

CHESTER COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
November, 2009

Welcomed to East Whiteland Fire Company Fire Company by their representative, Jim Skymba.

President Joel Gramling called the meeting of the Chester County Fire Police Association to order at 2:04 PM on November 1, 2009. Chaplin Art Daggett gave the invocation. The President led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recording Secretary took roll call of Officers. Ruthann Sciandra, Ed Tracey and Bill Best were absent.

Bob Massey made the motion, seconded by Al Cunningham, to dispense with the reading and to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Checking account - \$4583.10.

Directors' Report(s): None.

Fire Police Commissioner's report: None.

Executive Board report: None

Committee(s)' reports:

Banquet Committee: None.

LED SOG: None.

Fire Chiefs' Assn: John Neff reported that the Chiefs are working with the County on the radios. There is a New Radio System board which is in the process of picking a management company to oversee the new system. The County may need township approvals if more tower sites are needed so stay in touch with your local government.

Report from the County: Beau Crowding reported that Rebanding was "dead in the water". Part of the holdup is that T-Mobile is buying Sprint/Nextel.

New Radio System -- next big endeavor. Glad to see that fire police are represented. The Chiefs and the Police are also involved.

Training Facility -- still looking at both sites. The County is getting some numbers to renovate South Coatesville then the task force will reconvene. South Coatesville wants to give us the zoning; East Fallowfield wants to give us conditional use.

Credentialing -- It will be one to two months for the cards to be issued. There will be another round of kiosks. Around 2500 out of 3700 were credentialed. Fire police will have readers for major incidents. There will be training on how to enter credentialing and training information. Chester County is the first in the state to do this credentialing and the Feds are happy we're starting this. The ID cards eventually will be able to be read nationally.

Firemen's Legislative Federation of PA: Jim Ploumis gave a report on the meeting held on Oct. 31. Ed Mann was the speaker. His budget has been cut by \$50,000. In order to receive any 2% loans, you must file immediately; it's taking five to six months to process these. Cones, vests AED's and black box must be on the new apparatus in order to qualify for the 2% loan. Jim also mentioned that the Federal government will not recognize LODD for fire police. We all need to attend the Into to Fire Service class and have the fire police put on the fire companies' rosters as fire fighters assigned to the tactical unit to direct traffic.

Motion to pay bills: Ron Miller made the motion to pay bills and John Sciandra seconded. Motion carried. CCIL - \$50 donation, Eileen Amatrudo - \$52.99 new tape recorder, Jim Skymba - \$135.48 food. Jim Ploumis donated the expenses of the Federation meeting attendance.

Correspondence: We received a Proclamation for Senator Dinneman in appreciation of First Responders. Coatesville Christmas Parade letter requesting help, Pat Carmody is coordinating the fire police.

New Membership Applications: None.

Old business:

Traffic Trailer – Station 39, West Bradford, is willing to house the trailer. Their chief, Glenn Allison, is working with the County on working. We will be setting up a team of people who can drive the traffic trailer. There is a possibility of getting additional traffic trailers for the County.

Fire Police Numbering – Richard Hedrick and Mike Baskin are working on this. Possibly using 1 – 9 (like Delaware County) or Lt's 31A, 31B like the fire side.

New business:

Corporate Access Meeting: Joel Gramling attended. This is to allow certain personnel who have been credentialed as to being permitted to go back into a building after a fire to remove critical data/items to allow for continuity of business. More information to come.

We've run out of the 50 Certification Pins we had ordered. John Neff made a motion to purchase 50 additional pins at a cost of \$650.00. Seconded by John Sciandra. Motion carried. Ron Miller asked that certified fire police officers be allowed to purchase additional pins. This was in the plans from the beginning. These were purchased from Rob Hill, Poconos Wireless. Tom Cole asked if there are competitive prices. We don't have any others at this time. Linda Gramling stated we should order these 50 from Rob so as to not have people wait. Then competitive pricing can be checked. Membership agreed. Tom Cole will check on other prices.

President Gramling reminded the membership to be sure to get credentialed. Must first get with your fire company's administrator to get your logon.

Members asking about CCFPA hats/shirts/coats can contact The Firestore.

John Neff demonstrated a new flashlight that had been sent to Beau.

Ron Miller was appointed the point person to check on possible county grant monies available for fire police.

Joel Gramling introduced our guest speaker, John R. Johnston, Sr., Second Vice President of the State Fire Police Association. John gave us an update on the State's activities.

Any suggestions for future speakers please see Joel. DA Joe Carroll said he would like to come speak to us.

Ron Miller would like to ask Bob Lee come back mid-January for 800-radio training.

Nominations and Elections:

Delegates to the State FP Association (2): Bill Best, Joel Gramling

Alternates to the State FP Association (2): Barb Yagle, Ron Miller

Delegate to PA Firemen's Assn. – Jim Ploumis Alternate to PA Firemen's Assn – John Sciandra

Directors (3): Joel Gramling, John Neff, Jack Smith.

Jim Ploumis moved all nominations be closed, seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried.

Since all are running unopposed, the Recording Secretary cast the ballots and all nominees were elected.

Our next meeting is January 3, 2010 at Good Will Fire Company.

50/50 winners: Bob Bressi, Kim Colket, Jim Sauer.

President Joel Gramling thanked the Host Company for outstanding service and food in 2009.

A motion was made by Jim Ploumis to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Barb Yagle. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM. There were 34 members representing 16 stations, and two guests present.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Amatrudo, Recording Secretary