



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

MINUTES OF
May 26, 2010 MEETING

Chairman LaFerrera opened the meeting at 8 p.m., followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for sick and departed members: Ex-Chief Kenny Jones of East Quogue and a former Chairman of the FRES Commission, Ex-Chief/Commissioner Carl V. Pisani of East Brentwood Fire Department, Ex-Chief Harry Roeper of North Amityville Fire Company, Ex-Chief Joseph DiPalma of West Islip Fire Department, Ex-Chief William P. Martin of Terryville Fire Department, Ex-Chief Alan Benjamin of Riverhead, Ex-Chief Ben Lupia and Ex-Chief Allan Geyer both from Hampton Bays.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted by a motion from K. Capon and seconded by C. Del Vecchio. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

Correspondence received since last meeting:

- Letter from Legislator Ed Romaine regarding 2011 Capital Budget;
- Memo from Marty Matuza on Atropen Administration Course;
- Information from REMSCO on the first annual REMSCO Golf Outing on August 19th at Timber Point Golf Course in Great River;
- Received Resolutions approving the appointment or reappointment of the following representatives for the 2010 – 2012 term: Chip Bancroft, John Carney, Tony LaFerrera, Norm Reilly, Ed Tully and Craig Zitek. Awaiting Drew Silverman's reappointment whose paperwork was delayed.

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

Treasurer's Report: C. Del Vecchio

The opening balance was \$4307.46. The closing balance with two (2) deposits totaling \$350 is \$4657.46. Islip Chiefs, Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs, Suffolk County Chiefs, Suffolk County District Officers', Shelter Island and Southampton Chiefs remain unpaid as of today. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. All in favor and no one opposing, the motion was carried.

Report of Officers: A. LaFerrera / J. Egan

A. LaFerrera:

- Resolution for five-year fixed terms for public safety commissioners/director was tabled.
- 1533: Establishing an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Council. They originally left out SC Ambulance Chiefs, SC Chiefs and EMS; they added them. R. Knight: believes that this was due to the fact that there are no longer warehouses available to keep supplies and Long Island will be in a tough situation if the bridges and tunnels were impassable and trucks were unable to get to the Island.

J. Egan:

- We had a budget meeting where we discussed budget for next couple of years. Favorable to projects but still took money out of budget. We should do something about this; we need to address this. Other issue is helicopter – 2011 money for helicopter has been taken out of budget; it was in capital budget. A. LaFerrera: this was at a REMSCO meeting – helicopter that was traded in and was told by Chief Surgeon that we were set as we would have four (4) helicopters. According to PD, money is still in the 2011 budget for a new helicopter; perhaps there was a misunderstanding.

Commissioner's Report: Absent

Deputy Commissioner's Report: J. Searing

- We met with Legislators on the Capital Budget and went thru projects and they approved what's there. Removed were the warehouse for the Fire Academy and renovation of the EOC. Proposed project for area where Bldg 13 was. Next year we may be able to get at least planning dollars for warehouse and EOC.
- Regarding reimbursements for snowstorm – we were rejected on appeal. State was with us. Local entities will not receive any money.
- SAFER Grant: awards have not been given out. We requested 4 million; half of which was to go to education.
- DNMA: Empire Shield Task Force, Army, Air Force and National Guard. Asked what can be done for county if we have a major hurricane, suggested were security, setting up PODs, logistics, debris removal and clearing would be their responsibility.
- Huntington Chiefs re: LODD: it's progressing. They listed Hulse as a Chaplain and it would probably be better to list as firefighter. Don't use titles.
- REMSCO meeting and Executive working group ("white paper") possibility of EMS coming under FRES. There were 4 recommendations: EMS should stay under health; they should hire medical director, have a universal system of data collection, and collaborate to create a true EMS system across Suffolk County.
- There was an issue with the DA who gave some misinformation at the Fire Chiefs' Council regarding West Babylon Fire. It was cleared up by the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner.

Commission to send letter to see where the DA stands on the issue of who is in charge at a fire and whose responsibility it is to call in the Arson Squad. Motion made by D. Carrigan and seconded by E. Tully. Motion passed. Letter should copy Commander of Arson.

Fire Marshal's Report: W. Horst

- Directory is to be sent to printers shortly.
- Fire Marshals Lynch and Martinez and their canines will be going for their recertifications.
- Law on fire extinguishers and systems took effect and now all will have to have a license. (All licenses expire in January 2011.)
- Backup communication center is moving slowing forward.
- Renovation of flashover in taxpayer.
- Re Directory: can it be electronic? (asked by Capt. Blosser) Would be a very large file and at this time, probably cannot be done.

Fire Academy: D. Stockinger

- Fire Officer 1 pilot program is complete. We are evaluating the program and will offer the class in the near future.
- The new 21-hour Fire Police Program will be piloted in June. It will be offered in five three-hour sessions and one six-hour hands-on session, which will include a 33 question final exam. IS-700 and ICS-100 are required to receive a certificate. We think this will be a large class and we will have to limit hands-on session.
- Fire Instructor 1 program is being held at the academy May 13-16 and 21-23.
- FF1 and 2 National Certification testing will be held at the Nassau Fire Academy on 8/22 and 23. A \$50 fee is required for each certification.
- Most chiefs have been notified about consolidating classes and we are in the process of scheduling. We will be giving back one field session to every department. You will be contacted this month.
- The planned improvements in the Taxpayer (flashover simulator) and the Tower (Cockloft Fire) should begin in August.
- Key Span is offering a PowerPoint presentation (developed by a Babylon FD member) on firefighting concerns with solar panels. Approximately 1½ hours long. Contact the office if you would like to host the presentation.
- Youth Day at the Academy will be on Aug. 19th in conjunction with the FASNY Conference. There will be 4 different scenarios for Juniors to go through: thermal imaging camera (maze), gear donning, ladder climbing with forcible entry and hose handling.
- Firefighter 1 is a requirement for a safety officer and will probably continue to be required – it is a state requirement. Holley will bring up to OFPC.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Capt. J. Blosser

We have two AStar helicopters in service; one is down for inspection. We should be able to keep 2 AStars in service for the summer.

EMS: M. Masterton**Ambulance Service Operations**

- Attended FRES Commission meeting.
- Attended Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs Association meeting.
- ePCR Update: three of the five (3/5) Pilot Agencies that went live on January 1, 2010 continue to report success. Eighteen (18) new agencies that came on board at the

August 12th training session are diligently working on in-house training and procuring equipment. EMS Division staff continues to receive lap tops from agencies and are completing programming requirement. North Amityville FD, Rocky Point FD and East Hampton VAC indicate they will be ready to transition from paper to electronic by June, 2010.

- Provided technical assistance to the Islip Town Ambulance Chief's regarding mutual aid and areas of operating authority.
- Provided technical assistance to the Commack Volunteer Ambulance Corps and FRES regarding dispatch of mutual aid agencies.
- Provided staff support to the REMSCO for their March, 2010 meeting.
- Provided staff support to the REMAC for their March, 2010 meeting.
- Work continues with the on-going QI Project on Spinal Immobilization.
- Attended meeting of REMAC's Credentialing Committee.
- Provided technical support to the Long Island Maritime Museum and local agencies regarding a Part 18 Public Function permit application.
- Division staff providing focused guidance and targeted education to a VAC in the region to address a series of operational deficiencies and meet the requirements of a Corrective Plan of Action.
- Met with representatives of the Eastern Long Island Hospital and the North Fork Rescue Assn. regarding implementation of the recently approved pilot program for BLS Blood Glucometry.
- Provided technical support to EMS agencies on the south fork and the Village of East Hampton regarding the loss of a tranquilizing dart on the beachfront.
- Provided technical support to the REMSCO's Resource Needs Committee regarding potential Transfer of Operating Authority (TOA) application.
- Completed and submitted the 2010-2011 Training Plan & Budget Template to the NY State DOH.
- Participated in a conference call with NY State DOH, Hospitals Association, and others in attempt to develop uniform post exposure follow-up guidelines for emergency workers.
- Assisted the Central Islip-Hauppauge VAC with resolving operating territory and contract issues.
- Attended Fire Island Fire Chief's Council Meeting.
- Provided technical support to developers of a Fire/ MCI exercise to be conducted on the barrier beach.
- Provided technical assistance to the Holbrook FD in preparation for a MOS wake and funeral services.
- Provided technical assistance to the West Islip FD in preparation for a MOS wake and funeral services.
- Presented program on EMS Response to School Bus Accidents/Emergencies to NYAPT (Bus Transportation Association)
- Attended Suffolk County Traffic Safety Board meeting

Education & Training

- Staff provided an in-service on ambulances and the EMS profession in the West Islip School District.
- Division staff in collaboration with Suffolk County Regional Faculty (RF) conducted an Instructor Update for forty one (41) EMS instructors.
- Provided focused RMA/Special Circumstances training for LI MacArthur Airport ARFF personnel.

- Division staff conducted four (4) practical remediation sessions for ALS providers that had their operating privileges restricted.
- Provided staff support to the REMSCO's Education & Training Committee.
- Division Staff conducted:
 - six (6) ePCR classes in Islip FD, East Hampton VAC, Bridgehampton FD, Medford VAC, Good Samaritan Hospital, and St. Charles Hospital.
 - one (1) focused training class on Carbon Monoxide Poisoning at Mattituck FD;
 - one (1) training class on Geriatric Emergencies at the Port Jefferson VAC;
 - one (1) training class on OB/Pregnancy Emergencies at the Yaphank FD;
 - one (1) Atropen Train-the-Trainer class EMS providers representing 20 Fire/EMS agencies;
 - one (1) ACLS course; and
 - one (1) PHTLS course.
- Division staff remediated eighteen (18) ALS Providers due to case reviews.
- Division staff conducted a four (4) week-end day EMT-CME Course (24 hours) in West Babylon FD.
- The Division conducted an EMT-CC challenge practical skills exam (PSE) for Twenty nine (29) providers.
- Opened one (1) CFR Original course in Gordon Heights FD for twenty four (24) Fire/EMS volunteers.
- Partnered with FRES and the SCPD to co-host the Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombing Course for firefighters and EMS personnel.
- Conducted PSE for seven (7) EMT-B original courses with 201 of 202 students passing.
- Staff providing administrative oversight of the following courses in progress:
 - ten (10) EMT- Basic Originals
 - four (4) EMT-Basic Refreshers
 - one (1) EMT-CC Original
 - one (1) EMT-CC Refresher
- Maintaining oversight of schedule of regular BLS and ALS Core Content refreshers.
- Staff held off-site office hours to facilitate CME review of CME packages prior to submission to NY State DOH.
- The Division's AHA Training Center conducted two hundred twenty nine (229) ECC courses collectively registering one thousand five hundred ninety eight (1,598) students.

Domestic Preparedness / Homeland Security

- Participated in additional planning meetings and a tabletop exercise with other key internal and external stakeholders for an upcoming multi-agency exercise at BNL.
- Continued on-going efforts with regard to developing an on-line registry and application for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs.
- Attended NY State DOH-sponsored tabletop exercise on health care facility evacuations.
- Attended NY State DOH-sponsored tabletop exercise on mass fatalities.
- Attended Suffolk County Decontamination Strike Team meeting and drill.
- The process of recruiting and training paramedics to serve as Medical Specialists as Suffolk County USAR TF-1 Team development continues.
- Assisted in the development of the After Action report (AAR) from the recent SCPD Med Cat MCI Drill on Fire Island.
- Participated in Teleconference for NYS-DOH Interoperable Communications Drill

- Participated on the NY State DOH-Sponsored rollout of the Health Care Facilities Evacuation Decision Making Tool, used to quantify risk and aid in decision making process.
- Participated in product inspection with the UAWG / EMS Committee regarding the purchase of regional Medical Ambulance Busses (MAB) and inter-regional mutual aid.
- Along with other key stakeholders, attended a follow-up planning meeting for the distribution of UASI and SHSP FY 09 and FY 10 grant funds.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman

- Met to discuss capital projects. Report has been covered above.
- J. Egan: we could meet and come up with a time frame for projects that have been postponed.
- EOC renovation has been pushed back several times. County Executive and all Legislators should get a letter regarding time frames. J. Carney motioned and R. Vella seconded for a letter for time frames for EOC renovation and Training Grounds projects. We want projects added back into budget and have a five year plan. W. Horst – put money in for EOC in 2013 budget.

Arson Task Force: Absent

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly, Jr.

- June 9th is next meeting.

M. Quinn:

- Initial plan to move radio room to Coram on 9/7 was moved to 9/20. Enhanced 911 in Suffolk County for both the Police Department and FRES will be shut down whenever we move. It will lengthen response times. Initial reaction was to move date to November, after hurricane season. Moving E911 is a money issue – it will take a lot of money.
- The DOH communication drill, the 800 system scored high. It went pretty well.
- Re-banding 800 radios is ongoing. Half of the school district radios still have to be done. Hospitals have not been done yet.
- Motorola is addressing the microwave system in Coram. We don't have the capacity for all towers. We don't know right now what direction we are going to take, but we should know more next month.

Buildings & Grounds: K. Capon

Grounds are in great shape. The walk around was good.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

Nothing is happening in Albany. The rope law was supposed to be taken out of the Labor Law; fire districts have to inspect these ropes. We do not know how it is going to end up. It will take a lot of money. Eventually the fire academy upstate will close and one will be formed with the police department. There isn't enough money to fix items that are broken for firefighter training. This will fall under State Homeland Security and it is not known how much money will go to the fire service. State fire districts have several bills; just the verbiage is being changed. The OFPC in Albany lost 14 jobs.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna, Jr.

Warren covered subject in his report.

EMS & REMSCO: A. LaFerrera

- With regard to the reporting of response times, REMSCO is looking for numbers to show improvement in the County.
- “White Paper” – took interviews and comments from everybody. It is supposed to be a snapshot of what the system is and what they recommend. It will be posted on REMSCO’s website for comments.
- REMSCO’s golf outing is on August 19th at Timer Point.

Burn Center: C. Zitek

Held recognition day at burn center. It was a very good day. The Burn Center has been busy, as usual, and is anticipating a busy summer. There were two presentations from the Red Knights Chapter 25. Quogue Fire Department gave a donation instead of giving gifts to those who attended their installation dinner.

Recruitment & Retention: K. Capon

We have no money.

Old Business:

Nothing.

New Business:

- It was mentioned on the news that letters went out to all employees saying if the Legislature does not allow the sale of the John J. Foley Nursing Home, 500 employees will be laid off.
- D. Carrigan motioned that all those absent from the last meeting be excused. E. Tully seconded. All in favor; motion carried.
- The death of a Malverne Fire Department member was overlooked and a letter is circulating. If you see this letter, perhaps your agency will want to address the situation.
- J. Searing: There is a new “sunshine law” which states that meetings have to be announced.

Public Comment:

R. Knight: the person chosen for Lieutenant Governor by Andrew Cuomo has suggested taking away 2% and giving it to municipalities.

LODD plaque is up to date and redone.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by E. Tully and seconded by J. Carney. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

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

NEXT MEETING TIME	Wednesday, June 23, 2010 8:00 pm
LOCATION	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
REFRESHMENTS	D. Carrigan and E. Tully

LIST OF COURSES OFFERED

Course	Location	Dates	Days / Time
EMT-B Rapid Ref	Wyandanch-Wheatley Hts	6/28-7/9/10	2 weeks straight 9a – 4p