

CHESTER COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
January, 2008

We were welcomed to Po-Mar-Lin Fire Company by their representative, Larry Nuse.

President Joel Gramling called the meeting of the Chester County Fire Police Association to order at 2:04 PM on January 6, 2008. Art Daggett gave the invocation. The President led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Po-Mar-Lin Chief Don Wells said a few words of welcome to our Association members.

Recording Secretary took roll call of Officers.

Reading of the minutes was dispensed with and a motion by Tom Cole, seconded by Bob Massey, to approve the minutes as they were printed was made. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Checking account balance is \$1761.31.

Directors' Report(s): None.

Fire Police Commissioner's report: Bob Massey appointed John Neff as Deputy Commissioner. John accepted. Bob will be appointing five deputies from around the County.

Executive Board report: None

Committee(s)' reports:

Banquet Committee:

Linda Gramling said she needed help getting door prizes. Last year she got all of them so they were from businesses in the area of Exton, Lionville, etc. She would like volunteers to get gifts from some other areas of the county.

Fire Chiefs' Assn:

John Neff reported the fire school is moving ahead. The 800 rebanding is going into a testing phase. Fire companies need to get the blue light list to the State Fire Marshall.

County Report:

Beau Crowding reported that the 911 center has been operating at a 97% rate of efficiency with around 800 calls per day. The microwave project should be completed in the spring. The rebanding kickoff was in November with the planning to be complete by May. The 800 radio equipment inventory at each station is very important. On 12/19 the CAD system went down due to a programming error, but there were no missed calls. The Training Facility had the conditional use plans submitted. The County is still working on getting money from the state and the governor. Fire Marshal Digger Hold was home after an illness and will be out 6 – 8 weeks. A \$600,000 grant was given for credentialing equipment so all emergency personnel will have an ID to be used for scene access, and it will contain medical and training information. The County is forming an Incident Support Team to assist on large incidents. The police are an active part of this committee.

LED SOG's Committee:

Joel Gramling reported they haven't had a chance to meet yet. Additional volunteer members are Jim Metzger and Jim Skymba.

Motion to pay bills: \$11.87 to Eileen for postage, \$172.41 for pizza, \$560 to Pocono Wireless for the certification pins. Motion made by Bob Massey, seconded by Dave Leary. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

Jim Metzger read a letter from Andy Dinneman. The letter stated the income tax credit bill was out of committee and on the floor. The bill also offers scholarship money (full 4-years' tuition for six years of volunteering) and a retirement fund for volunteers. Mr. Dinneman appreciates the hard work of the fire service and offers help if needed in preparing grants.

Chester County Interlink, which is hosting our website for free, sent us a fund drive solicitation. Richard Hedrick made a motion to send them \$30, seconded by John Sciandra. Motion carried.

New Membership Applications: New applications were read by Ruthann Sciandra:

Harry J. Irvang, Sr – Oxford	Richard Hahn, Sr. – Ludwigs Corner
Michael F. Bodnar – Oxford	Bruce L. Gentry, Jr. – West Grove
Raymond S. Amy - Union	Gregory J. Jackson – Goshen
David P. Letier – Longwood	

A motion was made by Eileen Amatrudo, seconded by John Neff to accept the new members. Motion carried.

Old business:

The certification pins have been received. Hopefully contributions will underwrite this cost. The procedure – a copy of your certification is needed to get the pin. There will be a graduation ceremony in the spring for the past classes and the current class going on at Westwood. Jim Ploumis was also checking on patches. A motion was made by John Neff that qualified candidates receive one pin free and can purchase additional. Motion seconded by Art Daggett. Motion carried.

New business:

Dianne Therry stated that the Red Cross is in need of blood donors. Please give. She can help put you in contact with the right person if you want to run a blood drive at your firehouse.

Beau Crowding asked if the Association would like to hold our next meeting at the Government Services Building and have a tour of the 911 center. Tom Reed made a motion that we accept Beau's invitation, seconded by John Sciandra. Motion carried.

Joel Gramling reminded everyone of the classes to be held at Westwood Fire Company and that they would be taught by Tony Riccardi, who, literally, "wrote the book".

President Gramling also passed out some "for the good of the Association" notes. (On file).

Our next meeting is on March 2 at the Government Services Building in West Chester where we will be given a tour of the 911 Center.

50/50 winners: Jim Metzger, Terri Jameson and David Reed.

President Joel Gramling thanked the Host Company.

A motion was made by Bob Massey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jim Skymba. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM. There were 41 members representing 13 stations, and one guest present.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Amatrudo, Recording Secretary