



CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

Date	Type of Meeting:
2/19/09	Fire Advisory Board (FAB) Monthly Meeting Chairperson: Larry Barter Attended by: Sign-in sheet available Location: Training Room 1 @ the Office of Emergency Services
Handouts	Copies available to view attached to original minutes and filed.
Next Mtg.	March 19, 2009

Topic	Discussion
Preliminaries	The meeting was called to order at 7: 36 pm followed by Pledge of Allegiance.
Guests	<p>Legislator Wally Huckno was in attendance. He reported he has been talking to Fredonia in regards to consolidation. He is working with 2 police departments and wonders where it will go financially. If the town can save money it may work. He stated he hates to mess with fire service. He maintains “If it’s not broken, don’t fix it.” He sees good work with volunteers and paid firefighters. He is still waiting to hear from Governor Paterson to find out what is getting cut. The same was done with paid firefighter’s in Dunkirk. They can’t be volunteers of a department and also be employees of paid ambulance service there. It’s a union thing, not fire service. This rally has been going all around the state, even pushing country-wide. The International Association of Fire Chiefs has been encouraging that. Larry Barter has a copy of this on his computer and will email this out. Things will remain as they are for now, if the city fire department is needed, we will call them. Keith hedlund commented on Jamestown (paid) Fire Department; when they hire someone, they tell them the city doesn’t care either way if they are member of a volunteer department. If the union throws them out, it does not effect their employment. It is totally up to the individual. April 1st is the target date to take action. As of then the local will take action.</p> <p>Scott Cummings asked Wally Huckno about the lack of parking-lot plowing. Don Emhart and George Spanos talked and they are only going to plow if there is family or town court. Scott went on to say this won’t work for us up here. There are special teams called out 24/7 and they have to get to the apparatus. Wally will call George Spanos and the County Executive tomorrow. Wally added there are obviously a lot of snow plowing issues that are unacceptable as this is an EOC.</p>

New Members	Rich Telford and Sheriff's Deputy John Desnerck were in attendance. Rich has been reassigned out of dispatch working evenings. John Desnerck has been put in Rich's place in dispatch. They are trying to get caught up with things as far as being reassigned. They are trying to get things tweaked with EMS calls. Ems calls have been worked better, using the 5-3-3. Calls are not out of the dispatchers hands until someone is rolling from the hall. If there is a general question or inquiry you may call or email either Rich or John. If there is an ongoing problem, it should be documented using the quality assurance forms. Rich thanked everyone for their help through the years. Rich is now working on the Fire Investigation Team. Rich will be working nights now so John will be taking over for him on the FAB. Lance Hedlund said on behalf of board he thanked Rich for working through the problems. Applause. Larry Barter told Rich it was a pleasure to have him here.
Minutes of last Meeting	Ray Lawson made a motion to approve last months minutes. This was 2 nd by Ron Trippy. All were in favor, motion passed.
Battalion Coordinator Reports	<p>1st Battalion Coordinator Tony Faso gave his report. In his report he mentioned the 1st Battalion meeting is this coming Sunday, February 22, 2009 at 9am at the Forestville Fire Station.</p> <p>2nd Battalion Coordinator Rick Cole welcomed newcomers to the FAB: Ron, Ray, Scott and Dave. Al has gone from an alternate to a regular representative. Matt Oehlbeck from Sherman is an alternate. Along with his report Rick mentioned a structure fire in Findley Lake on the 16th and that he had attended the Fire Police meeting, and tonight the Fire Advisory Board Meeting.</p> <p>3rd Battalion Coordinator Mike Volpe reported one structure fire which was knocked down quick. Thanks to Mike Gleason, the combined 3rd & 4th Battalion Meeting attendance was high as all but two departments showed up.</p> <p>4th Battalion Coordinator Skip Cavallaro reported one fire this month. He also was impressed with the great attendance at the combined Battalion meeting. Skip mentioned a "Mutual Aid" Drill in Gerry. Last night there was the "Big Dip" classroom training and Saturday, February 21st will be the actual Big Dip. February 28th there will be a vehicle replacement committee meeting at 8:30am here at the EOC.</p> <p>Reports were submitted to the Secretary and will be kept with an original copy of these minutes.</p>
Deputy Coordinator Reports	<p>Deputy Coordinator Bob Frank gave his report. A copy was submitted to the Scribe. Included in the report was mention of a trailer fire on February 7, 2009. Bob has been able to ride with the eye in the sky and feels it is definitely worth the trip. The Muster dates are August 29th & 30th, 2009. John Desnerck is working on a camera and flare unit to see what they are seeing live. There is a preliminary grant for these.</p> <p>Deputy Coordinator Jon Stahley gave his report on the Big Dip Classroom session. Two small & large animal</p>

	<p>veterinarians discussed tactics. This was very informative. They discussed dogs, cattle, horses, etc. Denny Barmore and Darryl Braley did a nice job on the informative session. The Dip is two days away and it will fly no matter what the weather is like. Everyone is to meet at 9am at Maple Springs Fire Hall then they will head to Lake Erie Park for the Dip. Jon stated he still needs accountability and safety officers. Let him know. After the Dip, Maple Springs will have spaghetti dinner for them.</p>
<p>Steve Cobb EMS Coordinator</p>	<p>Steve Cobb was not in attendance.</p>
<p>Denny Barmore Dive Team</p>	<p>Denny reported things have been quiet. He's been working on the Big Dip.</p>
<p>Dan Imfeld Hazmat Coordinator</p>	<p>Dan stated there were 32 different chemicals on truck that overturned on the highway today, and there was no major incident to report. The team recently picked up 2 new members. Dan is currently working on a program in April at JCC with a nationally recognized speaker. There will be more to report on this in March. Physicals will be in March for the Hazmat Team and Coordinators.</p>
<p>Ron Keddie Training Coordinator</p>	<p>Ron reported that the county has completed 3 classes this month; another to finish tonight. Ron reported courses coming up; a list is available on the tables. Ron reported on the Peace Officer Course. There are credentials that have to be met, such as they must appear on the Peace Officer list in Albany before they enroll. Deputy Desnerck mentioned that the CPL requires them to secure any firearm they see on scene. Those that pass the test will be listed as a Part-Time Peace Officer (no weapons). Wildland Search & Rescue filled up fast but there will be some openings for the Kennedy class. Ron is currently working on Firefighter I, Pump Operator, Fire Officer I, Fire Police & EVOC. There will be a 190 & 130 Wildland Firefighting Class offered out of county. This 37 hour course, after passing the test, will make the Firefighters eligible for western forest fires and they will get their red card.</p> <p>Applications for County Weekend in Montour falls will come out next month. This year it is September 11, 12, & 13, 2009.</p> <p>We lost training hours in the 08-09 budget. Ron has been directed by Albany not to set up more than 50% of the usual hours scheduled.</p> <p>The Chief's Meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 will start a series of 4 at 6:30 pm which serves as a one hour Chief's Orientation before the regular Chief's meeting at 7:30 pm. The first meeting will be at the Westfield Exempts Hall.</p> <p>Wally Huckno stated he has not seen a more dedicated group, with such enthusiasm, spending hours planning said this is truly a labor of love for the County. Wally intends to put these things in a memo to County Executive Greg Edwards.</p>

<p>Charlie Smith, Tech Rescue Coordinator</p>	<p>Charlie reported there were no calls this month. The team got old rescue 7 and gutted it out removing archaic equipment. The team hopes to have things out of the trailer by end of month.</p>
<p>Julius J. Leone, Jr., Fire Coordinator</p>	<p>Julius welcomed Jon Desnerck to the board. Jon is working with dispatch. He mentioned that the Board looks forward to working with him in the future. Julius mentioned the plane crash in Clarence Center in Erie County and how we could easily have had a problem. There was a report of another plane having severe icing in Dunkirk. Since then he has had a lot of calls inquiring how we would handle the same situation. Julius reminded the board that the County has a drill with the airport every 4 years. Julius mentioned that he sent Dean Messing and the Erie County Fire Coordinator an email that we were willing to offer assistance.</p> <p>Julius mentioned the handout on CDL requirements affecting Fire Apparatus. He is trying to get answers on what the state wants. Everyone is trying to work on a remedy as fast as they can. He also added that it wouldn't be a bad idea to get this thing moving at the state level, and if anyone has contacts, he encouraged them to work on it. This could be critical. He encouraged everyone to contact elected officials with this concern.</p> <p>The Emergency Escape Seminar had a good turnout in Kennedy. This was also brought up at 3rd & 4th Joint Battalion Meeting. If you have any questions, you should ask questions at the PESH office in Buffalo. We may even want a PESH inspector to come to talk about this.</p> <p>NFIRS for 2008 were completed. 100% compliance for 2008. We will be granted an \$800.00 Montour Falls Scholarship, thanks to the Battalion Coordinators.</p> <p>Julius encouraged everyone to make sure they are keeping tract of NIMS Compliance for grants. This needs to be tracked so it isn't an issue if you are awarded a grant. Julius thanked Lance Hedlund and Larry Barter for working through the Mutual Aid Plan at the 3rd & 4th Battalion Meeting.</p> <p>Gloria Burke does the tag system. Until recently Julius didn't know how many had been done. So far there are 1128 green tags, 550 tags with no border, and 703 red. This gives a total of 2381 tags. This has taken a lot of entering and photos. A special acknowledgement of thanks was given to John Burke for his assistance with the tags.</p> <p>The JCC Training Funds are \$56,000 and have been put into a capital fund pot for our training centers. This is a great opportunity for our firefighters to get college credit for the courses they would have taken for no credits. This has gotten on track because of Marty Bova.</p> <p>Charlie Smith calculated that with just the number of red tags reported at this meeting, it will cost \$210, 900.00 for escape ropes. This is not even a total number of interior firefighters.</p>

Committees	
R-Fire Committee	<p>Dave Himelein has been working for over 6 years on the R-Fire Committee. Over 36 people have been through it. The R-Fire Committee would like to make changes in the program. They would like to see a provision for retention. This would be available for active members of a fire department who have lost their job and/or need additional skills to remain in the area. This would need to be available with FAB approval. The committee would like to honor the existing program, but would like to change the years of service required to a total of 5 instead of 7. In order to make these changes, Dave will need a resolution approved by the FAB first then it can be taken to the lawyer for him to wordsmith it for us. After that, it should go to the legislature for the procedure. Lance Hedlund asked on grandfathering. Dave replied that those who signed under old rules should abide by those rules. Denny Barmore felt we should grandfather the changes. Through the years there have been complaints from the older firemen that the new recruits are given things, but the old are not. Dave has requested one resolution for both changes. Julius said he's been to the County Executive and Attorney. After the FAB endorses, the attorney will massage the changes. Lance said now we see the ability to offer a retention package.</p> <p>This must go to the Public Safety Committee and the legislature. Lance Hedlund made a motion to authorize the R-Fire Committee to develop something to retain firefighters and change the service requirement from 7 to 5 years. This was 2nd by Scott Cummings. All were in favor, motion carried. Brian Purol asked who will receive priority, recruitment or retention. Dave answered that credit courses take prescience over a non-credit course.</p>
Mutual Aid Committee:	<p>Loan: James Shepard stated Gerry Fire Department has submitted a letter stating their intent to ask for loan but they still have to complete and application. Financially they are strapped and want to refinance their ambulance. Jim feels that it will fall between the guidelines as a hardship with the Rodeo not doing as well this year. At this time Jim doesn't have the information needed to give this to the committee members. As long as the application is consistent with the rules the loan should be ok. Lance Hedlund stated that if it was marginal with the rules, the committee should wait. It was decided to vote on this now, as if it were contingent with paperwork. Julius Leone mentioned that the way he understands the loan policy, the County would own the equipment until it is paid off. The committee should consider that this may be an issue retitling an ambulance that is already In Gerry's name. Julius made a recommendation to approve this if the legalities are completed. Jim Shepard made a motion that Gerry Fire be loaned \$40,000.00 from the Revolving Loan Fund if they fulfill all legal requirements. This was 2nd by Brad Rogers. All in favor, none apposed. Motion carried.</p> <p>A great job was done with the Mutual Aid Plan Presentation from Larry Barter at Forestville Fire Department. Rick Cole will ask for him at his battalion meeting.</p> <p>Larry Barter stated that in the Mutual Aid Plan it states that when a department is called for mutual aid they should only send what is asked for. The departments should know that Mayville is put out there if other apparatus goes out. The Chiefs have to talk to each other and update run cards as to where manpower should be put in run cards. Deputy Jon</p>

	<p>Desnerck stated that manpower is a selectable unit available for run cards. After the Chief's are made aware of this, Jon will have dispatch ask what type of manpower is needed if they are not sure. The departments requesting mutual aid must also watch what units can interface with their department as far as air packs. Each dept should tweak their own department needs. One chief should also respond with mutual aid. He should be at the post with the Incident Commander. When his department has been called he has to be there according to the ICS System. Neighboring departments should know the capacity of each neighboring truck to see what staff is needed, etc. Larry Barter stated having been given framework with this plan, each Chief must make the plan work for their departments. It has to be made clear to the Chief's that only the apparatus or people requested should respond. All departments need to go over their operating procedures with the bordering Chiefs.</p>
Radio Committee:	Jack Raab was not in attendance.
Facilities Committee:	<p>Denny Barmore reported on the advances in the garages. This project is moving along well. Everyone is welcome to help on Tuesday nights.</p> <p>Skip Cavallaro reminded everyone of the Vehicle Replacement Meeting on Saturday, January 28th, 2009 at the EOC at 8:30 am.</p>
Awards Committee:	Al Hamm was not in attendance.
State Chief's Association	Ron was not in attendance.
Communications Committee	Larry Barter read a letter he received from Jack Knowlton dated February 17, 2009, referencing February 15 th , 2009 article in the Post Journal. Larry feels we should stay above this dispute and just do our jobs. He said to leave the bickering to those who are asking for it in the press.
Old business	<p>Deputy Jon Desnerck stated that dispatch wants to clarify with the departments what "out of service" is. Each has their own meaning. The program they have now has to be fixed to give dispatch a quick answer without having to study it during a call.</p> <p>Ray Lawson said his company is getting a grant tomorrow.</p>
New Business	Julius Leone reported that in the Coordinators Meeting the Fire Police were discussed. They visited this issue months ago when making changes in the Mutual Aid Plan. They met with the Fire Police in June or July regarding the insurance coverage and liability they have for themselves. At that time they were not interested in being under the County umbrella. When the Mutual Aid Plan was brought out, they mentioned they are not part of the County Teams. The Fire Police

	<p>Organization and Response Teams are separate. Larry Hadley is not the President of the Association. Julius talked about how they fall into the Mutual Aid Plan. Now they want to be a special Response Team like other teams under the county resolution to cover themselves. Looking at a simple policy it will cost around \$4,000.00 a year. They have requested we bring the Fire Police Response Team on as one of the county teams. A resolution would have to be made up to request they be a special county team. This was brought to the FAB for their opinion. Larry Barter asked for comments/questions. Discussion. It was mentioned that possibly each member would have two applications. One to join the Association and one to join the team. They would need proof of a physical to be on the team. The whole general concept will have to be worked on along with research into the possibility of making them a County Team. Dan Imfeld suggested this research be done and added that if this is a possibility the duties would have to be on one of the existing Coordinators.</p> <p>Ron Trippy stated that everyone has always thought the Fire Police were covered by the County all this time. Dave Himelein stated he thinks this should be researched. Jon Stahley was asked to work with the team on this. Lance Hedlund, Chairman of the Mutual Aid Committee, has been given this job.</p>
Adjourned	A motion was made by Lance Hedlund to adjourn at 9:35 pm. All were in favor, motion passed.

		2009 Motions made	Status
1	1/15/09	Motion made by Scott Cummings to approve last months minutes seconded by Jim Shepard	Approved
2	1/15/09	Motion made by Jim Shepard seconded by Scott Cummings for approval of Busti Fire Dept to receive 12,000.00 from RLF for a cardiac monitor upgrades and equipment pending the receipt of signed documents by the chief.	Approved
3	1/15/09	Ray Lawson made a motion to approve last months minutes. This was 2 nd by Ron Trippy. All were in favor, motion passed.	
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