

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

330 Emig Road  
York, PA 17406



Monthly Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER (Vice President Joe Hildebrand)**

Vice President Joe Hildebrand called the monthly meeting of the York County Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association to order at 19:08. The call to order was followed by a pledge to the flag and a moment of silence. 28 people were in attendance.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Dallas Dressel from Major Restoration Services: Thanked us for our service as emergency responders and gave an overview of their "After the Fire is Out" handout. She also handed out shut-off tag packets with contact information.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice President Hildebrand 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: \$6,407.69 with an Ending Balance: \$9,535.60. With no comments, Vice President Hildebrand 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:

Finances are stable and cash-positive for the year / had an executive session to discuss a personnel issue / Harley Davidson equipment donation / facilities issues

John pointed out that the Board and any of its members are available as a resource to assist fire companies in any way possible.

#### **Fire School Administrator (Richard Halpin):**

November Fire School Training: 185 hours / 92 for fire school classes.

The donated Harley Davidson rescue equipment will be split with the county ATR team and other agencies.

The RACP grant project is getting started. The upgrades will total approximately \$1.3M and include a new cascade/air compressor system and campus electrical upgrades to 3 phase power to support it.

The TRIPR (Transportation Rail Incident Preparedness & Response) registration forms are available online.

PA State Police cadets have been doing forcible entry and other training at the fire school.

### **OTHER AGENCY REPORTS**

#### **911 Center/YCDES (Nick Coby):**

See attached radio and microwave systems project update summary.

Reminder to use the online complaint form.

#### **PA State Police (Brad Dunham):**

The fire grant funds for investigations are coming up short again.

Reminder that the red-blue light lists are due February 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Arson Awareness class with ATF is scheduled for March 8, 10, 12.

Complaints are coming in again about emergency vehicle responses (chief cars passing apparatus on 2-lane roads, etc.). Be aware that the public is video-taping what they see us do.

Thanks for preserving fire investigation scenes. Some neighboring counties are not doing as well with that to support investigations.

#### **ATR (John Sanford):**

The ATR team had 0 calls for the month; 34 calls for the year.

Ice rescue classes are being scheduled for February 20, 21 at Station 61. The classes will be open to anyone in the county.

#### **OEM/Haz-Mat (Tom Graybill/Ray Kinsey):**

The Haz-Mat team had 4 calls for the past 2 months; 72 calls for the year.

#### **Fire Police (Jim Robertson):**

The reorganization meeting will be in January.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Radio/Communications (Joe Madzellan):**

Thanks to Nick for the radio system update.

The scheme for numbering municipal chiefs will continue using the existing 10s system. Jackson Twp. has been approved to use Chief 140 for Brad Dunham.

There have been some recent delays in Active 911 and IAmResponding dispatches and some actually not going through. If this happens, notify both York via trouble ticket and your service provider with incident and time information so that they can both address the issues. The Radio Committee should again be automatically copied on trouble ticket notices for follow-up.

The 2016 budget includes a mobile CAD upgrade for tablets. Testing on this will start early next year.

The committee reviewed typing requirements for air units and recommends a minimum bank of 6, 6000 psi cylinders to meet that unit designation. The FEMA/NIMS Type 3 classification requires 5, 6000 psi cylinders. Chad Deardorff made a motion to require a bank of 5, 6,000 psi cylinders as the minimum requirement. A question was asked how soon units with less than 5 banks will have to upgrade to maintain their designation. Joe noted that some time will be given as long as there is an intent to upgrade. Larry Crouse seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Joe briefly discussed a county PIMAS-type mutual aid system called Mutual Aid Net.

**Fire School Committee (Bob Sells):**

No report

**Fire Prevention (XXX):**

No report

**Fundraising (John McDonald):**

Not present

**Rescue Inspection (email report from Tony Myers):**

Re-inspections have started with the following completed in December: R34 inspected and had downgraded to Rescue from Heavy Rescue; R38 will be inspected after the new year due to their recent departmental funeral; R69 was inspected and passed as a Heavy Rescue; R61 will be inspected next week as a Heavy Rescue.

Remember, for inspections you must weigh your vehicle. Weights shall show front and rear axles separately and not just a gross vehicle weight measurement. Pull you unit on to the scale with just the front axle contacting, weigh it, then pull across until only the rear axle(s) are on the scale and then weigh that. You will need to produce a printed copy from the weigh station showing these results. A copy goes in the file of your inspection.

Contact the rescue committee at [rescue@ycfs.us](mailto:rescue@ycfs.us) if you have any questions regarding the rescue and heavy rescue specifications. The inspection forms are on the fire school website under "Forms".

**RIT Committee (Chad Livelsberger/Brian Widmayer)**

Not present

**Accountability Committee (John Livingston)**

Not present. Chad Deardorff noted that their last action was gathering information at FDIC. Joe Madzellan noted that information was given to the board, but no recommendations from the committee.

**Public Safety Policy Board (Steve Buffington):**

Not present

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Vice President Hildebrand asked for a motion to pay the bills. Casey Smith made a motion. Larry Crouse seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

Chad Deardorff reported for CH9-1, Brian Widmayer, that all Station 9 apparatus is RIT-certified. More than one unit should be available to respond as RIT at any time. A trouble ticket is being submitted to correct the dispatches. Joe Madzellan reminded all chief officers to check with York what expected units are actually coming on their incidents.

The next meeting will be January 18, 2016 at 19:00 at Hellam Fire Company Station 21. Dinner will be served before the meeting. Anyone who wants to host the April or July meetings are requested to contact the Secretary.

John Senft noted that a second York County firefighter recently passed away from cancer. Remember that there is a cancer presumption law in PA. There are resources in Harrisburg who can assist in

determining if benefits are available. Chad Deardorff commented on the importance of washing your turnout gear after fires.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice President Hildebrand adjourned the meeting at 20:02.

Respectfully Recorded,

*Robert Sells*

Robert Sells  
Board Secretary

# **RADIO AND MICROWAVE SYSTEMS PROJECT UPDATE SUMMARY December 21, 2015**

## **COUNTY:**

- All site acquisition and development work has been completed
- All non-county owned transmission sites lease agreements have been fully executed
- Inventory work of current (T Band) end user equipment has been completed
  - Contracted equipment replacement numbers have been calculated, based on contract signing date of December 2013

## **ALCATEL-LUCENT (Microwave System):**

- Work continues on the upgrading of the county-wide microwave network
- Vendor has experienced a level of difficulty in successfully connecting the new microwave equipment to the county's current equipment which, to date, has caused a delay in the overall project schedule of approximately seven (7) months.
  - Originally slated to be June 30, 2015
- System timing issues causing these delays between the Alcatel microwave and Harris radio equipment appear to have been overcome and the work to connect these two systems together has finally begun.
- Estimated completing of the microwave installation and cutover is mid-February 2016

## **HARRIS CORPORATION (Radio System):**

- Projected completion of new transmission sites antenna installation work is slated for December 2015
- New system-based 700MHz radio equipment delivery to sites is complete
- Pending completion of the microwave system by Alcatel-Lucent, connecting and turning up the new 700MHz radio equipment is slated for the Spring 2016 timeframe
- Installation of new dispatch consoles is estimated to take place in the June 2016 timeframe
- New radio system optimization work is slated for the June-July 2016 timeframe
- Radio system coverage testing slated for August-September 2016 timeframe
  - Automated BER (Bit Error Rate) testing
  - Circuit Merit Testing (Can you hear me now testing) field and in-building
    - County, County's Consultants and First Responder volunteers
- Tentative ordering date for end user radio equipment is slated for fall 2016
  - Mobile and control station installation work slated for 11/2016 – 11/2017
- System Acceptance of the new 700MHz radio system by the County has been delayed by approximately six (6) months due to the issues with the microwave system and is now tentatively scheduled for December 2017.