

September 16, 2002

President Skip Rupert called the regular meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order. Forty-eight members were in attendance. Following the pledge to the flag, the President introduced York City Fire Fighters, Dave Bowman and John Kottmyer, who were representing Paid Fire Fighters Local 627. They came to discuss their phone solicitation fundraiser in an attempt to alleviate problems that had come up in the past. They stated they had not done the fundraiser last year but decided to go ahead with it this year and it was due to begin in two weeks. They said they are able to and will do monitoring of the phone solicitors so it is done professionally and not misleading. They passed around a do not call list for anyone present to sign so their home would not be solicited. If there are problems to be reported regarding the solicitation you should have the date and time the call was placed and report it to the Firefighters Local at 845-5603. Discussion followed and Chief Nichols asked why they are not targeting York City instead of all of York County since the county fire departments do not solicit outside their first due areas. They said this was their most profitable fundraiser and it was legal. Chief Dietz pointed out that none of the money solicited was going to the City Fire Department but to the Union. Chief Lane asked what exactly the money was being used for. They said it was used for union operating expenses, attorney fees, to pay IAFF per capita dues, and for charity donations (MS, Make a Wish, private donation requests). A suggestion was made that an ad be placed in the newspaper stating that this was a union solicitation so the general public would not be misled into thinking that the money benefited fire departments. They said it could be looked into. The minutes were then read. The bills presented for the Fire School Account last month were corrected to read Total Receipts: \$21,474.60. Total Expenses: \$60,731.34. The minutes were then approved as corrected. Bob Bowman presented the Financial Report for August. There was a motion by Joe Stevens and a second by Trever Rentzel to accept the August report. Bob then gave the financial report for September. There was a motion by Bern Anthony and a second by Rick Witten to accept the September report.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chairman Kevin Lane reported the Board met on August 28th and reviewed the building construction and also discussed replacements for the Assistant Directors position at the school. Chief Dietz sent a letter to the commissioners regarding implementation of another burn ban. Kevin also reported there are a lot of stations who have not paid their dues. President Rupert will call New York regarding the check for \$60,000.00 that has been returned. Kevin said that the Aerial piece donated to the school by Hanover FD according to VFIS may not be used as an Aerial. It can be used off the street for training purposes only if the ladder is dismounted or it is secured to the bed of the truck, or it is secured to the truck with a lock and chain arrangement. It may not be used as a manned or unmanned demo piece for any reason. With permission of the Board and the Fire School Director it may be used to haul ground ladders in training. Chief Senft requested to know what it needed to be certified. Director Shaeffer said that 3 sections needed replaced at a cost of \$70-\$80,000.00.

COMMUNICATIONS: No Report.

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Bissey reported the Radio Committee has not yet met this month but will meet this coming Thursday.

911: Cindy Dietz asked that everyone review their boxes because of all the equipment changes that have occurred in the past few months and those that are projected to occur by the end of the year. A list will be sent out from the 911 center with all the changes listed so you will be able to compare it with your boxes and send in any changes that may need made to your responses. Pennfirs (Firehouse Software) reports are now due on a monthly basis. The prior month's reports are due the first 10 days of the current month. If you are having trouble exporting call Cindy at the 911 Center.

FIRE SCHOOL: Director Paul Schaefer reported two pumps were tested this month. Total of thirteen tested for the year. Total number of students for the year 1087. The Fawn Pumper is due in the next few days. The remaining classes for the year are in the back. The Highway Safety Program will now be held at Station 19, not at the Fire School as previously stated. The Fire School Committee meeting will be held Wednesday September 25, 2002 at 7pm. Paul said the building is progressing and will probably be finished by the end of October.

HAZMAT: Director Paul Schaefer reported five calls last month and thirty-nine calls for the year. Hazmat Chief Richard Godfrey reported a Hazmat Technician's class would be held November 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 8th, 9th, & 10th at the York County EMA Office. Marty Neville will be the instructor. Hazmat Refresher can be taken on the 9th & 10th during this class.

SPECIAL RESCUE TASK FORCE: John Sanford reported no calls for the month. The Team attended a Trench Awareness Class last Friday. Next year this class will run September 19th, 20th, and 21st.

EMA: Tom Graybill reported that Decon Gear has been issued to York and Memorial Hospitals, Hanover Hospital and the Fire Team's Decon Gear is getting ready to go out. Tom distributed a letter from Kay Carman regarding Fire Companies and dry wells. He also said that Fire Departments should not fill wells if they are requested to do so. Portable tanks with (non-potable water) may be set up to assist a resident with bathing or flushing toilets. Tom stated that when you are on an incident and 911 requests specific information you should comply and give it to the dispatcher since they are required to file a Peirs report on certain incident types. A letter from Kay Carman will follow regarding this process. Chief Dietz asked if EMA might issue new Peirs reporting booklets to the chiefs. Tom stated they only received a limited number from the state and has none to give out. Cindy Dietz advised that there were very few changes in the books that were distributed a few years ago and the current books. Chief Nichols asked about an extension on the burn ban and then made a motion to extend the current burn ban. Joe Stevens seconded the motion. Motion carried. President Rupert will write and send a letter to the commissioners requesting an extension.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Chief Dietz reported that Command School has been cancelled again for this year. President Rupert said that many departments have still not paid their dues. This will affect voting privileges for those departments. Regarding combining the Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters Association with the Fire Fighters Association President Rupert said there was no interest at this time. Bern Anthony reported the Dump Truck has been purchased for the school. Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the bills. Chief Gemmill made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Chief Sterner. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: President Skip Rupert received an email from Chief Yingling urging members to express their approval/disapproval of Candidates Rendell and Fisher to State Fire Commissioner Mann. President Rupert asked if the body would like to have a meeting with the candidates on a non-meeting night. He will set up the meeting. The Rotary Club approached President Rupert about an award they wanted to present to the Association. On behalf of the Association Chief Joe Stevens went to the meeting and received the "Service Above Self" award and a check for \$100.00. The award was given to Paul to display. Chief Nichols also received an award on behalf of the Association at the York Fair on September 11th. He received a framed Commemorative Stamp depicting the raising of the flag at Ground Zero, which he presented to Skip to display at the School. Chief Dietz reported he went to a meeting at Station 18 to hear Senator Wahl speak on state grants. There will be a referendum question on the ballot this year proposing funding for state grants. It is our responsibility to do something to get constituents to vote for this. President Rupert suggested taking out a half page ad in the local papers asking people to vote for the referendum with an explanation. Discussion followed. Chief Nichols wanted to know how the state plans to fund the grant. President Rupert suggested we discuss this again at next months meeting.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: Neil Doyle reported the Fire Prevention Posters were in. Chief Senft said that HACC is establishing a York Campus and will have a Fire Science Program and an expanded curriculum. Chief Nichols thanked all Fire, Police, and EMS Services that participated at the event at the Fair. He said letters would be forthcoming. President Rupert asked for a motion to adjourn. Chief Dietz made the motion seconded by Chief List. Meeting adjourned.

Next months quarterly meeting will be hosted by the Northeastern Mutual Aid Association, at Station 23, on Monday October 21, 2002 at 7:30 pm. Don't forget to bring your reports. Refreshments will be served prior to the meeting.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary