

CHESTER COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes

September, 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 2:02 PM on September 13, 2009. Charlie Lobb gave the invocation. The President led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recording Secretary took roll call of Officers.

Jim Bohl made the motion, seconded by John Sciandra, to dispense with the reading and to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Stan Heist reported that there was \$47.50 in the checking account. He also reported that \$11,000 in CD's would come due in 2011.

Directors' Report(s): None.

Fire Police Commissioner's report: None.

Executive Board report: Executive Board met on July 20, 2009 at East Brandywine Fire Company. Minutes are included.

Committee(s)' reports:

Banquet Committee: President Gramling again thanked Larry Nuse for a wonderful banquet in May.

LED SOG: Dan Delaney was at work.

Fire Chiefs' Assn: John Neff reported that the training center is still moving along. The County is talking to both South Coatesville and East Fallowfield.

Fire Police Assn. should come up with a plan for numbering and then bring it back to the Chiefs' Assn.

Money was received from a grant and may possibly purchase message boards, more radios and an additional traffic trailer.

We need to look into what is going on at a federal level. Right now each fire company must classify their fire police officers as firefighters so the fire police can collect death benefits.

Report from the County: Jackie Weer gave the report in Beau's absence. The 911 center handled 24,000 calls in July which is 805 per day.

Rebanding – County asked for \$18.5M, Sprint offered \$15M. Negotiations extended to Sept. by FCC. Estimated project end, spring, 2013.

Replacement radio system – plan is for a two-phase project: project management firm to monitor and the system vendor. Initial meeting with emergency responders was held in May to review RFP. To be awarded early 2010.

Training Facility – East Fallowfield site is in a holding pattern while County explores the South Coatesville site. \$17.8M has been committed.

SE PA Regional Task Force – Met in August to apportion the 2009 award monies. (List enclosed). The writing process for the 2010 grants has been started.

Credentialing is starting in the County. The ID's and information will be used at incidents. When filling the forms online, put in what you can for training, don't worry about any error messages.

Legislative Federation of PA: Jim Ploumis reported that it looked like the Sprinkler bill will go through.

Don Kunkle from MUTCD told him that all flaggers will use STOP/SLOW paddles. Fire Police were excluded from the federal death benefits. This was tabled and went to committee. Assn. members need to contact their federal representatives about this.

Barb Yagle asked and it was reaffirmed that MUTCD does cover any emergency personnel at a scene that is directing traffic.

Motion to pay bills was made by Ron Miller, second by John Sciandra. Jim Ploumis, \$35 for travel expenses to meetings; Larry Nuse, \$1500 for banquet; Eileen Amatrudo, \$31.50 for postage, \$236.89 to Rubinstein's for membership cards; to Jim Skymba for food for meeting;

Correspondence: President Gramling sent thank you letters to PECO for their \$3000 donation towards our banquet and to Belfor for their \$500 donation.

Eileen Amatrudo received a request for a donation from CCIL who hosts our website for free. Motion made by E. Amatrudo to send them \$50. Seconded by Barb. Yagle. Motion carried.

New Membership Applications: none.

Old business:

Jim Ploumis said RSAN is in place and please give him your cell number and/or email for emergency notification. You can sign up through the County for non-emergency information.

Charlie Lobb asked for a status of the LED committee. Dan Delany had emailed Joel Gramling that he's been very busy and will send an update.

President Gramling presented a State Certification Pin to Tony Ferri from station 38.

New business: President Joel Gramling appointed Richard Hedrick and Mike Baskin to the Fire Police Numbering committee. The Fire Board is reluctant to add letters after FP numbers. This committee will give them input on the matter.

Patrick Carmody requested that Fire Marshalls turn on their lights when coming to a scene.

Bill Best make a motion that next year's meetings be held at station 52, West Chester. Seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried.

President Gramling reminded everyone to get their credentialing done through your fire company.

A letter was sent to the FP Captains by our president about the County traffic trailer which has been used in many non-emergency situations. It needs to be in a strategic location. So far four companies have expressed interest in housing it.

We received a letter from the County to appoint John Neff as our representative to the Chester County Communications Group with Joel as an alternate. A motion was made by Dave Cassidy and seconded by John Sciandra to do so. Motion carried.

Ron Miller stated that PENNDOT has erected emergency detour signs for the Rte. 30 Bypass.

Our next meeting is November 1 at East Whiteland.

50/50 winners: Charlie Meyers, John Neff and Charlie Lobb. \$60 to CCFPA.

President Joel Gramling thanked the Host Company. .

A motion was made by Linda Gramling to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dave Cassidy. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 PM. There were 42 members representing 22 stations and one guest present.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Amatrudo, Recording Secretary