

ERIE COUNTY FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Regular Monthly Meeting March 14, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Erie County Firefighters Association was called to order by President Jim Petrone (Belle Valley) at 19:00 hrs March 14, 2008 at West Lake Fire Department with the pledge of allegiance to the US flag. An opening welcome was given and Pat Newbold (Fuller Hose Co.#1) gave invocation. Roll call of departments revealed 26 persons representing 17 Fire Departments.

Minutes: Motion by John Furdak (Wattsburg), seconded by Tom Cullen (Union City) to accept the February 2008 minutes. Carried.

Communications: nothing

Treasurer's report: Cliff Moon (West Lake) gave the report. Motion by John Furdak (Wattsburg), seconded by John Brown Jr. (Lawrence Park) accept the Treasurer's report. Carried. There were no bills for this months report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire Safety House: Jim Petrone (Belle Valley) reported that the fire safety house will be pulled out soon to be cleaned up for the 2008 season. Get reservations in as soon as possible to make sure to have for your event. Call the Belle Valley secretary at the fire hall for reservations. PHONE: 825-4359. The paperwork is done for the Feds for our organization to be placed on the surplus list. Need to wait until we have a receipt of paperwork from the Feds. The current fire safety house will need some repair before allotting out for events.

Recruitment and Retention: none

Fire School Grounds/Mercyhurst: the county will be purchasing the adjacent property to the grounds for expansion.

Inventory: none

Audit: none

Publicity: For addition to the publicity e-mail database, contact Dave Duberow at duberow@velocity.net or the county secretary at ecffa@velocity.net.

By-Laws: none

State Association: Tom Cullen (Union City) advised that the three house bills 1131, 1133, 1134 have been passed and are on the Governor's desk. Headway has been made on other bills that have been introduced. Watch your e-mail for further information.

Annual Awards Dinner: The Public Safety Banquet (Old Timers Dinner) will be held April 11th, 2008 at St. John's Social Hall in Girard. Judging of awards will be on April 3rd for the committee.

Radio Communications: John Spaulding (Perry Hi-Way) gave a presentation on a new option for radios. Regional grant program. What is needed from every company is call volumes for the past three years and forward that information to the www.ecdops.org website. Motion Jim Petrone (Belle Valley), seconded by Tom Algeier (Kuhl Hose) to set aside a fee not to exceed \$50,000 to support the PHHC grant for the 27 companies that do not have the ultra high band radios. Carried by unanimous vote of 17 companies in attendance.

Disaster conference: Everything has been setup for May 3rd and 4th 2008 at Penn State Behrend. For further information contact Sandy Cullen (Union City).

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

Museum: Motion by Jim Petrone (Belle Valley), seconded by John Brown Jr. (Lawrence Park) to allot \$2000 for annual membership to the Erie Firefighters Museum, this will cover dues for 2007 and 2008. Carried. Currently the museum is in limbo due to the illness of Dick Robb. More information will be sent out as received on the status of the museum.

Fire Chiefs: nothing

Erie County Volunteer Fire Police Association: The new mobile command post is up and running and ready for use.

Dale Robinson: Trying to get an updated directory of specialized equipment information for the directory. Need good information as it will be going into the county CAD system. Get your individual fire company information updated on the www.ecdops.org website ASAP to have good information on the website and for the county.

Gabe Mieh: an exercise is getting formulated for the Edinboro area. It will be held after graduation in the spring.

Old Business: The Lake Erie Speedway is giving the county firefighters a day in July for the five county region. Need to get the word out for a good show of support from Erie County. Date: July 26th, 2008. More information to follow in e-mail. A breakdown of participation information will follow. For more information contact the President. Truck judging may be conducted this year at the track. Should we go with a breakdown of vehicles (ie: engine, ladder, heavy rescue, etc.) or just one best of show prize? Think over and bring to meeting or let the secretary know via e-mail.

New Business: Dues and back dues from many companies are due now. See form attached to minutes. Many companies are in arrears for many years.

Good of the Association: The President would like the Erie County Firefighters to utilize the new community college for continuing education to help keep monies and training in Erie county.

Motion by John Furdak (Wattsburg), seconded by Tom Cullen (Union City) to adjourn. Carried at 21:00.

Location of next meeting: The next meeting will be held *April 11th, 2008 at St. John's Social Hall in Girard.*

Respectfully submitted:

Patrick F. Newbold
Secretary
Erie County Firefighters Association