



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

MINUTES OF  
February 23, 2011 MEETING

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Chairman LaFerrera opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m., followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for sick and departed members: Ex-Chief, Ex-Commissioner Roland Lahann, Smithtown; Ex-Chief, Commissioner Craig Robinson, North Sea; and Ex-Chief John Heinkele, Jr., Melville.

Elections of Commission Board Members:

D. Carrigan motioned that all those nominated be elected; E. Tully seconded. Board Members: Anthony LaFerrera as Chairman, Jay Egan as Vice Chairman and Chris Del Vecchio as Treasurer.

Committee Assignments – 2011 assignments are to remain as they were in 2010.

Discussion ensued about the necessity for a corresponding secretary, with no resolution

Acceptance of Minutes:

Acceptance of the December minutes motioned by K. Capon and seconded by D. Carrigan. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

Correspondence received or sent since last meeting:

- Mileage Reimbursement notice: The County will reimburse at the \$.51 cents per mile rate for the use of personal vehicles to conduct County business, effective January 1, 2011.

No correspondence sent since last meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report: C. Del Vecchio

The opening balance was \$4170.33. There was one (1) debit for \$200. The closing balance was \$3970.33. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's reports. All in favor and no one opposing, the motion was carried. Motioned to pay bill for flowers for Commissioner's father's wake. Motion passed.

Report of Officers: A. LaFerrera / J. Egan

LaFerrera – nothing to report

Egan – There were two major events this year so far (propane leak in Mastic and fire in Hampton Bays). Both events were handled well.

Commissioner's Report: J. Williams

- Follow up to Egan report: a lot of fires lately. There was some confusion recently concerning an injured firefighter and where to transport him. There is protocol to follow. I received a phone call that informed me that a fire department was calling the insurance company. In the daytime, if a chief is looking for a stress team, he can call EMS directly or call us and we will make all the necessary arrangements.
- Red Light Camera information was sent out. I spent much time today looking at hundreds of pictures of emergency vehicles going through red lights. If a member gets a ticket going through a red light, please the information that was sent out as there are directions to follow. They have to be going on calls and it must be in their district. They will plead not guilty to the summons. We do not advocate going through red lights.
- We constantly get requests for changes to the CAD system. It takes time to make these changes so please be patient. Updates are done periodically.
- John Searing had a knee operation and he is progressing but is hurting.
- J. Vetter is new to FRES. I was asked to take Joel in our department. He will be doing our CPR training for dispatchers. Also will be in charge of AED training and is a liaison to EMS. Our budget was not increased and we had to use a fire marshal position. That particular position has not been filled in years – we have several positions that are vacant. We are hopeful that we can hire later this year. This is the same hiring plan that we had before Joel. He did not take a fire marshal's position that was going to be filled.

J. Carney mentioned that there was an article in Fire News that was not complimentary to the Sheriffs Department and that FRES the Sheriffs Department were having issues. The Commissioner knows nothing about it. We have a good relationship with the Sheriffs.

Deputy Commissioner's Report: AbsentFire Marshal's Report: E. Springer

- We have 30 school districts to inspect.
- We are in the process of accepting new applications for fire extinguishing businesses.
- All fire marshals were recertified for 2011.
- There is a lot of building going on at Gabreski: a new hanger, new facility, new fuel depot.
- There were three canine callouts this month. Brett went to NYC and searched a van. Don will be going to MA to testify on a case.
- There were 6 fire fatalities with another one today that is not expected to live.
- Jimmy McLoughlin is having surgery for colon cancer – please keep him in your prayers.
- Regarding the Sayville fire today: that call came in as a burn from a fire; when Sayville Ambulance got there, the kitchen was on fire.
- Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program will be hiring a case manager and treatment counselor.

Fire Academy: D. Stockinger

- Started out busy but due to all the snow and ice, things slowed down.
- There is a new program: "Mask Confidence"; a three hour program now available for booking. New RIT program is also available.
- There are many Open Enrollment classes on the website.
- Medal of Valor cutoff date is March 1. Please get your applications in.
- Assistant Deputy Director Su Harley is retiring April 14<sup>th</sup>. There is a party at the Meadow Club for her.
- USAR- will have first cache maintenance this Sunday; starting generators, saws and taking inventory. We are planning on having a three-day exercise on Fire Island. We will be working on an exercise for 2012 in Virginia.
- Got invitation to attend LI Propane Dealers Assoc. (they are propane distributors for Nassau and Suffolk Counties). They have developed classes that firefighters are eligible to take. They have an interest in helping fire service. They gave me the curriculum to review. I suggested that they make presentations at Fire Chief Council meetings. Jack Stallone is contact person.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: AbsentBudget Committee: D. Silverman

No report.

Arson Task Force: T. Crafts

A fundraiser will be held shortly; otherwise, no report.

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly, Jr.

Last meeting cancelled due to snow. New meeting will be sometime in March.

J. Nirenberg: Dispatchers will be here in Yaphank between February 28 and March 3 for training. The Radio Room should be up and running here at Yaphank on March 8.

People doing work on refurbished Radio Room. Found out from Motorola in December that there were issues. They have been given \$10 million and they are only ones who can do this work.

Buildings & Grounds: K. Capon

Light on corner needs to be fixed. Response by J. Williams: DPW has been here to plow and they have been working almost 7 days a week. Many of their people retired and they are doing the best they can. They have to issue cars and weren't able to due to the snow. Fixing the light is not a priority of theirs at this time. Hopefully it will be fixed sometime this spring.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

- Bill numbers were washed out. Had people go to Albany on February 14 and 15 to present bills and hopefully, by end of this month, we will have new numbers.

- Association of Fire Districts – light construction bill – State Chiefs backed out, FASNY backed out. The wording is supposed to be worked on and rewritten. We want it worded the right way with protection for chiefs. Bills should be written properly at the outset. Discussion ensued regarding this bill.

Codes & Prevention: Absent

EMS & REMSCO: A. LaFerrera

REMSCO meeting is March 8.

Burn Center: C. Zitek

Burn Center is very busy. Problem with getting protocol information out to chiefs is that we don't often see the chiefs. We speak with them to know that firefighter is on the way. Also a fire marshal goes to help. Not every burn has to go into the Burn Center. The fire service does support the Burn Center Fund and we try to make sure that they get quality care quickly. Two injured firefighters from Hampton Bays are back home and doing well.

Cuomo's budget cuts across the state: \$55 million cut from the hospital and this will affect all specialty care units. We have been in touch with state senators and are concerned about how this will affect the Burn Center – will it be closed or cut back.

Recruitment & Retention: K. Capon

No report.

Old Business:

Nothing.

New Business:

- S. Thebold motioned that we send something to the Deputy Commissioner and it was seconded by C. Bancroft. Motion carried.
- M. Masterton: If firefighter or any patient is hurt and wants to go to Stony Brook even if it is not the closest hospital, he will be taken there. There is a policy in place for situations such as these. The only time you don't bypass a trauma center is when the person is unstable. All policies and procedures are in place. The local EMS agency allowed EMS to review and they did a good job.
- J. Carney: chiefs should know and be educated about taking firefighter burn victims to the Burn Center.
- C. Zitek: Doctors and nurses are teaching classes to various hospitals to recognize burns and their severity and how they should be treated (whether or not to send to Burn Center). It takes about 24 hrs to evaluate burns.
- D. Carrigan motioned that all those absent from last meeting be excused. R. Sorrentino seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Public Comment:

Cardiac Scan Imaging Services – Mastic is hosting on March 10<sup>th</sup>. There are 8 spots at no charge.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by T. Craft and seconded by C. Del Vecchio. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
A. LaFerrera	V. Bologna	J. Williams	W. Masterton
S. Thebold	R. Vella	E. Springer	J. Capon
K. Capon	P. Garypie	R. Stockinger	A. Sullo
C. Del Vecchio	F. Thornhill	J. Nirenberg	
C. Zitek		T. Portoghese	
C. Bancroft			
D. Carrigan			
E. Tully			
R. Sorrentino			
N. Reilly			
D. Silverman			
J. Egan			
J. Carney			
B. Prosek			
Alternates Present			
T. Crafts – Smithtown Town Fire Chiefs' Council			
R. Smith – Brookhaven Town Fire Chiefs' Council			

<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	Wednesday, March 23, 2011
<b>TIME</b>	8:00 pm
<b>LOCATION</b>	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	S. Thebold and K. Capon

**LIST OF COURSES OFFERED**

Course	Location	Dates	Days / Time
EMT CritCare-Refresher	SC EMS Academy	3/3-5/19/11	Tues & Thurs: 7 – 11 pm
Rapid EMT Original	SC EMS Academy	3/9-6/16/11	Mons & Weds: 8 a – 2:30 p
EMT Basic Refresher	Setauket FD	3/19-6/16/11	Sats: 8 a – 2:30 p
EMT Basic Refresher	Copiague FD	3/3-6/16/11	Tues & Thurs: 7 – 10 pm