

**Minutes of the March 11, 2009
Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.
Quarterly Meeting at
Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center**

President Oettel called the meeting to order at 19:40 hours. Following the pledge of allegiance, President Oettel appointed Ray Rice (4-7) as Sergeant-at-Arms.

Previous Minutes - Tim Hoerner (4-1) made a motion to accept the December 2008 minutes as written, seconded by Bill Gross (2-11). Motion passed.

Secretary Report - No report

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Miller reported that we have \$37,007.73 in the Pennvest account, \$5,308.48 in the checking account and \$3,511.12 in the money market account for a total of \$45,827.33. Bills not yet paid, food for this evenings meeting. Motion to accept the Treasurers report, Buddy Hess (7-5), seconded by Larry Miller (3-9.)

Law and Legislative Report - Ernie Rojahn discussed the \$100.00 rebate issue. Basically this year it was problematic due to filing separately even if you were married. In addition, it required another form that cost additional money if you utilize a CPA, etc.

He also spoke on the building industry/lobby trying to kill the code requiring residential sprinklers even though 85% of fire death are attributed to residential fires. We need to contact our legislators and let them know our stance.

Fire Marshal - No report

Communications - Director Weaver gave a brief overview of the radio system. Most things will be covered in a more in depth fashion at the upcoming Chiefs weekend. Mike stated that the T-Band issue is still with the FCC and we might get Rep. Pitts and/or Senators Specter or Casey involved soon.

The consultants have developed a Request for Information (RFI) and sent it to all the major radio vendors. This information should be back in mid April.

The interoperability connection to the other Counties has been accomplished for York, Lebanon, and Dauphin. If you need a cross frequency patch, the policy is to ask Lancaster County and we will contact the other County to initiate the patches necessary.

Rick Harrison reported that the 2008 report should be out very soon.

Rick read a letter from Water Conservation Officer Jeff Schmidt in regards to boat ID numbers on the water rescue boats should be seen. Mr. Schmidt has witnessed some water rescue craft without their ID's and this is a violation of law. If you do not have your boat hull number on your craft, please see that you get this done as soon as possible.

EMA - Phil Colvin reported some issues for Eric Bachman who was not in attendance. Eric will be sending out the a SARA facility status form to newly identified facilities that will require a plan. Only departments affected will receive this.

The first due chemical intelligence program has been developed and is approx. a two hour class. The target audience is FD's that have SARA facilities. Any department interested contact Eric Bachman.

Eric will be distributing a 2009 CD of all the SARA facilities in Lancaster County. This is a change from previous distribution methods as a fire department their specific facilities. This will allow mutual aid departments to coordinate effort on mutual aid to other facilities.

Eric will be re-visiting the response cost recovery program for Haz Mat.

Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center - Jim Kimes reported that classes have been filling up fast lately. Please do not wait until the last minute. He reminded everyone that for structural burns they need 20 students and 7 instructors.

Craig Elmer reported that at the upcoming American Red Cross hero's program in Hershey, three out of the five recipients are from Lancaster County. Also Craig spoke about the upcoming Chiefs weekend and the "Taking care of our own program."

LCFA - Ernie Rojahn reported that Quarryville Fire Company is hosting the County Convention this year. Also, if anyone can help at the upcoming Fire Expo, please contact Tina Alexander.

Ernie also reported that the State has a program for Fire Prevention awards. First place receives \$1450.00, second place, \$1100.00 and third place \$900.00.

SCTF - No report

Apparatus Report - Steve Gribble was absent, Rick Harrison reported that inspections are proceeding and going fairly well. However, an idea was presented that if inspections were due around the time of Chiefs meeting it would be nice to have that department bring their apparatus to the meeting, get inspected and then have it there to show other Chiefs. All present thought this was a good idea.

Standards Committee - Dave Wiker reported that under old business we will vote on the three proposals.

Golf Tournament - Rick Harrison reported that the tournament is locked in for July 17, 2009 at the Foxchase Golf course. Registration starting at 12:00, with a shotgun start at 13:00 hours.

NIMS working group - Phil Colvin reminded Chiefs that they need the 300 and 400 course. He reported that there is a need for 15 people to run a course and that there should be a good mix of Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS.

Rescue Task Force - No report

FF Safety Summit - The summit was cancelled

Unfinished Business

The following proposals were voted on by ballot;

1. Firefighter Mayday (passed - 40 for, 2 against)
2. Rapid Intervention Team (passed - 40 for, 2 against)
3. Mayday Task Force (passed - 38 for, 4 against)

All proposals passed and will be placed on the website as soon as possible.

New Business

President Oettel reported that the training center is in need of a representative from the Chiefs to sit on the advisory board. Deputy Chief Sue Warchola from Lancaster City has offered to do that.

Delegates are also needed on the PESI statewide advisory board. Commitment is a quarterly meeting throughout the year. The next meeting is in Lionville, Chester County.

Rick Harrison reminded the group that we usually support the CTC and LCWC with an award for two students and a dispatcher of the year. The group voted to support these individuals again.

Chief Chris Strayer of the Haz Mat team introduced himself to the group and stated that Ryan Miller had stepped down due to another job Commitment.

Good of the order - No report

Roll Call - 38 departments were represented with 61 people in attendance.

25 Fire Chiefs
12 Deputy Chiefs
9 Assistant Chiefs
12 Past Chiefs
3 Guests

Officers present - President Oettel, 1st VP Harrison, 2nd VP Martin, Treasurer Miller, Directors Gregg and Weaver.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. Will be held at the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center on Wednesday June 10, 2009 at 19:30 hours.

Ray Rice (4-7) made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Buddy Hess (7-5.) Motion passed. Meeting ended at 20:54 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Harrison
1st Vice President
Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.