



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

MINUTES OF
FEBRUARY 27, 2013 MEETING

Chairman Egan opened the meeting at 8:06 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 meeting were accepted by a motion from E. Tully and seconded by T. Crafts. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

Correspondence received since last meeting:

- A memo from the Chief Deputy County Executive: mileage reimbursement rate for the use of personal vehicles to conduct County business rose from 55.5 cents per mile to 56.5 cents effective January 1, 2013.

No correspondence sent since last meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report: Absent

The opening balance was \$\$3955.78. Will probably put into FASNY Credit Union.

Report of Officers: J. Egan / A. LaFerrera

Nothing.

Deputy Commissioner's Report: J. Jordan

- Commissioner and I are alternating meetings. Spoke to Dick Stockinger and Bob Holley today re VEEB contract. There was some language the VEEB wasn't comfortable with and I believe that we ironed it all out. Should see progress.
- We are recovering from Sandy; one problem is debris management on Fire Island. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) keeps getting contested on contractors and we have been assured that it will be moving forward.
- Still working with ACE. The Commissioner and I wanted to thank all departments for their support of each other especially during the snowstorm.

- Met with Chief Deputy County Executive and County Attorney as we are trying to hire some staff – going from part time to full time. County is short on cash to lay the money up front even if grant funded.

J. Egan: reimbursement money re labor as the work of volunteers is worth something.

Response: Feds will pay 75% and County pays 25%. The Federal Government will allow us to use man-hours to offset the County's portion. Department gets reimbursement for use of truck and gas, etc. Many departments don't understand the ramifications. Overtime for paid staff is reimbursable. All equipment is reimbursable. Kick off meeting has representatives from FEMA, State OEM and reimbursables are discussed.

Mentioned that faxes don't go to districts; they are only going to chiefs. J. Jordan: Not true. Faxes go to Chiefs and Districts but what we really would like is email addresses.

Fire Marshal's Report: E. Springer

- Last month we participated in a weeklong exercise with Homeland Security, Health, and Police – it was an improvised nuclear device. Exercise was very successful. Haz Mat teams were brought in for one day. Several federal agencies were involved. We utilized the IMAT team during the exercise; we had logistics and planning sections.
- Expecting new USAR trailer soon and we have quite a bit of equipment to go on that trailer.
- This past month with FELB, a number of licenses had to be renewed and this month alone, \$60,000 of revenue was deposited. It's a very successful program. We have discussed licensing various other groups.
- Inspected 550 school buildings. We picked up two (2) more school districts. Have about 35 districts.

Fire Academy: D. Stockinger

- Capital Project work orders have been issued.
- Medal of Valor – from Southampton, Orient, East Islip and Suffolk County USAR. Will go to board and they will be making their decision.
- We are working closely with County IT Department for refresher.

Bob Holley: Save the Date: Dick's retirement will be on June 19th 7:00pm at Majestic Gardens.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Lt. J. Rowan

- We work on the drill Ed Springer mentioned; it was a very successful drill.
- All helicopters are in service.

N. Reilly: is there a Capital Project for a new helicopter? Response: Just on paper.

- If anyone wants any EMS demos with landing zones – try to consolidate into larger groups as that will make things easier for us. We don't like to take ships out of service for demos.

EMS: T. Lateulere

- The Division conducted a second CME coordinator/training officer in-service on 2/16/13. Over 60 agencies were represented. The presentation was on the "updated National Standards" and the changes to the CME program as well as to the traditional courses for all certification levels. At present time close to 90% of all agencies involved in the CME program has had representation to one of the two in-services. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation has been posted on the www.suffolkremsco.com web site.

- Since October 2012, the EMS Division has offered 8 (13 hour supplemental) courses throughout the County. The goal is to offer an additional 8 courses by the end of 2013. All Suffolk County EMS Division traditional courses that have started since 9/12 has the updates built into each course.
- The Division does plan on sending correspondence out to all agencies concerning the “Updated National standards and the recent push by SEMAC to mandate all NYS ALS agencies to have Controlled Substances by June 2014.
- At present time the EMS Division has 10 EMT- original and 5 EMT-Refresher courses in progress.
- The NYS Governors budget was released at the end of January. The budget line for the dedicated EMS training line remained at 14.7 million dollars which has remained unchanged for the last several years. Due to the lack of an increase in the budget line, NYS EMS has not increased the rate in reimbursement which may result in Course sponsors throughout the regions to begin to charge students /agencies for tuition or there can be a reduction in the amount of courses that are offered.
- There are significant changes to Article 30, which is over 30 years old. The major bullets are:
 - Removed from the Article 30 legislation was the term “Program agencies”. The Suffolk County EMS Division receives State funding of 227,042 dollars a year as a contracted program agency. The duties of a program agency revolve around EMS system oversight and EMS system resources. The structure of the regional EMS system is based on the work done by the Program agency. The implementation of the BLS Narcan program is just one of the pilot programs that are administered through the Program agency. The ability to develop or administer future pilot programs may be hindered or completely stopped if funding or losing statutory status does occur.
 - In addition the changes to article 30 also call for an elimination of Regional/ State Councils. They will be replaced by Advisory committees and the number will be reduced to 10 throughout NYS. Other proposed changes would decrease the oversight of both the NYS and Regional Trauma Advisory Committees. Currently there is no changes planned to REMACs, there will continue to be physician oversight at the local (regional) level.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman

No report.

Arson Task Force: J. Egan

No report

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly, Jr.

- Commissioners letter went out re CSLL/tac channels
- Next meeting Is next Wednesday
- First fire/EMS PSAP consortium meeting is in two weeks

- UHF paging in engineering
- Specialized units -supervisors following up
- Schools talk group.... Ongoing project, public schools district office and now private school agencies.... Replace the old "schools emergency alerting system"... Advantage two way.... Disadvantage 2 way.... Uninitiated.
- 6M interoperable communications grant awarded, upgrade microwave ring, bring Montauk and Amityville weak areas into fold and allow begin first 5 sites of 700
- EAS: IPAWS-integrated public alert and warning system - Suffolk Fire Rescue is the alerting authority for the county, Emergency alert system.
- NOAA weather radio and the CMAS commercial mobile alerting system WALK -WBAB direct communications link EAS, voice comm when necessary.
- Meeting our administration and PD over present and future of the public safety radio system.

Buildings & Grounds: E. Tully

Nothing.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

Still getting bill numbers and sponsors in Albany.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna

Latest on residential sprinkler: there was a lot of testimony heard. Will reconvene in March. There is a push to not be obligated to have hood systems in gas stations.

EMS & REMSCO: A. LaFerrera

Article 30 – home rule authority will fall under Commissioner of Health of NYS.
D Silverman: I'm prepared to motion to send a letter protesting changes to Article 30. N. Reilly seconded. Motion carried.

Burn Center: Absent

F. Thornhill is retiring from Burn Center and some other committees on which he is a representative.

Recruitment & Retention: R. Murphy

- May 1 is cutoff for applications.
- Numbers countywide are high via Suffolk's Bravest – about 100 per month.
- We are getting ready to launch a pretty aggressive social media push, trying to boost the numbers up.
- Only thing federal government recognizes with SAFER is fire-based EMS. Original intent of the SAFER grant was to bring in firefighters.

R. Stockinger: Fire Academy is running more firefighter I classes and this means an increase in numbers.

- We utilize SAFER to get reporting in.

Old Business:

Nothing.

New Business:

With Dick's retirement, the VEEB Board will be moving Bob Holley up to Director. They will be posting Deputy position probably in April sometime.

Public Comment:

Bob Knight's wife passed away over the weekend.

Will not have a service; there will be a memorial Saturday, June 15 at Sayville at 2pm. In lieu of flowers, please make donations. Make a motion to send something. All agreed.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by R. Sorrentino and seconded by R. Murphy. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
A. LaFerrera	N. Luparella	J. Jordan	W. Jackson
A. Bloom	C. Bancroft	E. Springer	Lt. J. Rowan
V. Bologna	F. Thornhill	R. Stockinger	J. Slaughter
R. Murphy		R. Holley	
T. Crafts		G. Miniutti	
A. Sullo		T. Portoghese	
D. Carrigan			
E. Tully			
R. Sorrentino			
N. Reilly			
D. Silverman			
J. Egan			
J. Carney			
B. Prosek			

NEXT MEETING	Wednesday, March 27, 2013
TIME	8:00 pm
LOCATION	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
REFRESHMENTS	Pete Garypie and Rich Sorrentino

LIST OF COURSES OFFERED

Course	Location	Dates	Days / Time
EMT-Basic Original	West Babylon FD	3/18-8/15	Mons&Weds 7-10p & Sats9a-3:30p
EMT-Basic Refresher	Farmingville FD	2/25-5/23	Mons & Weds 7 – 10 pm