

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

330 Emig Road
York, PA 17406



Monthly Meeting
3rd Monday

Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2013

CALL TO ORDER (President Steve Buffington)

President Steve Buffington called the monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order at 19:00. The call to order was followed by a pledge to the flag and a moment of silence. 53 people were in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

REPORTS

Treasurer (Bob Bowman):

Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the following report: Beginning Balance: \$15,283.33 with an Ending Balance: \$5,219.85. With no comments, President Buffington approved the Treasurer's Report as read.

Board of Governors (John Senft): The Board met this evening prior to this meeting and discussed the following:

Electronic communication since last month's meeting approved the transfer of investment funds for better interest rates and the hiring of a temporary employee.

There was general discussion at the board meeting.

Fire School Administrator (Richard Halpin):

October Fire School Training: 334 hours / 100 for fire school classes.

Bob Sells will be covering the Non-combustible Building Construction class scheduled for next month due to the original instructor having a work conflict.

Heather had her baby at 19:57 last night.

The modular classroom is sitting below. When connected, it will have a heated bathroom for year-round use.

New classes for 2014 are showing up on the schedule.

VFIS would like to have 6 classes at the fire school next year.

Heavy truck rescue has been re-scheduled for this weekend.

OTHER AGENCY REPORTS

PA State Police (Brad Dunham):

For those folks doing accidental fire reports, no duplicate report is needed. Also, the payment procedure has changed.

ATR (Bob Sells on behalf of John Sanford):

The ATR team had 23 calls for the month, 1 equipment entrapment, 1 high angle rescue, 1 confined space, and 20 swift water rescues; and 43 calls for the year.

Haz-Mat (Tom Graybill):

The Haz-Mat team had 1 call for the month; and 46 calls for the year.

There is a new hazardous materials identification system coming out at the end of the year called Global Harmonization. Refer to an article about it in Fire Engineering.

Fire Police (Jim Robertson):

Bylaws amendments were approved at last month's meeting.

Some companies still are not reporting rosters or paying dues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire School Committee (Bob Sells):

The Fire School Committee is scheduled to meet next week to discuss the 2014 ELFF program changes and some modifications to the SBB Usage Policy. The committee will also review equipment needs for the ELFF-required skills.

Fire Prevention (Steve Tawney):

No report.

Fundraising (John McDonald):

Not present.

Rescue Inspection (Tim Mooney):

Heavy Rescue 69 was certified by the committee this month and is also certified by the state.

Yorkana Station 38 is looking to be inspected this month.

It is time for the original batch to be re-inspected. Contact Tim at tmooney4@comcast.net or (717) 968-9242 to schedule inspections.

Someone is needed to replace Tony Myers on the committee. Chad Livelsberger offered to serve on the committee.

RIT:

President Buffington reminded everyone that the RIT committee responsibilities have been re-assigned to the Radio Committee.

By-Laws (Bob Sells):

The committee has completed its initial review and is in the process of creating a draft document.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Buffington asked for a motion to pay the bills. Joe Yahnke made a motion. Tim Mooney seconded the motion and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

President asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Ryan Brenneman, Troy Dettinger, and Jesse Frantz offered to serve on the committee.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Communication Email blasts to the Association are important to keep members informed. Make sure that the fire school has current contact information. A sheet was passed around to update any member information.

The next meeting will be December 16, 2013 at 1900 at the fire school.

SPECIAL DISCUSSION ON RADIOS/PAGING SYSTEM

911 Center (Julio Mendez/Cindy Deitz/Mel Grove, Kim Holtzapple/Brandon Blevins):

President Buffington noted the extra effort by YCDES staff to address CAD paging update items.

Radio/Communications (Joe Madzellan):

The minimum unit designation requirements project has been put on hold to deal with the paging issues.

A list of paging issues was compiled and presented to YCDES & New World Systems (NWS). Responses were received in a meeting that involved all parties.

Reminder to use the Trouble Ticket system to document and track any issues. Also, copy Joe Madzellan with all issues to compile all issues.

Tim Mooney read a personal letter expressing his feelings on the County 911 system and staff.

Dave Nichols suggested focusing comments and discussion on certain issues at a time.

Computer Aided Dispatch & Paging

Discussion items included:

“Working Fire” assignments and effect on 2nd alarm assignments: It was explained what the Working Fire upgrade means for paid departments, and city vs. rural incidents for apparatus needs. YCDES will look into what can be done to allow companies to build-out their Working Fire upgrade as originally expected.

RIT response group dispatches and company qualifications: Companies were expected to be able to build-out RIT dispatches as well so that only companies who do RIT training are called for that assignment – not by proximity dispatch. President Buffington asked that any companies who do not feel that they are qualified to provide RIT services or who do not want to be listed as a RIT resource to contact YCDES and be removed from that list.

Double- and triple-pulling apparatus when proximity dispatching, mutual aid restrictions: This causes a delay in response of next-due units. Companies are reminded to use mutual aid restrictions and the cross-staffing capability to avoid double- and triple-pulling.

Out-of-county dispatches: YCDES reported that they are working on this as out-of-county stations are providing necessary information.

Delays in dispatching: President Buffington asked that stations submit a trouble ticket on each incident where they think there are delays.

Additional units showing up on all pages: YCDES reported that this is being fixed.

Missing cross streets: YCDES reported that this is being fixed.

Rip-and-run capabilities: YCDES is looking at this. Right now, it is only possible if the remote printer is connected to the YCDS network.

Missing dispatch times on pages: NWS will be adding these back in.

Why the old CAD had to be upgraded: The original software was becoming obsolete and there were maintenance issues.

I Am Responding (IAR)

Discussion items included:

Conflicting capabilities information from IAR and YCDES: YCDES received an email from IAR late this afternoon that needs follow-up. Testing will continue to determine why stations are not receiving notifications.

How the dispatch information goes to IAR: An email is sent from CAD to IAR. Only one station is in the To: field while all others are in a BCC: field.

Missing duty officer and fire police dispatches: Will be looked into.

Radios

Discussion items included:

How and when to mark "Available in Station": Apparatus is to report "Available in Station" whenever they return to station so that their location can be verified. YCDES and the Radio Committee are to work on a written policy for this.

Radio system outage a week or so ago: Some YCDES staff were unaware of this. According to YCDES management, a re-boot was needed to address a previous radio problem.

Everbridge back-up use and testing: It was noted that Everbridge was not used to notify stations of the radio outage or what to do. It was also noted that the system has not been tested for months. YCDES will look into regular testing again.

What to do when radio system goes down: The Radio Committee is to develop a policy for this occurrence.

YCDES Management Discussion (after YCDES staff left the meeting)

There was discussion on what to do about YCDES management to address the Association's concerns about operations and attitudes. Dave Nichols made a motion to appoint a committee to meet with Eric Bistline and a County Commissioner to discuss concerns with the 911 Center and a timeline to correct issues. Tim Mooney seconded the motion and the motion was approved. President Buffington appointed himself and will select another Association member to meet with Eric. President Buffington will gather information from Joe Madzellan and asked all members to forward any other concerns regarding the 911 Center to him in the next 2 weeks and will try to meet with Eric in mid-December.

ADJOURNMENT

President Buffington adjourned the meeting at 22:12.

Respectfully Recorded,

Robert Sells

Robert Sells
Board Secretary