



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

MINUTES OF
January 27, 2010 MEETING

Chairman Carrigan opened the meeting at 8:02 p.m., followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for sick and departed members:

Elections:

K. Capon motioned to approve nomination of A. LaFerrera for Chairman, R. Vella seconded. For Vice Chair: J. Egan nomination, R. Vella motioned and C. Zitek seconded. Chris Del Vecchio for Treasurer: R. Vella motioned and R. Sorrentino seconded. All nominees were elected.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the December 2, 2009 meeting were accepted by a motion from K. Capon and seconded by C. Zitek. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

Correspondence received since last meeting:

- From the County Executive to Jay Egan, Richard Sorrentino, Frank Thornhill, Richard Vella and David Carrigan reappointing them to the FRES Commission (2008 through 2010);
- Memo from Bob Delagi to All Ambulance and First Response Services re: Restoration of Emergency Response Disease Notification Provisions in the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Act;
- Memo from Bob Delagi to All Ambulance and First Response Services re: Respiratory Protection Assets;
- Memo from Tom Lateulere to All Suffolk County CME Coordinators re: CME Participants "No Call/No Show";
- NYS PCRs – Availability and Submission Deadline.

Correspondence sent since last meeting:

None

List of courses offered are on the last page of these minutes.

Treasurer's Report: J. Egan

The opening balance was \$4076.60. No debits and no credits leaving a closing balance of \$4076.60. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's reports. All in favor and no one opposing, the motion was carried.

Report of Officers: A. LaFerrera

LaFerrera: The County Executive vetoed a bill on the E911 wireless surcharge. There is a meeting on February 2nd to override veto. The money collected would go to the PSAPs. Started collecting money from Internet service. Cell phones can produce quite a bit of money. 600,000 out of 1 million calls were wireless calls.

Commissioner's Report: J. Williams

- Gas truck accident on LIE: all did a fantastic job. Incident Command worked very well. I commend all those who worked so well together.
- Health Insurance for volunteers: We looked at the County's Insurance and that was not viable. County attorneys and Labor Relations talked to insurers. We only had 54 people who were interested. We will put it back out again, but I don't think it will be a "go".
- Snowstorm in December: there is a 99% chance that we will get some reimbursement.
- SAFER Grant: We received grant in the past but the grant ended in August. We applied for a new grant and were denied. We have now applied for the next grant. We had approached Nassau County to join forces with us and they said with their new administration coming in they weren't interested. Senator Schumer gave a press conference and Nassau County was mentioned as a contender for this new grant. The Senator had guaranteed us that Suffolk County would be mentioned at press conference and it didn't happen. Now we are competing against Nassau County after we gave them all our information and paperwork.
- I am asking for help to save the fire service in Suffolk County. We need to talk about important issues: signal 3s; Newsday is killing us. There are so many issues with which we should be concerned. I am very concerned about our fire service.
- R. Vella motioned for a letter to Senator Schumer regarding Safer Grant; seconded by F. Thornhill.

N. Reilly: Commissioner has to bring us the issues that are important – we have to know the issues. Commissioner: we all know the issues we should be tackling. We have to get the word out that we do a good job.

T. LaFerrera: this same issue was brought up today at meetings, i.e., response times.

R. Vella: Newsday reporter came to W. Babylon and we gave her whatever records she wanted and she hasn't bothered us since.

Commissioner: I will not issue a report that has incorrect times. (This was in reference to a discontinued report that portrayed inaccurate response times.)

F. Thornhill: Perhaps using electronic message boards – maybe this would be a good place to put number of alarms. It was mentioned that they are not allowed in some towns.

Commissioner: Perhaps hire a county PIO, but we couldn't pay with county funds.

N. Reilly: can we add something to FRES website; i.e., number of calls, etc.?

Perhaps we could place a banner at the Fire Academy with the number of calls.

Deputy Commissioner's Report: Absent

Fire Marshal's Report: W. Horst

At the end of December, we sent out a letter for updates to the Fire Rescue Directory. They are due by the end of January. Please go back to your organizations and tell them to inform us of any updates.

Fire Academy: D. Stockinger

- For 2009 the total student contact was 45,853. This equates to 167,363 student training hours. Instructor hours were 22,650 and we issued 3781 certificates. It was an outstanding year.
- Fire Officer I pilot program in Deer Park is a new program for 2010 and we will offer national certification in the future. We have a new 24 hour program for fire police training.
- OFPC will be conducting certification for our instructors in February.
- We are developing a new program for non-interior firefighters that will replace FF1-EMS – Scene Support Operations. This will be used as a prerequisite in some programs instead of FF1. We plan to have this available this summer.
- New sensors will allow us to resume Class A burns. LP gas will be adding loading dock to prop.
- We have been notified that we won our appeal in suit against the State Education Department. We have lost about \$400,000. We found in the Governor's budget the way we get paid and the court held us up. They want to change the law to benefit them; they want to add a new section that will not allow us to recoup the money for the last three years. This will go back and forth for months. We have contacted many delegates and other officials. We need this Commission to support us.
- USAR will be having a meeting this Monday to move forward with the team. We have laid out an entire year.

Motion by J. Carney to send letter of support for the Fire Academy in their fight against the State, C. Del Vecchio seconded.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Insp. S. Cameron

- I was at the tanker crash on the LIE and it went extremely well.
- I would like to thank this Commission and the Commissioner for their support in getting rid of the aircraft. Our new aircraft is being constructed (AStar). I can now say all our

aircraft is up and running. This Saturday we are presenting New Mexico Tech class specifically for the fire service. If you want to send someone, please let us know.
Commissioner: We should all congratulate Inspector Cameron on his promotion from Deputy Inspector to Inspector and we thank him for his continuous support.

EMS: M. Masterton

Reference hand-outs given at meeting; topics listed under Correspondence of these minutes.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman

No report

Arson Task Force: Absent

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly, Jr.

No report.

Buildings & Grounds: K. Capon

No report.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

- Regarding the consolidation of Fire Districts: FASNY, Assoc. of Fire Districts, NYS Chiefs', Fire Marshals, Fire Coordinators, Fire Investigators, State EMS, Fire Police, all these agencies have put aside their agendas and put all their energies into fighting the consolidation bill in Albany. An upstate district near Albany was just consolidated with another district and the outcome was that the district tax went up.
- PESH has sited Ridge, Rocky Point and another Long Island Fire Department for not complying with the Rope Law. They will be fined an undetermined amount.
- State Auditors are on the Island doing audits of Fire Districts and Fire Departments.
- Governor's budget left out rescue companies; it's only fire companies and fire departments. Bills are A9706 and Senate 6606.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna, Jr.

Residential sprinkler law should remain, but it won't be certain until May. HR 1194 and Senate 2947. January 19th injunction to building code.

EMS & REMSCO: A. LaFerrera

- REMSCO: Ed Boyd is chairman. Discussion on response time. Conference on vital signs is in Times Square. Restoration of Ryan White Act.
- Will be sending letter to FRES for two seats on FRES Commission. This bill on number of representatives from Ambulance Chiefs on FRES Commission was tabled.
- District 7 Ambulance is looking for two seats on the FRES Commission.

Burn Center: C. Zitek

Burn Center has been very busy; unfortunately there were many people there over the holidays. The hospital is working on plans for a new burn center; everything we have heard so far is good. Burn Recognition Day is May 16th at 1 p.m. We have some presentations. We would appreciate a large turnout. We are always looking for new people to join the Burn Center group.

F. Thornhill: we have approved some expenses: sending burn victim children to Burn Camp and the purchase of an interactive Wii game.

Recruitment & Retention: K. Capon

No Report. Commissioner: I am asking this Commission for letters of support for the SAFER Grant to our Congressmen. C. Del Vecchio motioned and R. Vella seconded.

Old Business:

- Radios were stolen from Chiefs' car and we worked closely with PD and Chief White. Acting on a tip, a person was arrested. He had two radios from West Sayville on the front seat of his car when he was pulled over. He was computer savvy and was able to circumvent alarm system on cars. W. Horst: Question was raised by PD as to why addresses are in Fire Rescue Directory. Home addresses and phone numbers are going to be recommended not to be included in future editions of the Directory.
- POs have been issued to Motorola for radio side of refurbishment of Radio Room. We have to spec out new equipment. Coram is still not on line. Motorola has to come in for connectivity on microwave system. It should be expanded shortly. PD received a grant to upgrade. It is moving along.
- Letter to Legislators coming to meetings and also Myles coming to meetings. Commissioner: Myles can come; if he doesn't come, it is his choice. LaFerrera: Rob Colarco is aware of these meetings and we are supposed to receive a letter shortly regarding the issue of Legislator attendance.

New Business:

A. LaFerrera presented a plaque to Dave Carrigan for his service as Chairman of this Commission.

Public Safety meeting is this Friday at 10:30 am.

Public Comment:

None

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by R. Vella and seconded by D. Carrigan. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING	Wednesday, February 24, 2009
TIME	8:00 pm
LOCATION	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
REFRESHMENTS	V. Bologna and C. Del Vecchio

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
A. LaFerrera	R. Keller	J. Williams	M. Masterton
K. Capon		W. Horst	R. Knight
V. Bologna		R. Stockinger	S. Cameron
C. Del Vecchio		T. Portoghese	
C. Zitek			
C. Bancroft			
R. Vella			
D. Carrigan			
E. Tully			
R. Sorrentino			
N. Reilly			
D. Silverman			
F. Thornhill			
J. Egan			
J. Carney			

LIST OF COURSES OFFERED

Course	Location	Dates	Days / Time
EMT Basic Original	BayShore-Brightwaters Amb	2/3-6/17/10	Sats 9a-3p & Weds 7-10p
EMT Basic Original	Hampton Bays Amb	2/6-6/17/10	Sats 8a-2p & Weds 6:30-9:30p
EMT Basic Refresher	E. Farmingdale Fire Co	3/28-6/17/10	Suns 9a – 3p
EMT Basic Refresher	Copiague FD	3/30-6/17/10	Tues & Thurs 7-10p
EMT Basic Fresher	Selden FD	3/28-6/17/10	Suns 8a – 2p