

November 17, 2003

President Skip Rupert called the regular monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order. Forty-three members were in attendance. President Rupert introduced Dennis Mitterer from VFIS, who spoke on Operation Safe Arrival. The program was designed to assist each organization in developing a safe driving mandate for their department. Allowances are built in to the program to reward good drivers for safe driving records. It was stressed that all information stays within education and training at VFIS and will not be turned over to the insurance side. Anyone interested in setting up training or more information on the program should contact Lori Gillen at 866-993-8216 or lgillon@vfris.com. You can also visit the website www.vfris.com and go to "Operation Safe Arrival".

Minutes of the previous meeting were then approved as posted. Bob Bowman presented the treasurer's report. There was a motion by Gordon Wisnom seconded by Chief Stevens to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chief Senft reported on the following discussions from the Board of Governors meeting:

- Discussed the status of the county hazmat teams and the transition of the teams to a different status depending on the decision rendered by the County.
- Tentative programs for the fire school were discussed with the coordinator, Carl Avery.
- Rent money currently being deposited into the Hazmat account will be redirected and deposited to the fire school account.
- Board Members and the Association Officers will be attending the PFESI Dinner next Monday night.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: Chairman Rob Bissey reported that the committee had met on November 13th.

- Pending inspection by the Rescue Certification Committee, Rescue 56 was approved.
- Replacement piece Brush 3 was approved
- Chief Bissey apologized to the Hanover Fire Department and advised he had come across their applications after the meeting. They will be reviewed next month.
- Nature codes for Fire Dispatch standardization were discussed.
- Looking at the problem of Station 124 not staying on the York County Radio for command when the incident is in York County.
- Chief Bissey stated that 911 Quality Assurance contributed the following
 - When landing a helicopter that you use north, south, east, and west as directionals, versus left and right as the helicopter will have some difficulty figuring out your left and right from the air.
 - There are still too many officers responding on the air.
 - Idle chitchat needs moved to 33.58 or zone.
 - When canceling equipment don't forget to advise the dispatcher that EMS can also cancel if they are not needed.
- Radio Committee will be meeting with the members of EMSA on November 18th to discuss the "EMS Chief" issue.
- Next meeting will be on January 28th at Station 24-2.
- Chief Hoover wanted to know if there is any progress on the cross toning issue and relayed a recent problem.
 - Operations Manager Rychalsky advised an indicator needs to be placed on the paging screens in York and Lancaster to help alleviate the problem. At this time there are indicators on the main screen but not on the paging screen, making it difficult to know when one another is sending tones.

911:

Operations Manager Audrey Rychalsky reported:

- Explanation of the new Fire Incident Type Guideline. Input from Dispatchers and Fire Chiefs who submitted their thoughts was used to come up with the standard verbiage. Discussion followed.
- Touring different 9-1-1 Centers over the next few weeks to see their CAD systems in a working environment.
- Volunteers to host the Zone Meetings have been obtained. All zones are covered. Meetings will be scheduled and take place after January 1.
- Promotions at the 9-1-1 Center – Mike Keiter, Assistant Operations Manager, oversees the radio room and dispatchers. Cindy Dietz, Assistant Operations Manager, oversees CAD and the administrative side of the house. Bill James, Police/Fire/EMS Coordinator. Bill can be contacted at wrjames@york-county.org or 840-2359.

9-1-1 Director Bob Fasick thanked everyone for filling out the radio surveys.

- Bob is now working with Ralph Haller, with the information you submitted, to locate new radio frequencies for 9-1-1.
- Work scheduled to be done last month, was delayed due to weather.
- There are seven projects in line to be completed in the next few weeks.

FIRE SCHOOL:

Director Shaefer reported 1457 students to date.

- Budget has been completed and turned in to the County. Nothing back yet.
- Bus Program scheduled between Christmas and New Years.
- Paul read a letter from Chloe` Eichelberger, a woman who in 1984 was involved in car accident with a tractor-trailer. There was a fire involved and Ms. Eichelberger's prognosis was not good. She did however pull through and has remained friends with Paul who was the Chief of Alert Fire Company at that time. His department responded along with others to the call. In recognition of all Paul has done for Chloe` as well as the York County Fire Service as a whole she donated a check in his honor in the amount of \$5000.00.
 - Paul expressed he would like to see the money used to buy a plaque to hang in the fire school naming those on the founding committee when the school was first built. He would also like to use some of it to purchase a podium with an amplifier system. Motion by Gordon Wisnom and seconded by Chief Shank to proceed as Paul wishes. Motion Carried.

Project Coordinator Carl Avery reported on the following:

- Working on the transition with Paul.
- Had an Instructor's Meeting on November 10th and started planning classes for next year. Next meeting will be on January 14th to firm up the schedule.
- Looking at an Outreach Program and working with departments on a local level. Letters will be going out to the departments.
- Wants to use the school for labs and hands on training.
- Would like feedback on what programs everyone wants to see at the school.
- Essentials class to start in January.
- Firefighter Certification – May 7th (test) and May 8th (skills).

HAZMAT: Director Schaefer reported 11 calls for the month and 58 for the year.

- Two bills have been paid. Large amount still outstanding.

Chief Godfrey reported that a meeting was held with County EMA, LEPC, the County Solicitor, and representation from both county hazmat teams to discuss their future. The thought was for the County to form a Hazmat Team of their own. Currently there are two teams, which if willing, would transition into one team. Committee will meet again next week.

Grangeville Hazmat no report.

SPECIAL RESCUE TASK FORCE: Glenn Jansen reported that on January 1st 2004 the York County Special Rescue Task Force would change its name to York County ATR.

- Trench Class has not yet been rescheduled.
- Ice rescue Class scheduled for January 10th and 11th at Adams County Co. 26.
- Five individuals from the team attended a 100-hour FEMA USAR Training.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chief Shank reported they have some individuals on the ballot to run. Anyone who would like to run for an office should see Chief Shank, Chief Stevens, or Chief Senft.

EMA: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Bob Bowman presented the bills. Motion made by Chief Tony Myers to pay the bills seconded by Gordon Wisnom. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Chief Joe Snyder invited everyone to the departments' annual fundraiser "Festival of Lights". This begins just after Thanksgiving and runs until after Christmas.
 - Invited everyone to stop by and visit the new station. Dedication will possibly be January 24th.
- Director Shaefer passed out certificates to departments that were in attendance.
- Director Schaefer said that the Fire Program at York County School of Technology has 17 students. The program is doing well. They have changed their uniforms and colors. There are old uniform shirts available if anyone can use them. The school is accepting donations to the program.
- Director Schaefer stressed that no one under 18 is allowed to go into a burning building. It is illegal and you can lose your instructor's license if caught.
- Chief Rentzel advised he would provide food for next months meeting on behalf of K & C Communications.
- President Rupert advised that Chief Dietz would be doing the presentation on PennDot's Incident Response Vehicle at next months meeting prior to the start of the meeting. The presentation will begin at 6:30.

Chief Stevens motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Bob Bowman. Meeting adjourned by President Rupert.

The following stations still owe dues for 2003/2004 –Seven Valleys, DDSP-LF, Lake Aldred, and McSherrystown.

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, December 15, 2003 at the Fire School. The power point presentation on the Penn DOT Incident Response Vehicle will begin at 6:30.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary