

Minutes of the June 9, 2010
Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.
Quarterly Meeting at
Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center

Vice-President Rick Harrison called the meeting to order at 19:35 hours. Following the pledge of allegiance, Vice-President Harrison appointed Dave Gribble (4-8) as Sergeant-at-Arms.

Guests / Presentation – Several employees from Compleat Restoration, including Rachel Westbrook and Bob Schmidt were present to share new information with the Chiefs about their business. They spoke of the referral opportunities for fire departments, which will result in a donation being made to the fire department, in the amounts of \$100 - \$1,500. They showed the necessity bags that they present to victims who must leave their homes. They also encouraged everyone to come out to the August 22nd Barnstormers game for the Guns and Hoses Night.

The next guest was Mike Elliott from Lancaster Financial Services who spoke on service award programs. The programs are funded by investments made by the fire department on behalf of its members. The program is a great retention tool for the fire department. If you wish to learn more about the program from Mike, he can be contacted by phone at 393-5700 or by email at elliottm@ae.cadaretgrant.com.

The last presentation was from Skip Gibson from ISO. They were present to speak about survey work being done in Lancaster County right now. There are changes being made to the fire department grading system and you can view them by going to their website at www.isomitigation.com.

Previous Minutes – Bill Gross (2-11) made a motion to accept the March 2010 minutes as written, seconded by Mike Elliott (2-7); motion passed.

Secretary Report – No report.

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Miller reported that there is \$1,907.02 in our checking account; \$10,873 in our Money Market account and \$37,200 in the PennVest account. There are deposits of \$7,700 for the Golf Tournament and expenses of \$592 for the CTC Awards to pay for the plaques and two cash awards. Mike Elliott (2-7) made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and to pay the bills; seconded by Steve Gribble (4-8) and passed.

Law and Legislative Report - Ernie Rojahn spoke about the changes that have been made to the Auditor General's Fireman's Relief's Funds. He advised us that Kevin Cochran has resigned as the United States Fire Administrator. Governor Rendell has signed a new law that allows the sale of homemade baked goods in fire stations. There is a House Bill that is currently in the State Senate that allows for Cancer Presumption for Pennsylvania Firefighters. Lastly, Ernie spoke on the continued efforts of the residential sprinklers law and the issues surrounding it.

Fire Marshal – No report.

Communications - Director Mike Weaver spoke on the new radio system. WGAL has backed off on its stance to take the available radio frequencies from the County in the spirit of supporting the public safety personnel. WGAL's engineers are working with the County to find an alternative. The County will be meeting with the FCC, Homeland Security and the media to review options. The RFP is complete on the legal side of the issue; looking at 800 / 700 MHz system, but still possible to go back to UHF.

Director Weaver also has Mobile Command Vehicle Deployment Reference Guides for every fire department which lists the features available for the incident commanders and what is needed if they are called.

EMA – Randy Gockley spoke about the South Central Task Force's \$422,000 contract to develop a mass notification system. Currently, they are trying to set up a public media promotional campaign to help explain it. The "South Central Alert" will include public phone numbers and can have cell phone numbers and email addresses added to it. This system can also be used for local level emergencies. Randy feels this will be a great tool for quickly getting the word out for localized events.

Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center – Craig Elmer reported that the LCFA has donated a forcible entry simulator that will be located at the training center. The cost was approximately \$7,300 and the goal is to make it portable in order to bring it to the fire stations for training classes.

They are working with the LCFA to create policies and procedures for the new Class A burn building at Pequea Lane.

There have been only three classes cancelled so far in 2010.

Craig and Jim are seeking feedback for the 2011 Catalog of classes by September 1st.

They are working to group Firefighter 1 with the Delmar / Essentials programs.

They are working to have a Driver / Pump Operator pilot program in 2011, with a 48 hour prep class.

There is a need for 2.5 inch nozzles to be donated.

Craig spoke about an idea to provide coaching / assistance for the certification application process.

LCFA – The new Class A burn building has been constructed, completing Phase 1 of the project. The second phase, the installation of a 150,000 gallon cistern, drafting area and hydrants should be done by the Fall.

South Central Task Force – Craig Elmer reported that they are starting the Fall / Winter schedule for ICS 300 & 400 classes. These classes need multi-disciplines to attend.

Apparatus Report – Steve Gribble reported that Engines 1-2-1 (also for Rescue), 4-10-2 (also for Tanker) and 1-6-2 (also for Rescue) and Truck 1-7 have been inspected.

Standards Committee – The committee did not meet since the last Chiefs Assn. meeting; no report.

Golf Tournament – The tournament will be Friday, July 16th at Fox Chase Golf Course. All Chiefs Club sponsors from the past are joining us again, plus one more.

Rescue Task Force – No report.

Unfinished Business - No report

New Business

Secretary Ober attended the Career and Technology Center's graduation ceremony and presented the two awards from the Chiefs Association. Alexander Kreiger from Elizabethtown received the Student of the Year Award and Seth Crouse from Manheim received the Award of Merit. Neither student was able to attend the Chiefs Association meeting.

The Chiefs Association also sponsored the Fire Dispatcher of the Year Award and Kasey Warfel was this year's recipient and received his plaque and cash award in April during National Telecommunicator's Week.

President Oettel has asked Chief Timothy Gregg from Lancaster City to help draft a mutual aid agreement policy to assist all fire departments in having a uniform policy. The goal is to have a draft copy at the September Chiefs Association meeting.

Good of the order

Randy Gockley spoke about the changes in Ephrata. Station 1-15 is merging into Station 1-6 and the Rescue will now be known as Rescue 1-6. Station 1-5 will now have the boats and the water rescue teams; they will have a total of four boats. Former Rescue 1-15 and Squad 1-6 are now for sale.

Roll Call - 25 departments were represented with 38 people in attendance.

17 Fire Chiefs, 3 Deputy Chiefs, 8 Assistant Chiefs, 8 Past Chiefs and 2 Guests

Officers present – First VP Harrison, 2nd VP Martin, Treasurer Miller, Secretary Ober and Director 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 September 8, 2010 at 19:30 hours.

Bill Gross (2-11) made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ray Rice (4-7); motion passed. Meeting ended at 21:15 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Ober
Secretary
Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.