

## LANCASTER COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION, INC.

### JUNE 11, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

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President Mason Brandt called the quarterly meeting of the Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. to order at 19:00 hours on June 11, 2025. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence held in memory of departed chief officers of the fire service.

**Guests** – Bill Hall, Bryan Duquin, and Margie Gantz presented the two student awards, sponsored by the Fire Chiefs Assn., for this year's CTC Protective Services Program. Kasey Mitchell, a graduate of Penn Manor and a firefighter with Station 53, was presented with the Outstanding Student award. Zachary Rhineer, also a graduate of Penn Manor and a firefighter with Station 50, was presented with the Award of Merit.

Darryl Keiser reported that this year's Compleat Restoration Scholarship recipient is Emileigh Kreider, a graduate of Solanco High School, whose father is a Life Member at Quarryville Fire Company. She was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

**Previous Meeting Minutes** – Brett Hamm made a motion to accept the March 2025 Meeting Minutes as presented; seconded by Ken Barton and approved.

**President's Comments** – President Brandt reported that the Chiefs Association was asked to provide two representatives to serve on a Pequea Lane Training Center Advisory Group and he announced that Justin Bryan and Ken Barton have been appointed to those roles. President Brandt also reported that the Chiefs Assn. was asked by Director Pasquale from the Dept. of Public Safety to appoint members to the Haz Mat Advisory Group, to work with members of the Lancaster County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) to review Haz Mat protocols and deployment plan. Adrian Borry, Jason Farley, and William Nonnemacher have been appointed to fill these roles.

**Secretary Report** – Secretary Ober reported that the following fire companies have not paid their membership dues yet – Strasburg, New Danville, Lancaster Township, and Bainbridge.

**Treasurer's Report** – Director Bill Hall reported for Treasurer Rick Harrison, who was absent. Since the March meeting, \$175 in income from dues and \$18,600 in golf tournament income. Payments made included \$903.95 for food for the Cumberland Valley Firemen's Association training held at the Training Center in February; \$451.63 for website hosting fees; \$1,300 for gift cards for Telecommunicators Week; and \$1,297.78 for the Mission BBQ bill for food at the March Fire Chiefs Assn. meeting. Balance in the checking account is \$32,388.53 and \$93,838.76 in the Money Market account, for a total of \$126,227.29. Darryl Keiser made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Bryan Duquin, and it was approved.

**Law / Legislative** – No Report.

**PSP Fire Marshal** – No Report.

### LANCASTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY -

**Emergency Communications Center (ECC)** – Sara Sloat provided a CAD Update. They are engaged in a regional CAD project with York, Dauphin, and Cumberland Counties. Regionalization with the CAD will help share costs, ensure continuity, share resources, and is strongly encouraged by PEMA. Hexagon and Tyler are the two vendors being

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considered. The plan is to sign with the vendor in early 2026, with implementation 2-3 years after the contract is signed.

Brad Shenk gave an update on the Phase 2 Radio Update. January 2027 is still the goal to switch to Phase 2. Radio Maintenance Inc. has been approved as a vendor for Motorola programming, just waiting on the signed paperwork from them. Triangle Communications has been approved for Kenwood programming, also still waiting for the signed paperwork from them.

Brett Fassnacht gave ECC Operational Updates. He praised the recent collaboration with the Radio Advisory Committee (RAC) on multiple projects. Use of the “20-minute mark” is being expanded to include additional incident types, specifically, Haz Mat incidents, Gas Leaks, and Technical Rescue incidents. A Working Group has been established to look at responses for Penn Med 1, as well as updates to the Mass Casualty Incident plan. They are also working with the RAC to add a Duty Officer icon to calls on CAD. The Active Shooter Communication Plan has been changed to be named “Unified Command Plan” for more versatility across multiple incident types. A re-write of the fire dispatching procedures is in progress; now is the time to submit ideas for changes. Jason Greer (64), Phill Wright (76), and Phil Colvin (75) have volunteered to serve on this working group. All submissions will be discussed with the RAC. The development of the fire dispatching academy is also in progress. Jason Greer (64) and Tim Hoerner (41) will serve on this working group.

Lastly, Brett gave an update on Unit Designation changes that will take effect between July 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. Identified in the development of the dispatching academy has been the issue of dispatchers who are not involved in the fire service not having a full understanding of a given unit’s capabilities (this is 48% of the current fire dispatchers). The changes have been a collaborative effort between the ECC, the RAC, and the Standards Committee. This change will add some unit functions to the CAD and change the text of the unit designation. The impact on response plans should be minimal, if at all. The upcoming changes will include:

| <b>Current Designation</b>  | <b>New Designation</b> | <b>Associated CAD Function</b> |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Truck   | Tower or Ladder        | Truck                          |
| Tanker  | Pumper-Tanker          | Engine and Tanker              |
| Engine  | Telesquirt             | Engine and Telesquirt          |
| Engine  | Squad                  | Engine and Squad               |
| Boat  | Marine or Boat         | Marine or Boat                 |
| Squad   | Utility                | Utility                        |
| Special Unit  | UAS (Drone)            | UAS                            |
| Medic   | Medic or MICU          | Medic                          |
| Special Unit  | Rehab                  | Rehab                          |
| Towers, Ladders, Squads, and Rescues will also carry a function of “Special Service” to allow for cross-listing on run cards. |                        |                                |

**Radio Advisory Committee** – President Brandt allowed the RAC to go next due to the topics being discussed. Dean Gantz Jr. reported that the RAC supports the unit designation changes as shared by Brett. The committee believes these changes will make the unit designations clearer to everyone. Dean reported that recent wildfire incidents have shown a deficiency in box alarm resources for many fire companies. The ECC has requested that all companies should make sure that their Brush unit resource list includes a minimum of 10 Brush units. Lastly, Dean reported they are moving towards adding a Duty Officer or a Chief Officer on all incidents after that officer signs on with the ECC. The RAC favors this change; however, all companies need to understand that this will impact the redispatch

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timer currently embedded in the CAD. The CAD will interpret this as a company unit responding and reset the redispach timer, not eliminate it. This will then change the cover times for units failing to respond. Currently, the redispach and cover dispatch times are affected by how busy the ECC is answering 911 calls and dispatching new units.

Dean asked any chief who has input or questions to please reach out to him or any of the chiefs who serve on the RAC.

**Standards Committee** – President Brandt then allowed Josh Pfeiffer from the Standards Committee to go next, again, to keep the topic at hand continuing. To begin with, Josh announced that Brandon Brubaker (3) and Adam Ebersole (54) have been added to the Standards Committee. Josh expressed his pleasure in the make-up of the committee which includes chief officers from throughout the county. Josh then spoke on the unit designation name changes, specifically the Rescue-Engine unit to Squad. He explained the committee has been reviewing NFPA and FEMA resource typing descriptions and standards to best qualify resources to meet the new unit designations. Some units will have their unit designation changed with no need for reinspection, while others will be required to be inspected. Josh stated that further details will come out prior to implementation, including checklists from the committee.

**Emergency Management (EMA)** – No County EMA staff was present.

**Training Center** – No report – Todd and Ken were both absent.

**Lancaster County Fireman's Association** – Bryan Duquin is the new LCFCA representative to the Fire Chiefs Assn. Bryan gave a review of the Annual LCFA Meeting that was held on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The renovations to the LCFA Headquarters have been completed and an Open House was recently held. Bryan mentioned that the Columbia Borough Fire Department has requested to host the Convention next year. Lastly, the LCFA is looking at the future of the Pequea Lane Training Center. They are hoping to make the location a better utilized facility for not only fire training, but also police and EMS.

**Lancaster County Fire Police Association** – Merle Weaver, President of the Lancaster County Fire Police Association, gave an update on a few topics. The Fire Police Association now has a new logo that they recently unveiled. The Traffic Unit standard has been updated, and all Traffic Unit inspections will be completed by the Fire Police Association. They are working on the equipment requirements to be a fire police support unit (Utility). Lancaster County Fire Police Weekend will be held the weekend of June 20-22, beginning with a town-hall discussion on Friday night. Merle praised the collaboration of Lancaster County fire police units which were requested to assist at the recent mountain fires in Cumberland County.

**EAST Committee** – No report.

**Golf Tournament** – Secretary Ober read the report for Committee Chairman Kurt Gehman. This year's tournament on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Crossgates Golf Club is sold out. If you registered a team but not the names, please submit the players' names as soon as possible. Help is needed on the day of the tournament, so anyone who is interested in helping at the tournament, please contact Kurt at [kgehman@ekmcconkey.com](mailto:kgehman@ekmcconkey.com) or at (717) 715-6043.

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**Leadership Development (Training) Committee** – The committee will be meeting soon.

**Unfinished Business** – None

**New Business** – None

**Open Discussion** – President Brandt advised that he will be seeking a few members to serve on a committee to review the current Bylaws and Constitution. Also, at the September meeting, an update on the Training Center Foundation will be presented, to familiarize the membership with the Foundation.

**Good of the Order** – None

**Roll Call** – Roll call showed 68 in attendance with (19) Fire Chiefs, (16) Deputy Chiefs, (13) Assistant Chiefs, (11) Past Chiefs and (9) Guests, representing 35 fire companies.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 7pm, at the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center.

With no other business, Duane Hagelgans made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Phil Colvin. The meeting was adjourned at 20:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Ober, Secretary  
Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Assn. Inc.  
June 22, 2025