

October 21, 2002

President Skip Rupert called the quarterly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters Association to order. Forty-four members were in attendance. The meeting was held at Union Fire Company #1 of Manchester. Chief Mike Miller gave the Address of Welcome on behalf of the Northeastern Mutual Aid Association. Chief John Senft gave the response. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Bob Bowman presented the treasurer's report. There was a motion by Bruce Yingling second by Mike Miller to accept the treasurer's report.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Barry Myers reported that they hired a part time maintenance person to help out at the school as needed. The Board would like to sell the West York Truck (old Ward La France). Chief Nichols and Chief Senft both supported giving the truck to a needy department versus selling it. To be discussed under new business. There are still quite a few departments that need to pay dues for 2001/2002. If dues are not paid those departments will lose their voting privileges and will no longer receive the minutes from the meetings. The budget was completed and handed in to the County Commissioners. Chief Myers reminded everyone not to forget to vote for the referendum question at the polls this year.

COMMUNICATIONS: There was a letter received from the Fire Fighters and Paramedics Association requesting the Association pay \$10.00 for dues. No one had ever heard of them. The website listed on the letter was checked and a phone number called (answering machine picked up) still not sure if they are a reputable organization. Decision made not to pay the \$10.00.

Roll call was taken.

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Rob Bissey reported designation approvals for E21-1, E21-2, T21, T11, and E52-2. He said we are still waiting to hear something on simulcast. Mike Corcoran is to be checking on one last site in the Dover area and waiting on confirmation for use of the Jacobus Water Tank. Rob will be sending out a letter to all "EMS Chiefs" reminding them of the agreement that the highest designation they are permitted to use is Captain and requesting those that use "Chief" to stop. This is to avoid communication errors and confusion. The letter will also address "EMS Command", which does not exist, versus EMS Operations. This is also to cut down on confusion in the 911 Center. There can only be one command. The letter will be copied to all EMS organizations. **Duty Officer pagers** are not to be used for personal paging. The duty officer pagers are to be used by 911 to contact the on call duty officer with information or questions. In the case of an emergency pertaining to an actual call 911 will page the duty officer or chief for another fire officer. They will not page to notify other stations when your station is out of service or to have other fire chiefs call you. If you are having a **large drill** and expect 911 to participate notify them at least one week in advance (as per the SOG). If it is just a **small drill** and all 911 has to do is alert, 24 hours notice is all that is needed. 911 Quality Assurance advised that using the term "tactical channel", copied the call waiting a crew, and officers reporting where they are responding from, are all still being done and should not be. She said there is still too much non-essential chatter on 33.88. Rob also reminded everyone that with hunting season approaching, 911 will not accept **special notes** on fireboard, if your station is out of service they will be marked as such and the dispatcher will follow your box to replace them. If the call is in your 1st due area your tones will be hit along with next due. Chief Nichols asked on the status of the 911 Study. Rob advised it is due at the end of the month. Chief Nichols wanted to know if the findings would be shared with Rob, as a representative of the Association. Chief Bissey said he did not know. The next scheduled Radio Committee meeting will be on November 14th at 7pm at the 911 Center.

911: No report

FIRE SCHOOL: Director Shaefer reported eight pumps tested for the month, twenty-one for the year. He reported 1204 students for the year. The 2003 Budget was submitted to the County Commissioners for \$234,580.00. It has not yet been approved. The Highway Safety Program that was held on the 21st and 22nd of last month was a good program according to those who attended. Paul will be going to the State Fire Academy to check further on the program since has had mixed reviews on it. Another Essentials program will be starting after the 1st of the year. The Haz-Mat Technicians course sponsored by EMA will be held on November 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 8th at Pleasant Acres. The 9th and 10th will be at the Fire School.

HAZMAT: Director Schaefer reported four calls for the month and Forty-three for the year. They are still collecting on the bills for the year. There will be a Haz-Mat Operations course at the Fire School on November 24th. Penn Township Hazmat no report.

SPECIAL RESCUE TASK FORCE: Glenn Janson reported one call for the month and three for the year.

EMA: Tom Graybill reported there would be an Abbottville class held on October 24th at Station 24, all are welcome. Applications for the class were passed out. Tom also advised he received Intel from the FBI that secondary devices were being set in Maryland. A pipe bomb was recovered by their Sheriffs Department. He advised that the York County stations should use caution.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: President Rupert started discussion on the referendum question. Tom Savage from the PA Fire & Emergency Services Institute said a few words regarding the referendum and how the money might be raised and how it could be distributed. Following more discussion it was decided it would be too expensive to advertise in the newspapers. A motion was made by Joe Stevens and seconded by Rick Shank to write letters to the editor of the Evening Sun, Daily Record, and The York Dispatch in support of the referendum encouraging people to vote for it. Motion Carried. President Rupert said he would write the first letters to all three papers and others should follow up. Tom Savage said he would be showing a 35-minute videotape of the four candidates for state representative after the meeting. The candidates were all interviewed separately and asked five questions that dealt with emergency services. Bob Bowman presented the bills. Motion made by Gordon Wisnom and seconded by Bruce Yingling to pay the bills. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: President Rupert appointed the following nominating committee: Bruce Yingling, Dave Nichols, and Curvin Wolfgang. Next months meeting night will be moved to Tuesday November 19th at 7:30 at the Fire School due to the Fire & Emergency Services Institute Dinner being on the 18th. President Rupert asked what the body thought about receiving their association minutes via email and saving the money for the cost of stamps, envelopes, and paper. Chief Nichols made a motion to send the minutes via email seconded by Jan Cromer. Motion Carried. Cindy said she had many of the email addresses already if she didn't have yours please get it to her. President Rupert then asked about dispensing with the reading of the minutes every meeting since everyone gets a copy. Chief Senft made a motion to no longer read the minutes every meeting, the motion also included not reading the treasurer's report. Dan Deller seconded the motion. Discussion followed and it was decided that a copy of the Financial Report and Minutes would be made available to pass around during the meeting for those who wanted to see them. Motion Carried. Chief Nichols asked if the body wanted to pursue finding a needy Fire Department to give the Fire School Engine to. Discussion followed. Fire Commissioner Roth made a motion for the Board of Governors to find a home for the engine. Chief Cromer seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Chief Sterner ask where we were with the Accountability program and training. Chief Miller advised he would talk with Chief Dietz and have information for next months meeting. Chief Snyder said the Keystone Chiefs have asked if York County will hold a Keystone Chief's Meeting.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: Chief Yingling said they are looking for candidates for 2003. Contact someone on the nominating committee if you wish to run.

Chief Senft said they had two multiple alarm fires in the City in the past month and he wanted to thank all those who provided mutual aid. Commissioner Roth advised ditto from Hanover, PA thanks for coming.

President Rupert said the Northeastern Mutual Aid Association returned the reimbursement check for dinner. Thank you on behalf of the Association.

President Rupert adjourned the meeting.

2001/2002 dues are now past due. The following stations have not paid and are in jeopardy of losing their membership privileges: Nashville (11), North York (25), Strinestown (26), Lewisberry (29), Red Lion (34), Jefferson (47), Delta/Cardiff (57), Monaghan Twp (67), Southern York Co Forest Fire Crew (72), Lake Aldred River Rescue (73), Lineboro (7), and McSherrystown (117).

Next meeting scheduled at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, November 19, 2002 at the Fire School.

This will be your last mailed newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be sent via email. Please provide me with an email address that you would like the minutes forwarded to. **If you have received a test message from the email address YorkCoChiefsAssc@aol.com and this address is ok you do not need to do anything.** This is the email address that will be used by the secretary. Please forward any future Association business for the secretary to this email address. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary