



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

MINUTES OF
APRIL 24, 2013 MEETING

Chairman Egan opened the meeting at 8:03 pm, followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for sick and departed members: Phil Horton of Cutchogue, 60 year member passed.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted by a motion from E. Tully and seconded by J. Egan. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

No correspondence received or sent since last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Absent

J. Egan: We have had nothing but issues and hopefully we will have it resolved by next meeting.

Report of Officers: J. Egan

Will speak at Old Business.

Commissioner's Report: J. Williams

I apologize for not being here for a couple of months, I had so many meetings.

- Michael Postel was offered a position at SCPD and is gone from FRES. We interviewed two people; one was in house and declined the position and today the job was offered to another person and will begin in a couple of weeks. He has a lot of experience but will have to learn CAD. Intergraph has a class in Alabama and we elected to bring a trainer here and will train the new person and a couple of dispatchers. Police Commissioner Webber agreed that if we need Mike we can have him.
- By end of next month, a mass casualty unit (bus) will be delivered here. We purchased it with a federal grant. I would like this bus to go to meetings, councils, etc. We can send this unit anywhere it's needed. Really a rehab bus.
- Capital Budget – Dick will discuss the Fire Academy's capital program. As far as the CAD system goes, we have some money for 2013 and we are integrating between us

and PD and we can pass on to our own responding units. EOC Improvements has been pushed off to other years. The CE is pushing that some of the money we get from Sandy is used for EOC improvements; however, DPW said it would be more efficient and effective to build a new building (with federal money). Our building is inadequate.

- Our vehicles are getting older and the County has expanded out their time frame for their vehicles. Our advantage is that our vehicles are take home vehicles and they last a bit longer and we are slated to get five new vehicles. Probably won't see them until August. We will turn in three vehicles.
- We have 7 new dispatchers that started in December. Manpower in the radio room is still a bit short but is doing well. Alarms are going up about 10% a year. We put more people on in the summer.
- From Greg James – Blue Ribbon Panel on Wildfires from last year. We will be looking to see what can be improved at FRES. We are still being asked to give out AAR. We are not distributing the After Action Report and one reason is the SCPD Arson Squad is still investigating.
- Status on manpower in Fire Marshal Office – Fire Marshal II has been appointed (Joe Kuethen) and Fire Marshal Office is on a priority list to get more people. We are constantly adding more and more duties but they are charged with inspecting county buildings. At one time we had 8 Fire Marshals and 4 supervisors; I will have a tough time fighting this battle. The Fire Marshals do a great job but it is difficult to fight this battle right now.

Egan – seems that we are the “bastard child”; we are part of public safety but it doesn't seem that way. No equal weight between us and PD. JW: I found out after MPostel accepted the job that the CE did not know about this. I was upset to say the least. There should have been a phone call before and Webber called after the fact. JE: not a good thing for Suffolk County. JW: They were replacing someone who died 5 years ago so I don't understand the urgency.

N.Reilly – article said that coordinators were given jobs. JW: No one was hired; they changed some coordinators titles and a few other things. By the way, Newsday has a copy of the AAR.

Egan -Some people were removed from Blue Ribbon Panel.

JCarney – Wildfire Task Force was removed from committee. The philosophies were miles apart.

Fire Marshal's Report: E. Springer

- Joe Kuethen was made Senior Fire Marshal
- Martinez is new USAR Manager. Regular meetings will begin again
- We took delivery of new trailer for equipment
- This weekend we have a postal service exercise. Working with Melville FD
- Having regional Haz Mat meetings on a monthly basis; NY State wants us to go regional. We meet as a unit and decide on what equipment needs to be purchased
- Held 2 suit rescue classes last month. If anyone wants trailer, we will be glad to do that
- In June, Brett and Don go to Maryland for recertification of their canines.

Fire Academy: D. Stockinger

- Medal of Valor – Board made choices and notices are going out. One gold medal is going to Southampton. Ceremony is September 29th at 1:00pm and more than likely, it will be at Southampton.

- Received 16 resumes for Deputy Director's position. Person will be brought on board 3rd week in June.
- Capital projects – nothing changed.
- Pump test facility had a leak and we were shut down for about a week and it has been repaired. Computers not working but doing it manually.
- On-line training – working closely with IT Dept. and they are in process of putting it all together. Haz Mat refresher is broken down into 4 units; test at end and can print out certificate which will be documentation.
- We have gotten a number of requests from departments asking if they can pay for additional training if they want it since the number of training sessions has been reduced. The County Attorney was consulted and said yes. If departments want a seventh drill, they can have it if they want to pay for it.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Sgt.

Aircraft is in capital project but it keeps going up in price and nothing is really being done.

All helicopters are up and running.

JE: We have always been in favor of getting an additional helicopter.

EMS:

Absent; no report.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman

Covered in Commissioner's report.

Arson Task Force:

Nothing.

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly

Have a meeting in May.

Buildings & Grounds: E. Tully

Everything in B&G is good. There will be a walk through next month at 7:00 pm.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

All bill numbers are set. Meeting on 21st and will try to do what we can.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna

Status quo; quiet with no report.

EMS & REMSCO:

No report.

Burn Center: F. Thornhill

- Making an effort to get more people involved from various councils, etc. The only real new development is the thermal energy they are using to see how deep and severe the burn is.
- Recognition Day is May 19
- Golf Outing is August 6
- Martha Clara Vineyard Fund Raiser is October 5
- St. James rehabilitation has offered to run a carnival and the Burn Center would get the proceeds. That will be June 9
- Gala at beginning of month was not a fund raiser. Money for ticket was the actual cost for event.

Recruitment & Retention: R. Murphy

- Still busy with recruitment; about 100 a month coming through system.
- The Train the Recruiter was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy. It will be June 18 in Mastic Beach.
- The goal is to get 2400 new recruits by October 2014. We are now at about 1900.
- FASNY is big on Recruit New York and they are having a press conference in Nassau County at the Firemen's' Museum.
- Our SERVES Program's deadline is May 1st.
- FASNY program is still out there. I encourage people to look at the county program first.
- This year is the year to renew grant for our program. Funding for SAFER has been cut due to sequestration.

Old Business:

Nothing.

New Business:

N. Reilly – motion for secretary to receive usual gift, seconded and carried.

We lost 10 volunteer firefighters in the blast in Texas. Sent rep for NYS for tomorrow's event.

Public Comment:

- Leg Browning – visited dispatchers. They were happy to get some new people. I called 911 and was put on hold. I would like them to come to PS Committee and we will work with them. Discussion ensued regarding FRES dispatchers job being done by PD.

JEgan: dispatchers downstairs have more credentials than those down the street (i.e., PD).

KBrowning: it has been mentioned that it is done in other areas of the country and think about it for the future.

JE: a lot of "ring over" comes here.

PD gets initial 911 calls; asks what the emergency is and then is passed over here.

A lot of departments are coming to the Aviation Center. A tour can be scheduled with aviation itself.

GMiniutii: we have 3 tactical talkgroups coming to the fire service. Not high on the priority list.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by D. Silverman and seconded by E. Tully. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
V. Bologna	J. Bancroft	J. Williams	R. Knight
A. Bloom	A. LaFerrera	E. Springer	Sgt.
R. Murphy		R. Stockinger	
N. Luparella		G. Miniutti	
A. Sullo		T. Portoghese	
D. Carrigan			
E. Tully			
R. Sorrentino			
N. Reilly			
D. Silverman			
F. Thornhill			
J. Egan			
J. Carney			
Alternates Present			
C. Duffy – Smithtown Town Fire Chiefs' Council			

NEXT MEETING	Wednesday, May 22, 2013
TIME	8:00 pm
LOCATION	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
REFRESHMENTS	F. Thornhill and J. Egan