



Suffolk County Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services Commission  
PO Box 127 – Yaphank, NY 11980  
(631) 852-4851

DRAFT  
MINUTES OF  
April 23, 2008 MEETING

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Chairman Carrigan, followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for sick and departed members, opened the meeting at 8:07 pm. Those remembered: Bill Jordan – Centereach, Ed Cooper – Riverhead, Louis Fiandola – Commack, Albert Salmon – Southold, Bob Miller – Central Islip, Charles “Chuck” Varese – Northport and Bill Miller – Central Islip.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted by a motion from K. Capon. The motion was seconded by F. Thornhill. Motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

Correspondence received since last meeting:

- Flyer on EMS Memorial Dedication at Empire State Plaza on May 22, 2008 at 11:00 am;
- Memo from Bob Delagi to All ALS Ambulance Services in Suffolk County on a prospective review of EMT-CC and EMT-Paramedic Lead II rhythm strip interpretation;
- Memo from REMSCO on Recognition of Outstanding Contributions 2007 NY State EMS Awards Program. Applications must be received by REMSCO before Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>;
- Memo from Karl Klug to All EMS Agencies with a reminder that April is Child Abuse Awareness/Prevention Month in Suffolk County and there are laws that require EMS to report suspected cases to the NYS Central Register;
- Letter from Town of Babylon Fire Officials Association on MOU with SCPD.

Correspondence sent since last meeting:

- Anniversary letters: Centerport for 75 years, East Northport for 100 years and Smithtown for 100 years.

Treasurer's Report: J. Egan

The opening balance was \$.3513.35; there were four (3) \$50 deposits, leaving a closing balance of \$3713.35. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. All in favor and no one opposing, the motion was carried.

Report of Officers: D. Carrigan / A. LaFerrera

D. Carrigan attended several meetings and a wake; A LaFerrera – no report.

Commissioner's Report: J. Williams

- Deputy Commissioner Bel Pagdanganan is resigning effective May 9<sup>th</sup> to return to KeySpan. We will be accepting resumes to review to fill the position;
- Thank you for getting back surveys for SAFER grant. Membership held about the same;
- FRES/EMS merger meetings were not well attended overall. Told by REMSCO that they will be interviewing me and the Health Commissioner. Haven't heard when yet.
- Building 13 is being worked on as far as removing asbestos and will be demolished;
- Each department head has come up with a 10% cut to aid county budget. We may lose \$55,000 - \$60,000 from the budget. Last recourse is to lose staff. Lost three (3) cars that should be replaced;
- New Chiefs' Seminar is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>. Only 10 chiefs have registered so far and if it doesn't pick up, it will be cancelled.

Deputy Commissioner's Report: No Report.

Fire Marshal's Report: W. Horst

Elections are during month of April. Please let us know what changes have been made so we can update our Directory.

Fire Academy: T. Kost

- Drill is starting tomorrow; department will be faxed information about where and when they should report. There will be police, sheriff, and military to check credentials to check orders, just as if it was a real event. Units will be separated by about 15 minutes so as not to arrive at the same time and therefore avoid confusion at staging areas. Channel 12 will be present and will do live shots as will Fox 5. *Newsday* asked for a scenario as to what is going on for Friday's paper.
- Pump house is coming along just great; ramps in front will hold us up a little bit;
- Cost of fuel has more than doubled; we will have to cut back on some of the drills;
- Potential for loss of state aid; county attorney has served papers on state. We had a meeting with P. Eddington's staff and they are behind us;
- I (Tom Kost) am retiring as of July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Read a law sent to us from OFPC re: fire training that has passed in the senate: that any facility must be inspected and approved before doing a burn. Norm Reilly mentioned that there are some people working on getting it "killed."

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Capt. J. Blosser

Two (2) helicopters are in service now. One is out for inspection and one is waiting to go to inspection. We should have two in service for the entire summer season.

EMS: No Report

Budget Committee: R. Vella

Commissioner and Chief Fire Marshal feel they can live with budget. We support budget with no further cuts. Capital budget. F. Thornhill motioned for letters. Motion seconded and carried.

Arson Task Force: R. Keller

Next meeting is July 9<sup>th</sup> and will be during the day. ATF will not be attending chiefs meetings due to budget constraints.

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly, Jr.

- We had a meeting with very few attending. We discussed V-TAC channels. Next meeting is in June.
- Sent out 3 memos:
  - CAD Alarm Printing: to upgrade service from fax to internet;
  - EMS & 800: EMS communications to move to 800 MHz radio system. Hope to be fully operational by end of year;
  - When we go outside areas of response we would like everyone to use V-TAC;
- Plain language is a component of the NIMS requirement and is to be used on all mutual aid channels.

Buildings & Grounds: K. Capon

Can we get DPW to put some stain on the side of this building? We have asked for this but there is no one who can do this. Prison work team started to do various projects, but the union stepped in and stopped the work.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully, Jr.

- Dissolution of Fire Districts has been taken out of the Governor's budget, but the committee is still intact;
- There has been a modification of the Wicks Law.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna, Jr.

In September there will be a vote on residential sprinklers.

If you are a voting member of ICC and you want to go to vote, there is grant money available.

EMS & REMSCO:

Next meeting is May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Burn Center: F. Thornhill

- Craig Zitek is acting president of Burn Center due to Cathy Urevich's resignation;
- Skin bank is doing research on freeze drying skin. Also research on healing burns on the eyes;
- Director of Nursing that includes the Burn Center has been named.
- May 18<sup>th</sup> is Recognition Day

Recruitment & Retention: K. Capon

At the last meeting, the advertising company that received the bid explained what they were going to do for pamphlet and sign. Hopefully we can get them printed very soon.

Haz Mat / Homeland Security: E. Tully

- Rick Gimbl had meeting with chiefs and they will be losing 18 people on beach. Will be losing on EMS transports;
- Public Safety Committee asked Dormer to come next month and report on cuts in his department
- Next meeting is May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Old Business:

Resolution to excuse all those absent from March's meeting: Scott Thebold (illness), Vinnie Bologna (wake), Richard Vella, Drew Silverman (alternate attended). Next month we will discuss setting up criteria for being excused.

All were in favor of this resolution; attendance resolution approved.

New Business:

- Discussion ensued on whether or not to send letters on cuts (see Haz Mat /Homeland Security) and it was decided to hold off until next month.
- Discussion on voting ensued, this is involving Fair Labor Standards Act – collective bargaining.
- On Deputy Commissioner's resignation, we are going to fax out position opening. The top four will go to County Executive; Commissioner will make recommendation to County Executive. No applicants will be brought before FRES Commission;
- Electronic PCR contract has not been signed. Still working on issue of transferring information to hospital.

Public Comment:

C. Zitek: Saw Scott Thebold and he is doing much better and he hopes to be back at work in September.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by R. Sorrentino and R. Keller seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
A. LaFerrera	S. Thebold	J. Williams	R. Knight
K. Capon	C. DelVecchio	W. Horst	Capt. Blosser
V. Bologna	D. Silverman	T. Kost	
C. Zitek	S. Davonski	M. Quinn	
R. Keller	R. Gimbl	T. Portoghese	
R. Vella			
D. Carrigan			
E. Tully			
R. Sorrentino			
N. Reilly			
F. Thornhill			
J. Egan			

<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	Wednesday, May 28, 2008
<b>TIME</b>	8:00 pm
<b>LOCATION</b>	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	R. Sorrentino and N. Reilly

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR FRES ID BADGE TO MEETINGS**