Challenge. Dave Huffnagle will be donating 20 cases of soda to the event.
- Chief Shank requested an explanation on how the Fire School Usage agreement will work.
 - Chief Senft advised that the agreement would be good for a one-time use for the burn building. A new form must be submitted each time you request to use it. All other portions of the facility will be good for one year. Annually a certificate must be submitted to the school indicating proof of valid insurance.
 - Lori Gillon said that once it is set up with VFIS, certificates of insurance will automatically be sent out each year unless they are notified otherwise.
- Chief Nichols spoke about the new fireworks law that has legalized fireworks in PA. Senator Waugh has agreed to work through the Senate to get it amended or rescinded. Representative Mackereth has agreed to do the same in the House of Representatives.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Albert Sheffer said that on Tuesday August 23rd there would be a meeting at City Station 9 to start forming committees for the State Convention in 2007.
- Glenn Kline said that Moses Baker is not doing well he has been diagnosed with cancer. Send a card to cheer him up.
 - Chief Senft advised that the Citizens Fire Academy is hosting Fire Police Misconceptions on Tuesday July 26th at City Station 9. The class is through Buck County College and the instructor will be Tony Riccardi.

Motion to adjourn by Chief Dietz seconded by Rob Bissey. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, August 15, 2005 at the Fire School. This meeting is the "Show you New Equipment" meeting. Bring your new apparatus to the meeting. Dave Huffnagle and Lori Gillon will be supplying refreshments for the meeting. Representatives from the State will also be present to discuss the new guidelines for Fire Essentials.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary