

Bernie Deutsch
Chairman

Russell Turner
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysh
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: January 31, 2013

Meeting called to order at: 7:33pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 11 out of 15 members present

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| Bethel: Rich Hendrickson | P |
| Callicoon: Paul Hemmer | A |
| Cochecton: Gary Cochrane | P |
| Delaware: Tim Hornicek | P |
| Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch | P |
| Forestburgh: Chris Cavello | P |
| Fremont: David Hirsch | P |
| Highland: Warren Wagner | P |
| Liberty: Don Sherwood | P |
| Lumberland: Charlie Fallon | P |
| Mamakating: Lou Tunno | A |
| Neversink: Russell Turner | P |
| Rockland: Michael Juron | A |
| Thompson: Robert Yakin | A |
| Tusten: Craig Burkle | P |

Reading of minutes from previous meeting: Read and accepted as read

Elections: Bernie and Russell were both re-elected

Coordinators Report:

The State Fire Association held a post Hurricane Sandy evaluation. The results were mixed. In general the upstate response was good, while the Long Island Counties tended to ask for more equipment than was actually needed. We need to categorize all of our equipment so we know what we have available at any given time that we could send elsewhere in the event of an emergency.

The State ID Program is being worked on. They want to add what your designation is as well as expiration dates. This could cause issues with training that has been completed during the year but not reflected on the issued ID.

The Newtown shooting shows the critical need for stress debriefing. We should compile a list of people in the area that are trained to provide these services. There is a Hudson Valley team with some Sullivan County people on it.

The shooting in Webster that killed 2 firefighters highlighted the problem of firefighter response to a location that there have been issues with domestic violence. Discussions have been initiated on the State level and Sullivan County will send out a Police Agency out first to locations that have a past issue with domestic violence. There are several Counties that do this already. For the time being this procedure should be kept low key, there are details to be worked out.

There were 73 attendees, Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs, on January 8th at the Training Center. This was the largest turnout for an event like this. Among the topics were Sandy Hook, Webster and the storm response. A follow up on the following weekend had 20 more attendees.

Both our County and State Budget allowance are the same as last year.

We are waiting for the County Legislature to approve the funds for the radio upgrades. Our contract with Motorola has expired and we are in danger of losing the frequencies if they do not approve the funding. There are a couple of Legislators who are hesitating on approving this. Dick has spoken with many of them. There are a few people within the fire service who have spoken out against the project. We need to make sure that the Legislature hears what we have to say, it is important to present a united front. February 7 is the Public Safety Meeting on this and on the 21st there will be an executive meeting on the bonding for the project. Members of the Fire Service should attend both meetings to show support.

Dick praised Charlie and the Arson task force on a great job and noted that there is scholarship money to send 2 members of that team for additional training.

The County Manager will be leaving his post at some point and it appears that Louis Aargon will be appointing the department heads.

At the March meeting we need to appoint a committee to do a countywide inventory of equipment. All agencies need to be included. It will help coordinate response efforts. There were some questions raised about the reimbursement for tolls and other expenses incurred when equipment was sent to help with the hurricane relief efforts. Emergency Vehicles in general are exempt from tolls but transporting equipment may not be. If you were charged for tolls you may ne able to be reimbursed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Training Facility:** no further report
- 2) **EMS:** no report
- 3) **Arson:** Charlie handed out the annual report for 2012. Investigations are on the rise but not all investigations are arson related. There are still 2 open investigations from last year. The economy plays a role in the increase of fires. They are working on streamlining the fire report process.
Please be aware that not all information on an investigation will be available if there is a criminal case involved.
If there are ever any questions or concerns Charlie is always available.
Members of the team will be taking part in classes throughout the year.
The insurance claim on Grandview was denied.
- 4) **Radio:** no further report

Correspondence: none

Old Business: none

New Business: Dan Briggs will be here on our March 18, 2013 meeting to swear in the board members. If you cannot attend the meeting please stop in the County Clerk's Office and see either Dan or Helen.

Mary Ann was re-appointed as Secretary

Good and Welfare: none

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn **Time: 8:25 PM**

Next meeting March 18 at 7:30pm