

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

**330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406**



**Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday**

October 15th, 2012

President Steve Buffington called the quarterly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order.

President Steve Buffington led the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence. Twenty-eight people were in attendance.

Bob Sells wanted to welcome everyone to the Shiloh Fire Company. He hoped everyone enjoyed the delicious meal that was prepared by their Executive Chef, President, and Assistant Chief, Clif Laughman. After the meeting, everyone was welcomed to take a tour of their station, as well as ask any questions.

President Steve Buffington wanted to thank Bob Sells and the Shiloh Fire Company for hosting us this evening. The meal was terrific. Thank you.

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

Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the following report: Beginning Balance: \$2,009.18 with and Ending Balance: \$10,246.12 President Steve Buffington approved the Treasurer's Report as read.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: John Senft: The Board met this evening prior to this meeting. We discussed the approval of funds for the grant for Phase 2. We discussed about the internal audit that will be conducted later this year.

SPECIAL DISUCSSION: Brad Dunham: At last month's meeting, not many were able to attend, so I wanted to mention again the Medical Card issue that has recently been on our radar. It became law in 2010. Those that are driving fire apparatus that is over 17,000 pounds in the state, and it is not to or from a call, the driver must have a medical card. If the drive is going out of state, that weight limit drops to 10,000 pounds. Brad stated that some members in his department received a medical card for 2 years. Others were only 1 year. Some could receive 3-6 months. It depends on your health, and if the doctor has any concerns that need follow-up. We had one member that was told "NO" and was not given a medical card. The medical professionals are taking it serious, and are not just handing them out to whoever wants / needs one.

Chief Joe Madzellan stated that his department was able to get his whole department scheduled for DOT physicals through Memorial Hospital for \$40 each. They were expecting to pay much more.

COMMUNICATIONS: Erik Brown: We had a meeting on Thursday. We discussed the helicopter frequencies. The new frequencies will go into the radios when all the radios are reprogrammed.

911: Julio Mendez: Jim Forsight has filled Phil's job. Nate had retired. There was much discussion on the 20 minute timer, and which types of calls should automatically get 20 minute timers. As it stands, a 20

minute time is used for High Risk Structural Fires or residential structure fires. After some discussion from Joe Madzellan and John Sanford, it was suggested to include 20 minutes timers for technical rescue and structure fires involving entrapment. It was stated about either implementing as it stands, or letting it ride for a month to allow the Radio Committee to give some input and for Julio to determine how difficult it would be to add call types later. The vote was table until next month.

FIRE SCHOOL: Richard Halpin: Last month, we had 298 hours of training. 164 of those hours were our classes. We have cancelled the Advanced Fire Police class. I want to apologize for the cancellation of the Engine Company Operations class. We had 6 students show up for the class. We also had a working fire in the county, and another 6 were on the call. We have some classes coming up. We have a Haz-Mat Awareness and Operations Refresher class, as well as several Fire Police classes. Each of the Fire Police classes has 4 students in them. Hopefully we can gain some more registrations.

Richard also received some absorbent samples. For a skid of (50) 40 pound bags, it will cost you about \$150. It is made from recycled materials made by York Ag Products, Inc. There is some literature available if anyone is interested in it.

OEM: Tom Graybill: We still have some copies of the 2012 Emergency Response Guide books if anyone still needs books.

HAZ-MAT TEAM: Tom Graybill: We had 49 calls for the year. We also participated in the Wide Vigilant exercise.

YORK COUNTY ATR: John Sanford: For August, we had 1 call. It was a vehicle into a structure with Strinestown. For September, we had 4 calls. We had two Water Rescues with Porters Siding and York City, and two farm rescues involving tractors with Loganville and Strinestown. To date, there have been 19 calls. We have an Ice Rescue class scheduled for February 9th & 10th of next year.

FIRE POLICE: Hayden Mitchell: Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 22nd, in East Prospect.

RIT: No one from the committee was present to give a report.

RESCUE INSPECTION: No one from the committee was present to give a report.

FIRE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Bob Sells: The Fire School Committee met last month with the Instructors for the Entry Level classes. We discussed the proposed changes to the Entry Level Series which were approved by all of the ETA's in September. These changes are coming from the State. Some of the changes include reducing the hours from 166 to 144. The Haz-Mat material is being removed so students would be required to have Haz-Mat Awareness before starting the Fire Ground Support class. They would also be required to have Haz-Mat Operations prior to the start of Interior Firefighter class. They would also be required to have ICS 100 and NIMS 700 before beginning Exterior Firefighter. Because they are changing some of the material around (i.e. SCBA is being split up between the Support, Exterior and Interior modules), students that had the program through this year would need to have a bridge class in order to pick up the series where they left off.

During the meeting, we also discussed one or two Firefighter 1 exams at the school next year. We would set up all the required training for the students including the EMS requirements. The students would then complete the Entry Level series, as well as the other requirements needed. We would then schedule the exam a month after the students complete their Interior class.

FIRE PREVENTION: Steve Tawney: No one from the committee was present to give a report.

FUND RAISING: John McDonald: Heather printed out the email, but we also have cards available for the fundraiser we are doing at Hoss's in West York on November 3rd. We get 20% of the checks if there is \$1,200 brought in that day. If there is more than \$1,200 in sales, then they will give us 25% of the check. We are hoping to do this with the other Hoss's in the county if this fund raiser is successful

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A motion was made to pay the bills. 1st: Albert Schaeffer 2nd: Hayden Mitchell Motion Passed

Dave Nichols asked if we could possibly have someone come to our meeting to explain the Cancer presumption law that is now in place. He stated that since this law was put in place, municipalities and fire companies that pay for / have Worker's Compensation coverage are being dropped. He stated that his

department will be dropped come January 2014. It was asked of Heather to pass the information along to Richard Halpin, to see if he would know of anyone to come and talk to the membership..

NEW BUSINESS:

President Buffington asked for volunteers to serve on the Nomination Committee. Rick Witten - ffsgtfd@yahoo.com , Tony Myers - shrewsburyfire@comcast.net and John McDonald - mcdonaldja@comcast.net will make up the committee. If anyone is interested in running for an office, please contact them.

Next month, the PFESI dinner will be held on November 19th. That is also our regular monthly meeting time. So some members can attend the dinner, it was decided to move our next monthly meeting to Tuesday, November 20th, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Fire School.

Doug Eash stated that his department will be holding a Met-Ed training next Wednesday, October 24th at 7. Columbia Gas will also hold training at West York on November 8th, at 6:30. Please RSVP for this training, as their will be refreshments available, provided by Columbia Gas.

Chief Joe Madzellan stated they recently ran into an issue where the State Police is asking for EMS only for calls, only to find out that the officer was not on scene yet. Joe stated that he has had more incidents in the last 16 months, than he used to. It was stated that years back, the Chief's Association voted on a policy that when police are on scene, and only need EMS, they can request it. Back then, there were numerous times where there were several fire trucks on scene, for a patient needing a bandage or something. The fire department services would not be needed, but there would be numerous apparatus on scene. Brad Dunham stated he would like to hear the radio transmissions from Sta. 24's incident to know if the trooper was on scene or not. The called ended up being a Class 1 call, and the fire department should have been dispatched.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Rick Witten stated that Sta. 27 will be holding a "Liability on the Fire Scene for Officers" class.

Hayden Mitchell stated that a request letter should have been sent out to all the companies asking for Fire Police help for the York City Halloween parade this year. The parade is scheduled for October 28th. Fire Police are to meet at Richland and Market Streets.

Bob Bowman said that the York City Fire Department's annual ornament is now available. They are \$7 each or 3 for \$20.

Tony Myers stated that his department is updating their SOG's. He asked that if any department has a copy, and is willing to share their SOG's, Tony would like to look at them. You can email them to him at: shrewsburyfire@comcast.net

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 20th, at York County Fire School.

President Steve Buffington adjourned the meeting.

Sincerely,

Heather Grove

Heather Grove
Recording Secretary