



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 12, 2025, Meetings

PCH Foundation Meeting

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Kimes at the Ludwigs Corner Fire Co at 1901Hrs.
- The pledge to the flag was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

Attendance:

- An attendance sheet was circulated with 23 members from 11 Departments.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

- A motion was made by Ray Kolb (62) and seconded by Jay Pollinger (61) to approve the minutes as circulated and forego reading them, all in favor.

New Business:

- Sam would not be in attendance, but there was nothing new to report
- Mini Grants now have a Passcode to enter. Just call Sam or anyone at PCHF to get you set up.
 - Everyone is in good standing for Mini Grants
 - One Grant per Fiscal Year Period
 - New Fiscal Year starts July 1
- FIT Test equipment. Glen brought up about interest in the Assoc getting new FIT Test Equipment to be shared like we used to do. Jay Pollinger (61) and Eric Linsenbigler (58) made motions to pursue a new one with potential grant funding for it.

Old Business:

- None

Safety Truck & Trailer:

- At TP Trailer for inspection and electric jack installed. The update went well. Working on two quotes for the wrapping. Glen is working on Fire Prevention material.

Correspondence:

- None

Good of the Company:

- With no further business to discuss, a motion for adjournment was made by Josh Spangler (69) and seconded by Ray Kolb (62). All in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 1908 Hours.

Northern Chester County Fire Chiefs Association Meeting

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Kimes at the Ludwigs Corner Fire Co. at 1908Hrs.

Roll Call of Officers:

- All Present

Previous Meeting Minutes:

- A motion was made by Josh Spangler (69) and seconded by Ray Kolb (62) to approve the January minutes and forgo reading them. All in Favor.

Treasurer's Report:

- January's Beginning Balance: \$32,409.20 as of 12/25/2024
- Deposits of \$0.00 and \$2.78 Interest
- Credits of \$237.12 Jonathan for Food
- January's Ending Balance: \$32,168.86 as of 01/25/2025
- February's Starting Balance of \$32,168.86 as of 01/25/2025
- Deposits of \$1,750.00 Dues (68, 61, 48, 65, 62, M51, 64) and \$2.95 (Interest)
- Credits of \$0.00
- February's Ending Balance of \$33,921.81 as of 02/25/2025.
- Treasurer's Report stands approved as read.
- 2025 Dues are coming in. Still some invoices to hand out.

Correspondence: None

CCFCA Advisory Board Report:

- March's Advisory Board Notes Distributed
- Reviewed about the large amount of radio traffic during the March 1st wind and brush fire events
- Reminder to get your Enterprise Wizard Roster list up to date by end of March so proper allotment of pagers can be purchased. Some County Stations have listed over 100 members.
 - New Pagers are looking to be Non-Voice Swiss Phone Quad X Series Pagers
- CCFCA By Laws Committee is working on By Law revisions to define what a fire company is and what a municipal fire official will be as member of the Association.

DES Report: Justin McClure

- New Pagers/Paging System – Tower Site Work had begun, Rebroadcast decommissioned 3/12/25. Enterprise Wizard Roster Updates are due by 3/31.
- Radio System: 3/1/25 West Fire had 2,129 Key Ups (Avg. is 818). There were 8,181 secs of Talk Time (Avg. is 2,707)
 - Agencies are reminded to avoid interrupting conversations and to limit traffic to necessary communications during periods of peak call volume.
- Tax Rebate: Notarized Eligibility lists and point sheets were due Feb. 15th. No exceptions
 - 39 Agencies submitted eligibility lists.
 - 3 agencies who did not submit last year submitted this year
 - 3 agencies who submitted last year did not submit this year
 - Feedback was received and discussed with the Commissioners – scheduling a follow up meeting.
- Rescue Task Force: Bill Cummings has started as the new USAR Program Manager at DES.
- PSP has requested a 24 hour hold on fire scene photos for incidents in their jurisdiction.

FM & HazMat Report: Justin McClure

- February 2025 Stats
 - Fire Marshals; 11 investigations, 13 notifications
 - Hazmat; 4 team responses, 3 duty officer responses, 1 notification

Old Business:

- County had floated the idea to the districts about DES funding a single responder based alerting system (I am Responding or Active 911) if all the stations could agree to go on a single platform.
 - After some discussion, Josh Spangler (69) made a motion and seconded by Jay Pollinger (61) to vote for I Am Responding as the platform choice of the North.

- Have we heard what the State Commissioner is doing for the reporting system software. Need to get better standards from the State on the reporting. Plays a big role when needed for Cancer Presumption.
- Website updates. Richard did make some changes. Any new changes that need to be made please help Richard out.

New Business:

- Ludwigs is going to host a Decision Making for Initial Company operations.
- Valley Forge is switching to a Passport Accountability system over the 3-tag system.
 - Will make it work with any mutual aid they respond with.
- Pete Hornsberger (69) asked does anyone's municipality have an ordinance for tree trimming on personal driveways.
 - It was discussed to also loop in bridge and gate access as well.
- Governor has in new budget proposal for a competitive grant program with 30million in funding, Projects ranging from 250,000 -1.5million. Criteria and Grant rules still being worked out.
- Discussed the use of Building Fire Type Codes for incidents that may have been better suited for Electrical Fire Inside during the February 15th Wind Event. Also heater malfunctions are supposed to get the Appliance Fire Type Code.
 - The Group proposed asking for a Smoke in the Building Type Code to be looked at as an option for Fire Companies to have a tailored response for over a Building Fire response.
 - DES does stress it's based on the lack of information they receive by the callers.
 - Further review of the criteria for house fire type codes. What questions are being asked.
 - Adding a Smoke in the Building –
 - Electrical Fire Inside – vs full box. What is the criteria? Supervisors overriding.
 - 3/12 – Valley Forge House Fire – Heater Malfunction
 - 2/16 – Kimberton House Fire, and Norco Building Fire.

Good of the Company:

- Montco Report: Limerick is hosting a Command Structure 4/21st
- Abington Response from Chester County was low.
 - They asked to fill out 12hr shifts. Smaller shifts may have been easier to fill.
 - Chiefs were not given a lot of time, before they moved on.
 - Testament to the daytime volunteer shortage.
- Jonathan's Father, Wayne, passed away on Tuesday, March 11th after a lengthy hospital stay. Services are Saturday, March 15th at St. Basils Church in Kimberton.
- May's Meeting will be at Ridge Fire Co. on May 14th.
- State Elected Officials are planned for May's Meeting.

Close:

- Being no further business a motion was made by Steve Senn (73) and seconded by Ray Kolb (62) for adjournment at 2025Hrs, all in favor. The next meeting will be at the Ridge Fire Co on May 12th, 2025.

March 12th, 2025,

Jonathan Brackbill

NCCFCA Secretary