



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

MINUTES OF
FEBRUARY 22, 2012 MEETING

Chairman Egan 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.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the January 31, 2012 meeting were accepted by a motion from E. Tully and seconded by J. Carney. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

No correspondence received since last meeting.
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 \$3363.89. With one debit of \$108.11, the closing balance was \$3255.78. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. All in favor and no one opposing, the motion was carried.

Report of Officers: J. Egan / A. LaFerrera

Egan: Article 30 meeting and how it will change things for us and REMSCO. Delagi gave a presentation on what is coming from Albany. This will definitely affect anyone who runs an ambulance in this County. If possible, we would like to get together with Delagi and have a meeting about this. REMSCO is looking to have a special meeting so they can take a stance on it.

Commissioner's Report: Absent

Fire Marshal's Report: E. Springer

Fire Safety Education meeting at St. James Fire Department on Friday night. They are looking to rejuvenate the group. Arson Task Force meeting is March 15th at 10:00 am here at FRES.

There is a Fire Coordinators meeting on March 4th at the Fire Academy at 8:00 am. Commissioner met with Steve Kuhr and he will be supporting us.

IMAT – Romanelli, Martinez and Lynch are heavily involved. Kuhr will help us with certification of the team.

Fire Academy: D. Stockinger

- Medal of Valor applications were sent out and are due March 1. Ceremony is on Sunday, Sept 23rd.
- SCUBA training will have a fee and we are working on the cost now. It will be set to cover expenses.
- Heavy rescue training has been cut down to 6 sessions. Structure will change, lecture and hands-on will be same night. We are trying to consolidate due to high demand.
- Fire Women of LI Conference May 18-20. Workshops on Friday, hands-on will be on Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$160 for 3 days to offset any costs. Applications and details are available on website.
- USAR Team will be in West Virginia for drill October 31 through November 4, 2012..

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Capt. J. Blosser

Helicopter 4 (AStar) is down for a "T" inspection and should take 2-3 weeks. The other 3 are in service. No further news on acquisition of new helicopter since last month.

EMS: T. Lateulere

The Suffolk County EMS Division has been monitoring the upcoming 2012-2013 State Budget. The operating funds for the NYS Bureau of EMS would remain at 14.7 million dollars for both the EMS Educational reimbursement as well as the operational budget for the Bureau. Removed is the wording that states that 50 percent of the funding must be dedicated to EMS funding. In addition, several changes to article 30 have been proposed including the elimination of PHL 3017. The proposed Governor's budget also calls for the restructuring of SEMSCO/ REMSCOs. The State Emergency Medical Services council organization will be reduced and combined with other current councils (NYS State Trauma Advisory board, EMS-Children) to become an advisory board with a reduction of total members. The proposed budget also calls for the reduction of local REMSCOs from 18-6 and the wording change to advisory boards. The regional makeup of the new REMSCOs is not mentioned and there will also be no funding for the local REMSCOS. At first blush the REMACS (Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Councils) will still be intact for most regions. They will have the main responsibility of developing local ALS protocols and polices. At the January SEMSCO meetings, a collation of NYS Fire/EMS associations held an informal meeting to discuss the consequences of the changes to landscape of EMS in NYS. The Suffolk County Division of EMS did hold an informal work session with key Suffolk County stakeholders (executive board of REMSCO, members of the FRES Council and members of the Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs on February 11, 2012.

The FRES Chairman did request the same presentation for the members of the Suffolk County Joint Council meeting that will be held on February 28, 2012 at the Mastic Fire Department.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman

Will suggest a daytime meeting around the Commissioner's schedule.

Arson Task Force:

Covered in FM's report.

Combined Radio Committee: G. Miniutti

- March 12th must get off VHS; it will be maintained, but only as a backup.
- Narrow banding is an ongoing process.
- Combined Radio Committee is on March 14th at the Coram backup center.
- Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 was passed by both the House and Senate. It directly impacts Suffolk County and the local Fire/EMS Services. It directs the FCC to reallocate the 700 MHz D block spectrum for use by public safety entities and requires the FCC, within nine years after enactment, to reallocate the T-Band spectrum (UHF 470-512 MHz) currently in use by public safety entities and auction off the spectrum to commercial entities. It creates "First Net" an advisory board to oversee the creation of a nationwide interoperable, broadband communications network. "FirstNet" will approve statewide and regional plans and funding to achieve the goals.

Buildings & Grounds: E. Tully

Will do walk around when it's lighter longer – will do in May.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

United concern meeting is still going on. State Chiefs, FASNY, State Fire Districts and other looking to go to Albany May 15th to present our concerns.

Codes & Prevention: AbsentEMS & REMSCO: A. LaFerrera

- Next meeting of RESMCO is March 13th.
- Governor's budget is same as last year; big changes will be article 30. REMACS will still be responsible to each region. Most politicians will not get in the Governor's way and it will be approved. If it goes through, there will be no more REMSCOs. Training money is still there. EMT classes will be funded first, then ALS. For the first time, EMS will be part of mutual aid.
- Any benefit to a FRES/EMS merge? It's still up in the air. Too many things that are not defined in article 30. Nassau County REMSCO wrote letter to Skellos and Suffolk County will probably follow with a letter. Told by director that there will be contracts so hopefully we will not lose money.

Egan: if a stance has to be taken we should not lose REMSCO, which has been a model for NYS for other REMSCOs.

EMS Training money is only there for one year; what happens after that? We always expect the money to be there.

Vella – can't really vote tonight because we have to bring back to our association. 6:30 pm on Tuesday at Mastic Fire Department for Joint Counsel, prior to SC Vollies Executive Board. Can Delagi be there? Representative from Nassau County will be there to explain what he knows.

Burn Center:

J. Carney – Suffolk Chiefs will have presentation on data. If organizations want Stony Brppl to do a presentation, they will but it must be requested.

Recruitment & Retention:

New commercial out. Signs moved or new ones? Hard to move them.

Old Business:

Nothing.

New Business:

April meeting will be cancelled. R. Vella motioned; P. Garypie seconded. Motion carried.

OFPC – modifying system so anybody can have access to training records. No date yet but will be in April. State system – only 1 person per agency can have access, now that will change. Anybody can sign in and you can look up your own.

Tully – McGowan is coming home from hospital tomorrow. We haven't heard anything from him so we can give him his plaque.

Public Comment:

Nothing going on.

D. Carrigan motioned that all those absent from last meeting be excused. R. Sorrentino seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by E. Tully and seconded by R. Sorrentino. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
A. LaFerrera	C. Thebold	E. Springer	A. Sullo
A. Bloom	V. Bologna	D. Stockinger	R. Knight
C. Del Vecchio	C. Bancroft	G. Miniutti	T. Lateulere
N. Luparella	N. Reilly	T. Portoghese	Capt. J. Blosser
T. Crafts	F. Thornhill		
R. Vella			
D. Carrigan			
E. Tully			
P. Garypie			
R. Sorrentino			
D. Silverman			
J. Egan			

J. Carney			
B. Prosek			
Alternates Present			
R. Smith – Brookhaven Town Fire Chiefs Cncl			

NEXT MEETING	Wednesday, March 28, 2012
TIME	8:00 pm
LOCATION	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
REFRESHMENTS	D. Silverman and F. Thornhill

LIST OF COURSES OFFERED

Course	Location	Dates	Days / Time
EMT-Refresher	SM EMS Academy	3/22-6/21	Tues & Thurs – 7pm-11pm