

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

330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406



Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday

Monthly Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER (President Steve Buffington)

President Steve Buffington called the monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order at 19:05. The call to order was followed by a pledge to the flag and a moment of silence. 31 people were in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS

Dave (The Radio Man) Hoffnagle informed the group that he sells Power Products replacement batteries for the digital portable radios. The new battery technology holds a charge for 3-4 days, but it does require changing out chargers.

IDS Restoration Co. provided snacks and gave a brief presentation on their spin-off company. They do offer charitable donations for referrals.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Buffington asked if there were any corrections to last month's minutes. With no corrections, the minutes were approved as issued.

REPORTS

Treasurer (Bob Bowman):

Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the following report: Beginning Balance: \$4,642.89 with an Ending Balance: \$8,165.07. With no comments, President Buffington approved the Treasurer's Report as read.

Board of Governors (John Senft): The Board met this evening prior to this meeting and discussed the following:

Update on capital improvement projects; insurance; purchase of a new utility vehicle; radio committee resignation; and York County EMS changes.

Communications (XXX):

President Buffington reported that Erik Brown has resigned from the committee. Anyone who is interested in serving on the committee should contact Steve or Bob Sells for consideration by the BOG at their next meeting.

Joe Madzellan reported that the CAD upgrade package that was sent to each station is a little bit different than what was presented at previous meetings. There are still questions on how it will really work. Initial reports are that meetings with YCDES are going well. Joe also reviewed the response groups that are in the package.

Joe Yahnke asked what the actual due date for the update information really is – noting that all box changes need municipal authority approval. Julio Mendez responded that he will take this question back to Eric Bistline, but that his understanding is that information must be provided by the fire chiefs by August 31 and that municipal approval can follow.

Tony Myers reported to that group an issue that they identified in their meeting where double-pulls for resources from stations that fail initial responses could cause serious delays in getting apparatus on the street. Tony advised that this issue must be fixed before the go-live date in October or it will put the public at risk.

911 Center (Julio Mendez):

The ongoing radio re-programming is affecting the mobile radios only, not the portables. If there are any issues, we are to call the vendor directly and then call YCDES if they do not respond. He also pointed out that scan lists in the mobiles need to be re-built for each radio by the fire company after the re-programming.

Fire School Administrator (Richard Halpin):

July Fire School Training: 272 hours / 104 for fire school classes.

A reminder about the 9-11 service at Prospect Hill Cemetery on Sept. 15. Aerial trucks are already coordinated. All companies are invited to participate in a static apparatus display along the street.

Contact Richard or Heather if you want them to order fire prevention posters for your station.

PA State Police (Brad Dunham):

A county-level fire investigation team can now bring additional help if needed. Also, if you want the fire marshal to come to your fire scene to investigate, you have to answer your cell phone when he calls you.

ATR (John Sanford):

The ATR team had 2 calls for the month, confined space and water rescue; and 15 calls for the year.

Haz-Mat (Tom Graybill):

The Haz-Mat team had 5 calls for the month; and 35 calls for the year.

If you are dealing with a multiple-alarm fire and flowing a lot of water, please call the Haz-Mat duty officer to assist with assessing water run-off.

Fire Police (Jim Robertson):

Eight companies did not turn in their dues or rosters and have lost voting privileges.

Fire School Committee (Bob Sells):

The committee will be reviewing the structural burn building policy and procedure manual for an update. Please send any suggestions for improvement that you have to Bob.

Fire Prevention (Steve Tawney):

Not present

Fundraising (John McDonald):

Not present

Rescue Inspection (Tim Mooney):

Not present

RIT (Brian Widmayer):

Not present

By-Laws (Bob Sells):

The committee met last week and did a brief review of the current by-laws – already noting some contradictions. They are reviewing other sample by-laws for comparison and will meet again in the next month or two.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Buffington asked for a motion to pay the bills. Joe Yahnke made a motion. Darryl Ehrhart seconded the motion and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Wayne Shafer talked about the water supply questionnaire that is being circulated. He noted that as a county we need to get better at water supply tactics, so please fill out the questionnaire and send it back.

Tony Myers remarked that our radio usage in the county is out of control – especially with not using standard terminology. YCDES has a policy for it and it is not being followed. If you do not agree with the policy, then use the YCDES complaint form to suggest a change or stop complaining about it. We as firefighters are part of the problem and our neighboring counties are noticing it.

Greg Halpin noted that he is still waiting for information from the Franklinton LODD.

John Senft reminded the group that we are 11 months away from hosting the Can-Am Games. They are still looking for participants (individuals and groups) and volunteers to help.

The next meeting will be September 16, 2013 at 1900 at the fire school.

ADJOURNMENT

President Buffington adjourned the meeting at 20:18.

Respectfully Recorded,

Robert Sells

Robert Sells
Board Secretary