

Bernie Deutsch
Chairman

Russell Turner
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysch
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: May 20, 2013

Meeting called to order at: 7:38pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 11 out of 15 members present

Bethel: Rich Hendrickson	P
Callicoon: Paul Hemmer	A
Cochecton: Gary Cochrane	P
Delaware: Tim Hornicek	A
Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch	P
Forestburgh: Chris Cavello	A
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	P
Thompson: Robert Yakin	P
Tusten: Craig Burkle	P

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

Coordinators Report:

Drills were held at both Tri Valley and Monticello schools by the police. Fire and Ems were involved as well.

There was a 2 day training session on the Delaware River to help prepare for events taking place on waterways.

We have 2 new instructors at the training center. All classes are doing well attendance wise.

There is a new zone commander at the State Police in Liberty. He is a local man and is working with the Sheriff's Office and Dick to get up to speed.

There will be type of class set up with the fire chiefs regarding terror type attacks.

Tensions are high in various parts of the world and there is always the possibility of repercussions in this area. Law enforcement and intelligence are on alert. Fire and EMS would provide support in secure areas.

Alex will also be giving a talk on June 19th on the progress of the radios to the chiefs and their assistants. Dick will send out an email to all.

The State and the Federal Government are looking to upgrade ID tags. Dick has a machine to do the cards but needs the computerization from the State. Once he has that he will issue second generation ID cards. The ID's will be required to respond to State and Federal scenes. All Chiefs will be required to bring their ID's to the June 19th meeting.

Dick is working on the 2014 budget and trying to keep it as lean as possible.

Summer is almost here, everyone be safe.

The National Weather Service is predicting more named storms this year than last year. We are still waiting on some of the FEMA money from Hurricane Sandy from last year.

The review of the student handbook for the training center yielded questions about firearms. Only law enforcement is permitted to carry firearms in the classroom. The State and National Academies have the same requirement. If you have a carry permit you must properly store and lock your gun outside the classroom.

There will also be a form to sign off on harassment policies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) **Training Facility:** no further report

2) **EMS:** no report

Arson: The number of fires from the 1st quarter is down from last year. The team has 118 hours of investigation time in so far. It appears to be picking up this month. If anyone has any questions or concerns please contact Charlie. There will be training at the fire academy for the investigators.

3) **Radio:** Alex will be at our July meeting to update us on progress.

Correspondence: none

Old Business: none

New Business: The Emergency Service Handbook was put into discussion and voted on and passed. It will be presented to Public Safety at their next meeting. If you can attend please do so.

There have been requests to use the tower at the training center for training on the issues regarding the new rope law. Training can be done but there needs to be someone there to open and close the facility and to make sure the facility is being used in a responsible matter. There is a list of people and they are paid on a per diem basis. The question is who will be paying them, the County or the departments that are training? The facilitators do not need to be instructors but they must have proper credentials. The estimate is for 20 sessions at an approximate cost of \$2,500.00 total. It was brought up that maybe the fire districts could pay for this rather than the County. There was a great deal of discussion and it was decided to ask the County to pay for this with a fallback onto the fire districts if the County refused. Dick will set up a meeting and may call on people to attend to show support.

There is progress being made on the improvements to various radio tower sites by DPW. There is also negotiating going on with landowners on several sites. We need to have permission to build the towers if the land is to be leased and there are zoning issues with each Town as well. There is a possibility of leasing tower space to cell phone providers. We received a \$799,000.00 grant to be used for a 911 phone system for White Lake and the State Police. We will also be upgrading the CAD system. We will be getting more money down the road; we ask for all the available grants and get what we can. The total project cost for the system upgrade is 10.2 million. We still have not heard on the request for additional money form the surcharge the State collects.

Good and Welfare: Alex will be here at the July Meeting

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn **Time: 8:24 PM**

Next meeting July 29 at 7:30pm