



Suffolk County Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services Commission

PO Box 127 – Yaphank, NY 11980

(631) 852-4851

MINUTES OF March 23, 2016 MEETING

Vice Chairman Crafts opened the meeting at 7:35 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 February 24, 2016 meeting were accepted by a motion from R. Murphy and seconded by E. Tully. The motion carried.

Correspondence: T. Portoghese

Correspondence sent since last meeting:

- Letter to Congressman Lee Zeldin inviting him to a FRES Commission meeting.
- Letter to REMSCO notifying Council of FRES Commission delegates.

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

Treasurer's Report: D. Silverman (Absent)

No report.

Report of Officers: T. Crafts

- Zeldin Joint Council meeting was a major issue.
- Asked B. Prosek to explain REMAC/REMSCO meeting further during his report.

Commissioner's Report: J. Williams

- Held interviews for Chief Fire Marshal position; about 20 canvass letters were sent out. Will be making decision within next two weeks.
- Manzi had been provisional and was appointed permanent to FM1 position.
- Will be doing interviews shortly for Administrative Aide for SAFER grant position.
- Looking for part-time Fire Marshal; needs codes classes.
- April 27th at 6:00p.m. there will be a tour of the warehouse. Meet here. Email Tim Crafts if you want to go: SFD165@AOL.COM
- LODD red binder will be going to Chiefs of all departments. It lays out steps of what to do in case of a line of duty death. We will notify if there are any updates; Re: organ

donations are allowed and autopsy is not required. Most important is notification within eight hours.

- Had a lengthy legislative meeting last night. Capital projects for FA and CAD were approved.

Deputy Commissioner's Report: J. Jordan (Absent)

No report.

Fire Marshal's Report:

No report.

Fire Academy: R. Holley

- Capital projects approved; garden apartment complex (2018) preliminary work must be done.
- Testing and prep for tower has been done.
- Haz Mat on-line will be working by April 1st.
- Will be coming out with a request to all town chiefs' organizations. Putting in TVs in rooms and other improvements and would like 10 townships chiefs logos to be put on the back wall of large room.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Sgt. P. Minogue

Nothing new.

EMS: M. Masterton

- Autism awareness and RESCO conference started a new online registration. Take back to chiefs.
- We have hi fidelity mannequins and groups can come in and do training every Friday. Groups can come as a crew and they seem to love it.
- PCRs – going to be some changes in the future.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman (Absent)

No report.

Arson Task Force: T. Crafts

- Meeting will be coming up shortly.

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly

- Please see notes following these minutes.
- The radio issue is more than just a Suffolk County or just a FRES Commission issue; it is regional.

Egan: This is a District issue. Everyone is working together not against each other.

Crafts: We will discuss after meeting

Buildings & Grounds: E. Tully

- April 1st the field will be open. Last time everything was in good shape.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

Please see notes following these minutes.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna (Absent)

- Bloom: Went to in-service training; part of fire code: industrial and commercial buildings – have to have stickers on doors. Engineered lumber: if in a residence, must have a sticker to alert firefighters. Working on codes, Re: roofs that are steep (solar cells on roofs).

EMS & REMSCO: B. Prosek

Much discussion on REMAC and REMSCO and what is going on (not EMS).

REMSCO Meeting March 8, 2016:

- Approved the transfer of Operating Authority (TOA) application brought forth by Emergency Ambulance Service, Inc. (EAS) to transfer > 10% of the ownership shares.
- REMAC proposed a By-Law change to increase the number of physicians who sit on the REMAC to a maximum of 25 (11 physicians from each hospital, 14 physical member – at- larges from hospitals in Suffolk County) each with a term of 2 years.
- Based on a recent discussion by REMAC on the importance of proper documentation, REMSCO is forming a technical advisory group (TAG) to review the operational and financial impact of ePCR on ambulance services. If your organization is interested in assisting with TAG please reach out to Joel Vetter.
 - Update since REMSCO Meeting: REMAC voted last night to rescind their earlier implementation dates of ePCR until the TAG report is available.
- AHA seat has been vacated; to be filled with similar type of organization.
- April 23rd 8am-4pm there will be a Best Practices Conference at SCC in Brentwood that will provide non-core CME in topics ranging from operational practices to medical/trauma emergencies.
- TAG formed to create a plan on the Future of EMS in Suffolk County
- Starting in May, CLI's will be able to take a new Education Exam instead of needing to score 85% or greater on the standard student exam.
- In May, REMSCO will vote on supporting or opposing numerous legislative bills. These bills can be viewed in the Meeting Minutes posted on REMSCO's website. A Letter will be sent opposing two bills (A1175 & A2185) based on a majority vote.
- April 1st is the revised REMSCO Award deadline.
- May 17th at the NYS EMS Memorial, two Suffolk County providers will be recognized. (Ralph Oswald from Hampton Bays VAC and Dix Hills FD and Doug Mulholland from Lindenhurst FD and FDNY).
- Next meeting: May 10th 7pm at Suffolk EMS.

Burn Center: N. Luparella

- New President is Dawn Myers from East Moriches Ambulance.
- May 15th is Recognition Day @ 1:00 p.m.
- August 2nd is annual golf outing at Tall Grass.

Recruitment & Retention: R. Murphy

- Things are moving along on recruitment side.
- SAFER Grant is getting ready to interview aide; hopefully applicant numbers will rise.
- R&R marketing will hopefully get going soon.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

R. Murphy: FASNY conducted an economic impact study – Summary of the Volunteer Firefighter Economic Impact Study, December 2015

- An additional 30,822 career firefighters would be necessary to go to an all paid service.
- Currently, volunteer firefighters save New York taxpayers \$3.12 billion in salaries and benefits alone.
- The annual cost of an all career service would be \$3.87 billion.
- In addition, there would be a one-time cost of \$5.95 billion to acquire existing stations/structures, vehicles and equipment.
- Approximately 1,300 stations would have to be built new or reconstructed.
- Property taxes would rise between 3.3% and 123% with an average of 26.5%.
- As a result of increasing the number of volunteers average response time was reduced by 2.5%.

Public Comment:

R. Barz:

- Cancer Bill in Albany – go to FASNY webpage to send letter to local assembly or throughout the State; has to get by the Assembly. Letter is automated. All assemblymen and legislators are on board. Firefighters are dying from many cancers.
- N. Reilly motioned for FRES Commission to send letters. Ed Tully seconded. Tim Crafts will handle.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by E. Tully and seconded by R. Murphy. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
Bloom, A	LaFerrera, A	Williams, J	Minogue, P
Murphy, R	Turza, G	Holley, R	Browning, K
Luparella, N		Miniutti, G	Masterson, W
Crafts, T		Portoghese, T	Kusch, R
Sullo, A			
Egan, J			
Tully, Jr., E			
Reilly, Jr., Norman			
Coughlin, J			
Prosek, B			

NEXT MEETING	Wednesday, April 27, 2016
TIME	7:30 pm
LOCATION	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
REFRESHMENTS	Jay Egan and Ed Tully

LIST OF COURSES OFFERED

Course	Location	Dates	Days / Time
Rapid Day Time EMT Basic	Community Ambulance Co.	5/2 – 7/21	Mons thru Fris 9am-3:30/5:30

COMBINED RADIO COMMITTEE

MARCH 2016

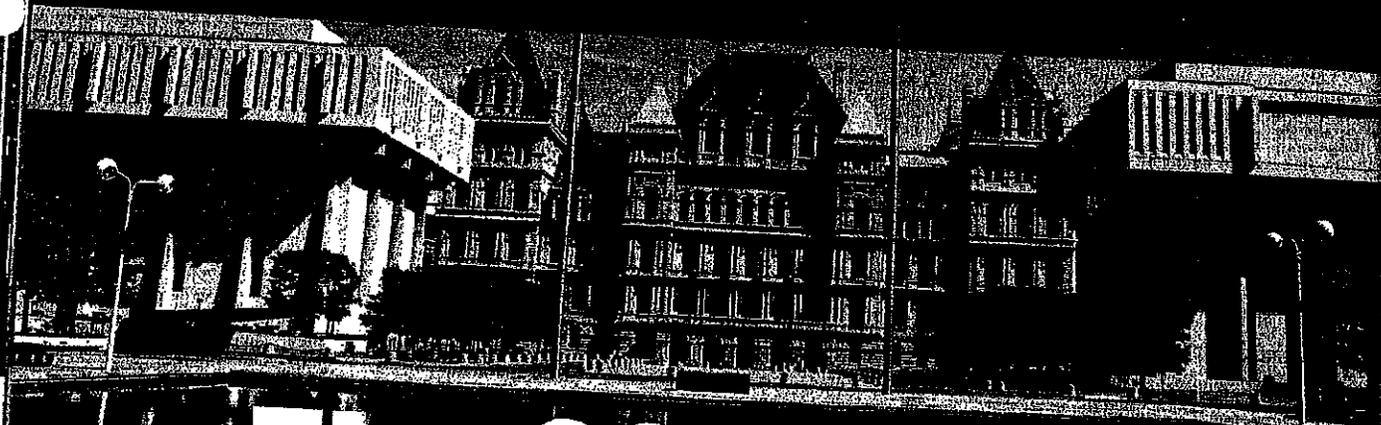
- **TBAND give back**
 - Still law for Feb 2021 give back of licenses (470-513)
 - Congressmen Zeldon involved, contemporaries have heard **nothing** out of NYC or Nassau as to this being a problem.
 - Reaching out to other affected areas of the country:
 - Boston, MA
 - • Chicago, IL
 - • Dallas/Fort Worth, TX
 - • Houston, TX
 - • Los Angeles, CA
 - • Miami, FL
 - • Philadelphia, PA
 - • Pittsburgh, PA
 - • San Fran/Oakland, CA
 - • Washington, DC/MD/V
 - Discussed at Fire Districts meeting (Copiague)
 - Will be discussing at March 9th District Mgrs Meeting (Dix Hills)
 - Ridge and Brookhaven individualized meetings next week as well
 - NYC ICC (interoperable communications committee) producing a letter for agencies to use, protesting the TBAND give back. We will share that with all county agencies when received.
- **UHF paging project**
 - Antennas hung in Yaphank, Coram, Caumsett (Lloyd Harbor), Bay Shore so far, ongoing
 - Yet to be installed phase 1: StonyBrook, Selden, Hauppauge, Huntington
 - Resolution before Public Safety /Legislature next week for phase 2 money
 - All equipment will be installed at sites by spring, but still will need SCPD microwave ring to connect up ... a work in progress, working closely with radio shop to bring this to fruition.
- **700 MHz build out**
 - **Build out in progress**
 - **Awaiting guidance from the state on this years grant to continue build out**
- **Command Van Rally**
 - Wednesday, May 4th – Fire Academy grounds - Day time hours
 - Display of command posts from around the region
- **NG911**
 - Town PSAPs have done their work flow and configuration meetings
 - Installs still scheduled first half of this year
- **Communications plan**
 - Working on updating the county communications plan / interoperable communications plan document. Hopefully available for review by the fall.
- **MCU 1 – new Command post – Purchased – construction meetings on going**
 - Expected Fall 2016, old truck will go about 90 days prior for equipment removal
- **COML - All supervisors as trained Communications Leaders at FRES**
- **Communications X**

- **Next meeting: May 4th Wednesday 19:30 - FRES**

MATTITUCK FIRE DEPARTMENT

JAMESVORT FIRE DEPARTMENT

SOUTHOLD TOWN (TOWNWIDE)



The 2016 FASNY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- 1. UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS** - Enhances fire safety standards for upholstered furniture by a study of methods that do not require the use of fire retardant chemicals.
Corresponding legislation: S.5585 (O'Mara)
- 2. AMEND PENAL CODE TO ADD ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A FIRE AND EMERGENCY PERSONNEL**
Makes it a crime to illegally circumvent uniform code by making illegal conversions a charge of "endangering the welfare of a fire and emergency personnel" Landlords make conversions so they can make more money off the properties without obtaining proper permits. The conversions may not have proper egress and could create an extremely dangerous situation for firefighters.
Corresponding legislation: S.1188A (Carlucci) / A.5539A (Zebrowski)
- 3. EXPANDED CANCER IMPAIRMENT** - Provides a rebuttable presumption that several types of cancer are covered under VFBL and VAWBL.
Corresponding legislation: S.3891 (Nozollio) / A.5518 (Gunther)
- 4. VFBL/VAWBL REFORM WITH COST OF LIVING**
Increases VFBL/VAWBL permanent total disability benefit levels based on cost of living, not to exceed \$800 per week.
Corresponding legislation: S.1000A (Funke) / A.5133 (Morelle)
- 5. THE FAIR PLAY AMBULANCE COST RECOVERY FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS** - Allows fire departments to bill for ambulance services to even the playing field with all other
- 6. REQUIRES PROMPT PAYMENT OF VFBL DEATH BENEFIT** - Establishes that the payment of certain volunteer firefighter and volunteer ambulance worker death benefits shall be within 90 days of the filing of application to receive such death benefit.
Corresponding legislation: S.888A (Avella) / A.1061A (Cahill)
- 7. INCREASE TAX CREDIT** - Provides an increase to volunteer firefighters, volunteer ambulance workers and volunteer emergency medical personnel state tax credit from \$200 to \$300 per year.
Corresponding legislation: 2016-17 NYS Budget Legislation
- 8. REOCCURRING NYS BUDGET MONITORING** - Monitors 2016-17 Budget negotiations to ensure adequate/consistent funding allocations are met for 911 coordination purposes, emergency services low-interest revolving loans, training funding under the OFPC, and funding for training books.

Study Bills

- 1. PROPANE EDUCATION AND SAFETY** - Work with the propane industry to develop a training, safety and education program to be conducted statewide accompanied by a public relations education campaign.
- 2. VFBL/VAWBL INCREASE** - Increase VFBL/VAWBL benefit levels for temporary total disability from \$400 to \$650 per week.
- 3. STUDY ALL CURRENT SCHOOL FIRE AND LIFE**

CANCER PRESUMPTION – Amends the Volunteer Firefighters' Benefit Law, adding a new section (11-d) to provide a presumption that a volunteer firefighter who was cancer-free when they commenced service and now has one of several specifically identified cancers incurred such condition in the performance and discharge of their duties.

Corresponding legislation: A.5518 (Gunther) / S.3891 (Nozzolio)

CODE ENFORCEMENT/ILLEGAL CONVERSIONS – Enacts legislation to provide criminal sanctions and/or enhanced civil penalties when unauthorized, illegal modifications to buildings in violation of the Uniform Code and/or local laws create conditions that are hazardous to ingress, egress and/or firefighting efforts. Numerous injuries/deaths to residents and firefighters have occurred in such circumstances.

Corresponding legislation: S.2991-B (Martins) / A.6154-A (Schimel), S.1189 (Carlucci) / A.2865 (Zebrowski) and S.4638 (Martins) / A.5856 (Zebrowski).

One bill would create a felony when such a violation impedes egress and results in injury or death to emergency personnel (including firefighters): S.1188-A (Carlucci) / A.5539-A (Zebrowski)

FAIR BILLING FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE – Removes the prohibition in the General Municipal Law against fire companies, departments or districts billing for providing ambulance service. Municipal and volunteer ambulance services provide exactly the same services and they can bill Medicare, Medicaid and private insurers. Emergency medical services units within firefighting entities cannot exclusively because of this prohibition.

Corresponding legislation: S.1914 (Little) / A.3721 (Brindisi)

PERMIT EMPLOYMENT OF RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS AS FIRE SCIENCE INSTRUCTORS – Retired firefighters who are less than 65 years of age who are employed as fire science instructors by state or local governments risk severe pension reduction penalties under present law. Addition of a new section (214-C) to the Retirement and Social Security Law would remove this impediment to obtaining experienced and highly qualified instructors.

Corresponding legislation: S.2747 (Larkin) / A.4876 (Gunther)

retardant" furniture.

Corresponding legislation: S.5585 (O'Mara) / S.3844 (Ritchie)

INCREASE PERMANENT DISABILITY BENEFITS IN VFBL/VAWBL – The amount payable in permanent total disability benefits has not been increased since 1998. This would enact legislation to create an automatic cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

Corresponding legislation: S.1000-A (Funke) / A.5133 (Morelle)

2015 FASNY Legislative Session Review

The 2015 New York State Legislative Session has come to a close and we are proud to announce some big wins for FASNY this year. Four of the items on the FASNY Scorecard were passed and signed into law as well as two items from the Issues of United Concern.

1. A3057/S2696: This legislation will require all smoke alarms to be equipped with a 10-year, non-removable battery. Non-working smoke alarms are one of the leading causes of fire-related deaths. This legislation will help to save lives while reducing risk to firefighters. Chapter 583
2. A4149/S6242: Extends the Volunteer Firefighter Lung Benefit for another five years. Chapter 25
3. A4148/S6950: Extends the Volunteer Firefighter Heart Benefit for another five years. Chapter 26
4. A7315/S4187: Removes the exemption from the use of seatbelts by volunteer firefighters. Chapter 448
5. A7373/S5273: Eliminates a service award penalty imposed on certain public employees who perform duties as volunteer firefighters. Chapter 534
6. A5519/S4278: Exempts fire vehicles from weight restrictions of other vehicles. Chapter 526

Legislative Outreach Program 2016

FASNY will visit the following locations to help members better understand the 2015-16 legislative agenda. Watch future Issues of The Volunteer Firefighter for more dates this spring.

9:00 a.m.	March 19	Albertson	Southern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association
Noon	April 3	Lakeshore	Southwestern VFA
9:00 a.m.	April 9	Ontario County Training Center	Northern Central New York VFA
Noon	April 10	Livonia Legion	Western New York VFA
10:00 a.m.	April 23	Edinburgh	Hudson-Mohawk VFA