



NORTHERN CHESTER COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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**NORTHERN CHESTER COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
C/O RIDGE FIRE COMPANY
480 RIDGE RD. SPRING CITY, PA. 19475 - 9678**

Minutes for the March 10, 2010 Meetings

PCH Foundation Meeting

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by President Brian M. Gallagher at the Ridge Fire Company at 1922Hrs.
- The pledge to the flag was conducted and a moment of silence observed for all fallen fire fighters.

Attendance:

- An attendance sheet was circulated with 28 members from 10 departments

Guest Speakers:

- Senator John Rafferty spoke:
 - Senate and Commissioner Mann are working to keep grants coming
 - Future Tax and Tuition Tax Credit are being looked into
 - The PEMA building expansion grant money from FEMA is used up, trying to reallocate additional
 - Reminded the companies to send copies of grant applications to representatives for letters of recommendation.
 - Keeping an eye on residential sprinkler requirements
- Representative Tim Hennessy spoke:
 - Talked about the budget issues and the deficits the state faced last year and this year
 - Talked about the lack of Walking Around Money (WAMs) for FY 2009
 - FY 2010 begins in July, possibly WAMs will be available for \$5-10K pet projects
 - Remember to report back on your state grants, will affect the following years grant awards
 - Proposed \$1.25 POS tax on phone cards for 911 centers is in the state senate
 - Weekly prize amount limits for department fundraisers is proposed to go to \$20K
 - Statewide Mutual Aid Compacts passed into law in 2009
 - Jim Gable spoke on the interoperability of the Regional Task Forces

- Senator Rafferty asked about the radio system issues
 - Pres. Gallagher informed him of the issues
- Representative Paul Drucker spoke:
 - Let known that anything that is out there for grants currently will go through.
 - Nothing big is seen coming down the pipeline for grants
 - Did not see any bill to hold up the sprinkler system to be passed
 - Pres. Gallagher stated that the sprinkler system bill did go through
 - There is a multi-million dollar campaign to throw out the entire bill
- Don from Senator Dinniman's Office spoke:
 - Reminded the members to contact the office when submitting grant applications
 - Pres. Gallagher let it known that we are still encouraging money for dorm live ins
 - Marty (73) thanked the representatives for their work on creating the Rt. 100 Safety Corridor.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

- The minutes had been electronically circulated previous to the meeting. A motion was made by Scott Markley (73) and seconded by Jeff Kimes (73) to approve the minutes as circulated and forego reading them, all in favor.

New Business:

- Lynn Hartmann stated that the board lifted some restriction for the money
- Hoping to have a \$2M grant budget for the next fiscal year.
- \$500 mini grant programs for educational programs were awarded to 2 fire companies
 - Lynn reminded that mini grants can be applied for throughout the year, once a year, usually a 48hr turnaround time on the application.
- Looking to re-establish funding for the Delco Community College for health and public safety majors graduating from PASD.
 - 50% subsidy per credit hour
- Looking into refunding the FF tuition grant program for NCCFA companies and funding for under of non-insured FFs to receive physicals.
 - Marty (73) informed the group of the program to get FF's health screenings
 - Pres. Gallagher suggested that Marty meet with the foundation to set up a plan and report back in May.
 - Chris (M54) said Limerick went through the program and could also assist.

Old Business:

- Pres. Gallagher explained the consolation of the the Phoenixville FD and Dept. membership
- Jeff Kimes (73) explained the mini grant application for training DVDs through Ludwigs. If approved the material would be open to all NCCFCA companies.
 - Lynn stated that Ludwigs' application would be reviewed at April's meeting.
- Pres. Gallagher thanked the Safety Trailer Committee and is working with the Mowrer's to develop a plan to use the unit for rehab.

Close:

- Being no further business to conduct a motion was made by Todd Bliss (63) and seconded by Andy Inhof (64) to adjourn, all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 2028Hrs.

Northern Chester County Fire Chiefs Association Meeting

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by President Brian M. Gallagher at the Ridge Fire Company at 2028Hrs.

Roll Call of Officers:

- President Brain M. Gallagher, Secretary Jonathan Brackbill, and Treasurer Evan Taylor were in attendance. Vice President Devin Guth was unavailable.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

- The minutes had been electronically circulated previous to the meeting. A motion was made by Todd Bliss (63) and seconded by Doug Gable (PHX) to approve the minutes as circulated and forego reading them, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

- [Insert here]
- A thank you was made to Evan for setting up dinner.

Advisory Board Report:

- [Insert here]
- Beau Crowding talked about the service during the recent snowstorms
- Beau explained the South Coatesville site was picked for the training center
 - The judge did throw all but one of the injunctions out for the E. Fallowfield site.
- Jim Gable (PHX) made a motion, seconded by Corey Hostetler (69) to draft a letter to the advisory board certain companies over using the radios on Central Fire Band.
- Pres. Gallagher encouraged that anyone that would like to attend the advisory board meetings to talk with him.
 - Representatives to be Pres. Brain Gallagher and Jonathan Brackbill as a back-up.

DES Report:

- G. "Beau" Crowding, Deputy Director of Emergency Services for fire services, was not present.
- No Changes with the current plans on rebanding.
- No Fire Marshall's Report to present
- MDCs: 1 to 1 replacement with new ones or reimaging.
 - No word yet on station owned units
- SMUs: If a new MDC is being installed the SMU are being removed and destroyed due to lack of parts.
- Currently there are no plans for SMUs in the new radio system

- After discussion about the need to minimize radio talk a motion was made to send a letter to county requesting that the new radio system will have an SMU with all radios, companies from Montgomery and Berks County agreed. Jim Gable (PHX) made the motion and seconded by Corey Hostetler (69), All in favor.
- The members wish to receive more information on proposed paging systems before taking a stance.
 - The South and West districts want to stay voice
 - Joel McMillan (62) stated the risk of reading a text message while driving if using an alpha-numeric paging system.

Old Business:

- Regional Training Center: Don Maleta (M51) stated PECO does not have a location, but might have money available.
 - Maintenance costs of the facility need to be considered.
 - A central location would need to be discussed for all NCCFCA companies to use.
 - Pres. Gallagher suggested to meet with WCFD on the planning and operations of their training facility.
- SAFER Grant: Evan Taylor (68) says we still have the grant, and the money should have went out.
- Montgomery County Stations: Nothing to report
- Berks County Stations: Nothing to Report

New Business:

- Pres. Gallagher recognized Richard Hedrick (62) for the good job he has done on the website.
- Leftover 2008-2009 Homeland Security Grants ideas: \$ 3,200- \$3,600 to each station is available today, but it needs to be the same across the board. Doug Gable (61) made the motion of the single gas CO (Carbon Monoxide) meters, Jim Gable (PHX) seconded, all in favor. Recommendation to be sent back to the advisory board.
- New Grant Ideas for upcoming grants:
 - Additional Station MDCs
 - Tow behind Light Towers
 - Bullard Eclipse Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs)
 - Ahura Scientific: First Defender Hazardous Materials Identification Unit
 - GIS Mapping Software
- After discussion of all ideas, Evan Taylor made the motion to recommend the Additional MDCs, Portable Light Towers, Bullard TICs, and Ahura Scientific First Defender as ideas. The motion was seconded by Tom Hornsberger (69), all in favor.
- New Equipment:
 - Kimberton has a new command unit
 - Norco is taking delivery of a new rescue
- Upcoming Events:
 - Night at the races, March 27th at Phoenix #1

Good of the Company:

- Jim Gable (PHX) brought up further encouragement to apply for the PCHF mini grants..

Close:

- Being no further business to conduct a motion was made by Todd Bliss (63), and seconded by Dick Hahn (73) for adjournment, all in favor. The next meeting will be May 12, 2010 at 1830Hrs, apparatus display to take place before hand. Belfor will be sponsoring dinner.

March 10, 2010

Jonathan Brackbill

NCCFCA Secretary