

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

**330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406**



**Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday**

October 16, 2006

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. President Rupert extended thanks to the "best ladies auxiliary around" the Shrewsbury Ladies Auxiliary for the meal and their hospitality. There were eighty-three people in attendance.

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

President Rupert turned the meeting over to Emergency Services Center Project Director, Rob Sterner, who reported on the following:

Facility – The new Emergency Services Center is anticipated being completed by 9/24/2007. The building is on schedule. Foundations are in and the radius wall is up. Steelwork is moving forward and they are pouring the floor slabs. The tower is in place.

Long Term Back Up Facility – The facility is located in the Lincolnway Fire Company in West Manchester Twp. Work is currently being done at the facility and tower work will begin over the next 2-3 weeks.

Radio – 14 out of 22 sites have been leased or are owned by the County. Rob gave a brief update on each site that is under construction.

CAD – The staff is continuing to prepare for go live and working through problems as they arise. Go Live is scheduled for 0400 hours on October 31st.

Rob then went on to talk about the new radios, funding, and surveys.

Subscriber Portion – In August packets were sent out to each station asking departments to verify numbers listed in the worksheets. In the 3rd quarter of 2007 the County will start invoicing for the radio equipment. Financing information was provided in the packet, as well as brochures on the M5100 portable and the M7100 mobile, with a frequently asked questions sheet. Rob reviewed the subscriber cost sheet and options. In addition to Rob, Jim McGhee from M/A Comm, Bob Bragg (York Co Radio Administrator), and Nick Coby (York County Radio Tech) were then on hand to answer questions from the floor on the radios and the new radio system.

Q – Where are the authorized service providers located?

A – There are (3) in Harrisburg and (1) in Exton.

Q – Is the County purchasing programming software?

A – Yes

Q – Will the system allocate talk groups for those already established?

A – Yes

Q – Who determines the talk groups?

A – Basic talk groups will be established by the County and then each department will be fleet mapped individually.

Q – Jim McGhee was asked to explain the difference between remote mounts and trunk mounts.

A – Jim explained the difference but told everyone to order remote mounts for now. Techs will be around and if they recommend otherwise it can be changed. A front mount is also a simple exchange.

Q – How has the fleet mapping been set up?

A - It has not been set up yet. Templates will be designed and then customized to individual departments.

Q – Will the changes made on the forms be approved or disapproved?

A – Yes, Bob Fasick will be contacting the departments. If your changes were within the budgetary constraints of the worksheet they were approved. Rob will make sure all departments get confirmations.

Q – What are the plans for activating house sirens and house bells?

A – It will be able to be done either through the paging system or the radio console.

Q – Will voice dispatching still occur?

A – Yes

Q – What provisions are being made for Knox Box Systems?

A – One was obtained and sent to the M/A Comm lab in Lynchburg, WV to figure out how to best activate them. It will be done. Discussion followed on the new models of Knox Boxes.

Q – Is rip and run still being planned?

A – Yes, each department will be expected to provide their own dedicated communication line and printer.

Q – Will the new system make decoders obsolete?

A – Rob will take this question back for discussion.

Q – Will there be interoperability between Hanover units and Adams Co units?

A – Yes

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 Chief Flohr. Motion carried.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Barry Myers reported on the following items:

- Still working on the burn building
 - Will be inviting several contractors in
- Electrical problem – unit on the meter base was repaired.
- Looking for a tractor to use around the Fire School to move vehicles.

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chief Shank reported that Car 52 and Utility 52 were approved. Radio issues were discussed.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

911: Cindy Dietz reported on the following changes in procedure that will occur when CAD goes online on 10/31.

- If a unit fails a call the unit will remain out of service for the duration of the call unless a Chief or Duty Officer places the equipment back in service. This is due to the way the CAD recommends back up units. If the unit was left available it would be re-suggested as the piece to replace itself.
- Standby units will be an additional piece of equipment dispatched on the call. EX: E8 transfers to Station 9 and a call comes in for Station 9 - Engine 8 will respond with the replacement units suggested on the box. Ex: If the box called for two engines and a rescue they will all be replaced and E8 will be responding in addition to the upgraded response. E8 will also be alerted for any calls in his area while on standby.
- City Fire units must call responding and on scene to be properly tracked in CAD.
- Any "QRS units" that were dual designated will be maintained by their fire apparatus designation and no longer permitted to use QRS. Dual designations will not work in this CAD. The CAD also does not allow for more than one Zetron number to be associated with a piece of apparatus, so you will not be able to have an engine that runs as a QRS dispatched on Med 10.
- The Firehouse Software interface has been installed by New World and will be ready to link to in November. Users are responsible to pay for their own maintenance and utility fees
 - 1 Terminal \$1330.00 Software \$220.00 Maint. Fee
 - 2 Terminals \$1290.00 Software \$290.00 Maint. Fee
 - 3 Terminals \$3090.00 Software \$390.00 Maint. Fee

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

Hours of use:

- ☞ Between September 13 and October 10 the Fire School and if Facilities were in use for 288 hours
- ☞ Hours are starting to ramp down as we approach the winter months

Electrical Concerns:

- ☞ The Battery back up system on our main computer has indicated a notable number of very short power interruptions. An Electrician has checked our building and no cause was found, we are now investigating this with Met-Ed. This may be having an impact on some of our electronic systems that do not have battery back up power

Combustible (Flammable) Liquids Pit:

- ☞ The Pit reopening is now on hold, after the tests on September 18th, the top course of Brick was observed to have 'pushed" somewhat. The Mason was contacted and expansion joints will be added within the next two weeks

The ENTRY LEVEL (New Essentials) Program:

- ☞ The Fire School is pleased to announce that we are planning on running the fourth installment of the Entry Level program in January or February of 2007. The lead instructor for ELIF program will be David Nichols. At this time the Fire School is waiting on firming up the schedule to conduct this class. These will be evening classes and will meet during the week.
- ☞ Our next Entry Level Series will begin in January, with the Introduction course (ELIF) being held on January 14 and 21, 2007
- ☞ If you have any questions about the new ENTRY LEVEL (Essentials) Program (Series of Classes) please feel free to E-mail or call the Office at 717-767-4097

Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge:

- ☞ Next meeting of the organizing committee is October 30th @ 18:30 Hours at Station 23, If you are interested in participating in this work group please contact Tim Stevens @ tstevens@waltonco.com or Carl Avery @ YorkCoFireSchool@aol.com

- ☞ We already have members from Union Fire Company, Glen Rock Hose and Ladder and Volunteers from York City Fire and Rescue Services who are participating
- ☞ We can use more – Hope to see you there!
- ☞ Our goal is to expand and enhance this years event

Structural Burn Sessions:

- ☞ The Last SBS for 2006 will be November 25 & December 2 with lead instructor Gary Carpenter.
- ☞ This Class will be held (As long as we have sufficient enrollment) with the Class room session taking place at the York County Fire School and the Burn Session will either take place at HACC or our own facility depending where we stand with repairs to our current structure.
- ☞ Projects underway by the Board of Governors may have an impact on the class scheduled in November/December. Watch for more details.
- ☞ AS OF October 14, 2006, No one has signed up for this class.

Firefighter I Testing:

- ☞ The Fire School is working with Instructor Dan Hoff, Dover Twp Fire Department and West Manchester Twp. FD and BUCKS Public Safety Training Center to bring a Firefighter I test to the York County Fire School.
- ☞ The Primary sponsors of this would be Dover Township F.D.; they are willing to have members of other departments join them in this process.
- ☞ Each Fire Department or individual would be responsible for the cost of having their candidate take the test

- ☞ Dates for the Review classes are as follows:
 - ☞ October 27, November 10, 17 and December 1, 2006
 - ☞ Classes will be held out of the Dover Twp FD Station (Sta. 9) with some classes using the facilities here at the fire School
 - ☞ Contact Deputy Chief Glen Jansen of Station 9 at: gjansen@krec.com for more information about registering for these classes and the test
 - ☞ The Test is Scheduled for December 15 and 16 at the York County Fire School.

NFPA 1006, Standard for Professional Rescue Technician, Machinery/Vehicle Review Course and Test:

- ☞ The Survey results are back and there seems to be more that enough interest to run this Program and test. We are looking at setting this up for the beginning of 2007
- ☞ Your Fire School has a copy of the skill Station evaluations that will be conducted during this test.
- ☞ Details are as of yet to be worked out with the Community College for exact time and dates of this program in 2007

Program Support and Maintenance:

- ☞ Routinely checked Class room building for trash and readiness for classes, Routinely checked Grounds for debris, trash and general readiness of facilities, Routine sampling of pond for DEP compliance, worked on prepping Combustible Liquids Pit for testing, Consulted with Electrician over problems at school (see note above), Consulted with Mason over results of Pit Fire Testing (See above), Picked up Pallets, Posted no trespassing signs as rear of property at railroad tracks. Repaired broken chair from classroom, Secured 12 sheets of OSB for sheathing roof simulator, Worked on New Ceremonial Flag, Cleaned Brown Building, Worked on and cleaned Extrication Area, Did minor repairs and straightened equipment on Fire Apparatus, Did touch-up painting in classrooms, Sealed sidewalk Cracks, Had training grounds area swept, Obtained floor Mats for men's urinals, Filled in Ground hog holes, Obtained a new US and York County flag for display at property entrance. Caulked holes in blue building with blue caulk, Cleaned Straw Trailer, Meet with DEP inspector while he was here for his annual visit, Meet with floor Maintenance man re: Buffing and Waxing of Classroom floors, Sprayed weeds, Took down out side drinking fountain on the Training Grounds due to anticipated sub freezing temperatures

Current and Future Schedule:

- ☞ The 2006 schedule is available online at our web site www.YorkCountyFireSchool.org just click on the Click Here to See Available Classes link on the home page.
- ☞ The 2007 Schedule is currently being worked on. We hope to add classes supporting the NFPA 1006 Curriculum and Test as well as Fire Officer Training

Upcoming Courses:

- ☞ Pump Ops I, October 22 and 28, 0800 – 1700

- ☞ Basic Vehicle Rescue Operations, October 28 and 29, 0800 – 1700
- ☞ Emergency Response to Terrorism, Strategic Considerations for Company Officers November 4 & 5, 0800 – 1700
- ☞ Legal Aspects for the Fire Service, November 6, 7, 21 & 22, 1830 – 2230
- ☞ Haz-Mat Ops Refresher November 8 & 9, 1830 -21:30
- ☞ Emergency Response to Terrorism, Basic Concepts, November 11 & 12, 0800 – 1700
- ☞ Haz- Mat Ops (472), November 14, 16, (1830 – 2230) 18 & 19 0800 -1700
- ☞ Haz- Mat Awareness (RIMH), November 15, 1830 – 2230
- ☞ Structural Burn Session, November 25 & December 2, 0800 -1700 **SIGN UP NOW!**

YORK COUNTY ATR: Chief Mike Cadden reported they are working on the new Collapse 36 unit putting in shelving and lighting. Members are taking training. Trench Weekend 2007 is the last weekend in April.

OEM: Tom Graybill reported Kay Carman wanted to thank everyone for participating in the WMD drill last weekend.

Hazmat – Rich Godfrey reported 81 Hazmat calls for the year. Hazmat 91A arrived and will be in service in about a month. The Hazmat team participated in the WMD drill last weekend. Team members are doing refresher and Pro Board training.

FIRE POLICE: Jim Robertson reported:

- Nominations are next week
- Voting for new officers in November

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- President Rupert said he will appoint the Fire Prevention Committee by the end of the week as well as a 911 Memorial Committee.
- President Rupert asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion to pay the bills by Chief Shank second by Rob Bissey. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Chief Shank reported that the Decon Task Force participated in the drill as well. He encouraged others to commit to the Decon Task Force, back up departments are needed.
- Commissioner Roth made a motion to send (4) to FDIC in 2007. Chief Shank seconded the motion. M/C.
- President Rupert reported that the PFESI Dinner is on meeting night next month. He asked for a motion to switch the meeting night to Tuesday, November 21st. Commissioner Roth made the motion, seconded by Chief Herman. M/C.
- President Rupert named Rob Bissey (chair), Rick Whitten, and Mike Cadden as the nominating committee for 2007 Officers.
- President Rupert reported the Fire School's training mannequin is not in good shape. He has a sample mannequin he purchased for his company on display. His price was \$1300.00 and he will sell it to the school for that price if they are interested. An officer from the Hanover Fire Department made a motion to purchase the mannequin, seconded by Chief Nichols. M/C.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Bob Bowman said that the City is ordering a limited number of Christmas ornaments again this year depicting Royal Fire Station. See Bob to reserve an ornament.
- Carl Avery reminded everyone Station 23 is having a Shrimp Feed to benefit the 2007 State Convention.

Motion to adjourn by Chief Herman, second by Bob Bowman. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on **Tuesday**, November 21, 2006 at the Fire School.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz

Cindy A. Dietz, Secretary