

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

P. O. BOX 106
330 EMIG ROAD
EMIGSVILLE, PA 17318



MONTHLY MEETING
THIRD MONDAY

December 20, 2004

President Skip Rupert called the regular monthly meeting of the Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association of York County Inc. to order and led the pledge to the flag. Thirty-eight people were in attendance. There was a moment of silence for Herbert Caldwell III from Newberry Township Fire Department, who passed away while responding to a call.

Chief John Senft requested that Rob Bissey be added to the list of names mentioned last month as one of those currently serving on the Emergency Services Project Committee and representing the fire service in York County.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published. President Rupert asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Chief Deller made the motion, seconded by John Fornadel. Motion carried.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Chairman John Senft reported meeting with the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. The following items were discussed:

- Fourteen bids were received for the old pick up truck. High bid was \$5,375.00. Bob Bowman will contact the bidder and handle the arrangements.
- FDIC – talked about Carl and other members attending.
- PFESI Dinner – several members attended. The dinner was held at the Radisson-Penn Harris Hotel in Camp Hill. Interactions on legislation as well as fire training issues were discussed.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

RADIO COMMITTEE: No meeting. No report.

911: Audrey Rychalsky reported the radio system went down last week while technicians were pulling cable and knocked something loose. When they went to bring the system back up a bad switch was identified. The switch has been replaced and the problem should not occur again. She also stated that Rob Sterner would be sending out a document with preliminary specs for the new radio system.

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

Statement:

Your Fire School wishes Happiest Holidays to all the Fire and Emergency Services personnel who serve York County and to all that have attended our classes this year. Your Fire School remains busy. We are scheduled for 140 hours of use this month. This is the third lowest number of hours per month this year. This is the least number of scheduled hours since February of 2004. This does not mean your School staff hasn't been busy. We are working on 2005's schedule. We have a working schedule through March of next year. The School will have a completed annual schedule available by the January meeting. Your School Staff continues to work hard to improve fire and rescue educational opportunities for all fire rescue personnel in and around York County.

Some of the Classes we already have scheduled for the first quarter of 2005 are: Haz-mat Awareness and Operations Refreshers, Pa. Essentials of Fire Fighting, Confined Space Rescue, Incident Command System, Carbon Monoxide Detector Response, Principals of Building

Construction (both ordinary and non combustible), Incident Safety Officer, Emergency Response to Terrorism, Terrorism Operations Domestic Preparedness, EVOC, Hazardous Materials Operations level, Hazardous Materials Awareness. Pump I, Bus Rescue, Structural Burn Session. Other classes may yet be added to this scheduled.

A Firefighter One Certification Test was held November on the 19th and 20th. The test was administered through HACC and held on our site. The test was very successful with approximately 75% of the candidates successfully completing the test that day. We at the Fire School would like to thank Evaluator Dan Hoff for making himself available to those who had to come back on another day to complete their tests. His cooperation meant that those students who needed to retest certain stations did not have to drive to Harrisburg to complete the test. The next Firefighter I Certification test is set for July 15 & 16, 2005. Please take advantage of the classes we have scheduled for this spring to MAKE SURE YOU ARE READY for the test in July. I **STRONGLY** emphasize the point that potential candidates should make sure they have a minimum of a Hazardous Awareness and that it will be current on the test dates; this also goes for First Aid and Professional Rescuer CPR. They should also make sure they have a DOCUMENTED Structural Burn Session (one of these is scheduled on March 12 & 13, here at YOUR FIRE SCHOOL). We will have a Fire Fighter I review class in June; those who take the review class tend to do much better on the test process.

We also plan on having Certification tests for Driver Operator – Pump and another Certification test for Ropes coming to the School in 2005 no dates have been set for these as of yet

The 2005 Mason-Dixon Extrication Challenge has been sanctioned by TERCUSA. The Competition Index Number is 200505USA02. This regional Extrication Challenge will take place May 6 – 8, 2005. Rescue Teams from the Northeastern United States as well as guests from other parts of the United States and Canada will be welcomed to attend this event at your hometown Fire School. We have interest expressed by teams from New York, New Jersey, and South Carolina. There is even a rumor that a York County Fire Company will be sending a team. We are working on the applications and other issues and hope to be sending out the application in the next few weeks. Skip Rupert is the event Chairman and Program Coordinator Carl Avery will manage the event

Mark down September 30, October 1 & 2, 2005 for another extrication event, the Extrication Challenge Workshop. This event, geared toward Junior Fire & Rescue teams, is one the best hands-on training formats for future rescuers. If you have a team of juniors, it is not too early to plan for next year. Contact your Fire School and we (Mr. Rupert and I) will be glad to help you get started.

Your Fire School was in use for 264 hour in November. This is down from the previous Month's (and years highest) scheduled use of 359 hours. The projected total for the year is 2359.5 hours. With that information the average Monthly usage is 196.6 hours per month. To put that in perspective if we held one class session that lasted eight hours a day, five days a week every week we'd only have our facilities in use for 160 hours per month. To compare that a little further, the total hours for one eight hour class held here 5 days a week for the entire year would be 1920 as compared to the 2359.5 stated above, or a difference of 439.5 hours. We do anticipate our hours will build up again soon after the beginning of 2005.

Your Fire School is working to bring to you, the Emergency Responders of York County and its surrounding areas a variety of informative classes. We are only one part in the chain. The School can Schedule Classes, bring in the top local and world-class instructors, have the facilities to bring you some of the best training available. However if WE DON'T HAVE YOU, we have nothing! Without students there is no class! It is up to YOU, the Fire Officers, Firefighter and Rescue personnel of York County, to take advantage of the programs we offer.

At the October meeting, the association approved sending 3-4 persons to the 2005 FDIC Indy. The Coordinator's office will be presenting the names of prospective attendees at this month board meeting. Those names are Carl Avery, Dan Hoff and Skip Rupert; Bernard Anthony was also a prospective attendee but asked that his name be withdrawn due to time constraints.

At the request of the Board of Governors, The Fire School Program Coordinator has completed an initial draft of the Facility Use Guidelines for Company/Departmental Level Training Structural Burn Building. This was submitted to the Board of Governors at the October meeting in Shrewsbury. Further action is pending their review and recommendations for revisions.

Coming Events:

Haz-Mat Awareness Review Class, 1.5 hours, January 5, 2005, 18:30-20:00
Haz-Mat Operations Review Class, 5.5 hours, Jan. 5 & 6, 2005, 18:30-21:30
Incident Command System Class, 16 hours, Jan. 10 & 12 (18:30-22:30) and Jan. 15th 08:00-17:00
Pa. Essentials of Fire Fighting Class, 88 hours, Begins Jan. 11, 2005 and is every Tuesday and Thursday Night through March 22, 2005, final Class Saturday April 2nd
Confined Space Rescue, 16 hours, Jan. 11, 13, 19, 20, 2005, 18:30-22:30
Carbon Monoxide Detector Responses, 3 hours, January 14, 19:00 – 22:00
Carbon Monoxide Detector Responses, 3 hours, January 15, 09:00 – 12:00
Principles of Building Construction, 16 hours, Jan. 26 & 27 (18:30-22:30) and Jan. 29th 08:00-17:00
MASON-DIXON EXTRICATION CHALLENGE May 6, 7 and 8. 2005, 0800-1700

Projects:

We are evaluating a collection of hand tools and equipment that will be used in classes (Tools likely to be encountered in Obtaining Professional Cert per NFPA 1001 i.e.: Firefighter I)
Initial research and planning for the remodeling of a portion of the existing ladder shed into a Command Post/Field Office has begun. This will be a project scheduled for completion in 2005.
The new pick-up/plow truck has arrived and is in service.
The alarm service is working on upgrading our alarm system. We do not have any more information on upgrading as of this time.

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 5. Other projects pending approval of 2005 budget proposal.
- Bern Anthony reported that the Fall Essentials class just finished up. The class started with thirty-nine students and graduated thirty-two. Next Essentials class begins on January 11th.

YORK COUNTY ATR: No Report.

NOMINATIONS: Chief Wolfgang read the following nominees for office, in the Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters Association of York County, for 2005 –

President - Skip Rupert, *Vice President* - Brian Bastinelli and Steve Dietz, *Secretary* - Cindy Dietz, *Treasurer* - Bob Bowman, *Board of Governors* - Barry Myers.

YORK COUNTY EMA: Cindy Dietz reported for Tom Graybill, and advised if departments needed more ERG (Emergency Response Guide) Books they should contact Jeff Joy in the EMA office, also on behalf of York County Emergency Management, Happy Holidays.

President Rupert asked if Tom could check on the status of out of state mutual aid agreements and report back at the January meeting. Cindy said she would relay that request to Tom.

FIRE POLICE: Jim Robertson reported that the York County Fire Police Association met on November 22nd at Station 23. Jim read the minutes from that meeting. Jim asked that the County Chiefs support the fire police in their respective departments.

YORK COUNTY HAZMAT: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Audrey Rychalsky thanked everyone who came out to the CAD demos last week.
- President Rupert asked if anyone could host the annual meeting in January. Chief Miller from Hellam advised he would check if the date was open for his station and get back to the secretary.
- Treasurer Bob Bowman presented the bills. Motion made by Chief K. Miller to pay the bills, seconded by Rick Witten. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Chief Walker reported that Wayne Shaffer is now back home and recovering. Visitors are welcome.
- Chief Walker said Stewartstown was still having trouble with response times and Met Ed. He relayed a story about waiting 3 hours for Met Ed to arrive. He said he notified State Representative Stan Saylor and also met with Ernie Waters from Met Ed but does not feel he was taken very seriously. Mr. Waters stated he was not receiving complaints from anyone else in York County. Chief Walker will be having another meeting with Met Ed. He invited other departments to attend and encouraged them to voice any concerns they may have. Discussion followed on service from Met Ed in general throughout the County.
- Chief Snyder asked if there was still going to be a meeting to discuss pagers. President Rupert said there was and he would be getting with Carl and Nate to set it up.
- Chief Kuykendall asked about the \$63 million for the 911 system upgrades. He said he did not see it listed in the newspaper anywhere as part of the budget.
 - Chief Senft explained that the general fund budget was reported in the newspaper. The \$63 million dollars is not part of the general fund budget. It is part of a bond the county obtained.
- Chief Kuykendall asked if the Fire School's budget had been approved.
 - Chief Senft advised it was being voted on this week.
- Chief Cadden advised that Chief Tony Myers was involved in an accident while assisting on a call for a motor vehicle accident. Chief Myers is doing well.
- Lori Gillen from VFIS said she had calendars for 2005 if anyone needed one.
- Rick Witten gave information on the funeral arrangements for Herbert Caldwell III, for those who wanted to attend the service or the fellowship after the service at Station 31.

Motion to adjourn by Chief K. Miller. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

The following station still owes dues for 2003/2004 – DDSP-LF – Station 69

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday, January 17, 2005 will be held at the Friendship Fire Company (Station 21), 163 East Market Street in Hallam Borough. Light refreshments will be provided.

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Dietz

Cindy A. Dietz
Secretary