



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

MINUTES OF  
JANUARY 23, 2013 MEETING

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Chairman Egan and Vice Chair LaFerrera were unable to attend; therefore Treasurer Bancroft opened the meeting at 8:04 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 November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted by a motion from E. Tully and seconded by R. Murphy. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

No correspondence received or sent since last meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

The opening balance was \$3955.78. The closing balance was \$3955.78. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's reports. All in favor and no one opposing, the motion was carried.

Report of Officers: Absent

Commissioner's / Deputy Commissioner's Reports: Absent

Fire Marshal's Report: Absent

Fire Academy: R. Holley

- Anyone looking for the chemistry course opens on March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Apologize for not having end of year paperwork – will have at next meeting.
- \$200,000 in capital budget for this year. Kidde Fire Trainers was contacted and about half the amount will be used for updating.

R. Sorrentino questioned the national accreditation. RH: higher failure rate than we were comfortable with. We asked to see tests and they wouldn't allow us to see them. It took 3 months to get certificates from upstate, so we realized that the program was not working as it should.

C. Bancroft congratulated Bob in taking over the Fire Academy in July,

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Sgt. Brian Barrett

Three helicopters are up and flying; one is down for routine maintenance.

EMS: M. Masterton

- EMS moved to old infirmary. It's a smaller facility; we have a trailer and basement packed with items and we still have to clean things up.
- Coordinated their courses with PD.
- If you know anyone who needs a refresher – tell them to sign up because once classes are filled or starts, that's it.
- Narrow-banding has been completed. CME – 3050 people registered in CME. It keeps growing.
- Article 30 will be finalized next week so you should hear more about this at the next meeting.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman

No report.

Arson Task Force: AbsentCombined Radio Committee: N. Reilly, Jr.

- We had a meeting in January
  - A letter is going out on UCALL.
  - Planned for 700 updates for County.
  - Put in for more talkgroups for FRES.
  - Spoke of need to educate chiefs and members that are out in the field. We will have a meeting with the Fire Academy; perhaps this can be touched on at the New Chiefs Seminar and perhaps at Chiefs meetings.
- Next meeting is March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Buildings & Grounds: E. Tully

Last walk around was before everything shut down and everything was in good shape.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

2013 Issues of United Concern:

- Novelty Lighters – Prohibits the sale and distribution of novelty lighters in NYS
- Elimination of Exemption from Seat Belt Law – Seek legislation to require operators and passengers of certain authorized volunteer fire and EMS emergency vehicles to be restrained by safety belts by eliminating the existing exemption for such vehicles engaged in emergency response.
- Consolidation Amendments – Seek chapter amendments to Consolidation Bill to inform the citizenry (now that they are empowered to petition for dissolution or consolidation) of the pros and cons of such an initiative.
- EMS Billing – Amend section 209-b of the general Municipal Law to allow for combined billing for emergency medical services and volunteer fire department operated ambulances.
- Felony/Sex Offenders – Amend applicable statutes to allow for a criminal background check on applicants or members of a volunteer fire department or EMS unit and to

provide for refusal of membership or expulsion of persons convicted of certain sex or felony offenses.

- Affordable Health Insurance for Volunteers – Enact legislation that requires health insurers to cover volunteers when a municipality allows volunteers, at their own expense, to participate in its plan.
- Upholstered Furniture Fire Safety Standards – Enhance fire safety standards for upholstered furniture by establishing flammability standards that preclude or control the use of fire retardant chemicals.

Codes & Prevention: C. Bancroft.

NYS codes are being redone. Trying to have residential sprinkler system taken out (home builders Associations and plumbers are against). We want to definitely keep that.

EMS & REMSCO: M. Masterton

Discussion on high volume calls due to flu but actually were respiratory infections; diversion was discussed – it seemed to work well. EMS was extremely busy.

Burn Center: F. Thornhill

No “hot” issues at this time. Upgraded the burn registry. General location of where burns are, by age, location. 2 to 4 age group has high numbers. When you go back to your associations – ask if they want a tour of the burn center and contact me. Tour is about 1 hour in duration.

Recruitment & Retention: R. Murphy

In the middle of spring renewals; about 100 people in it right now. Approximately 1110 came in through electronic system in 2012. Had a meeting with marketing company to go over strategy and tactics; we want to build a social media presence. We are seeing a lot of success.

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

Motion from floor to send a letter in support of residential sprinklers. Motioned by J. Carney; seconded by D. Silverman. Motion carried.

Board Members:

- Motion by D. Silverman and seconded by F. Thornhill that nominations for Chairman be closed and one ballot be cast for Jay Egan for Chairman.
- Motioned by R. Murphy and seconded by D. Silverman that nominations for Vice Chairman be closed and one ballot be cast for A. LaFerrera for Vice Chairman.
- Motioned by E. Tully and seconded by R. Murphy that nominations for Treasurer be closed and one ballot be cast for C. Bancroft for Treasurer.

FRES will be honored for Hurricane Sandy response at the March 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative meeting.

Public Comment:

Kate Browning is chair of Public Safety Committee.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by E. Tully and seconded by N. Reilly. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
S. Thebold	A. LaFerrera	R. Holley	R. Knight
R. Murphy	A. Bloom	Terry Portoghese	J. Slaughter
N. Luparella	T. Crafts		W. M. Masterton
C. Bancroft	D. Carrigan		Sgt. Brian Barrett
A. Sullo	J. Egan		
E. Tully			
R. Sorrentino			
N. Reilly			
D. Silverman			
F. Thornhill			
J. Carney			
B. Prosek			
<b>Alternates Present</b>			
C Duffy – Smithtown Town Fire Chiefs' Council			
J. McLoughlin – Fire Marshals Assoc. of SC			

<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	Wednesday, February 27, 2013
<b>TIME</b>	8:00 pm
<b>LOCATION</b>	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	D. Carrigan and E. Tully