

**LANCASTER COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**DECEMBER 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

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President Scott Ryno called the quarterly meeting of the Lancaster County Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. to order at 19:30 hours on December 9, 2015, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Guests / Presentations**

There were no guests present.

**Previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the September 2015 meeting were approved as presented.

**Secretary Report**

No report.

**Law / Legislative**

Ernie Rojahn stated that Governor Wolf signed a law that allows up to four years to file and report a Line of Duty Death (used to be 90 days). Legislation to raise the fees for phone lines to benefit 9-1-1 was approved. A new law was signed to impose a \$1,000 fine for any injury caused to an emergency services worker, \$5,000 fine for a major injury. Boot drives are now legal. The new Assistance to Firefighter Grant period is open Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> to Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>. Pennsylvania fire companies received \$26 million in 2014. Ernie encouraged local students to apply for the State Firemen's Association scholarship program. Pennsylvania Firemen's Relief funds were down 10% last year (a total of \$63 million).

Ernie shared information about the National Volunteer Fire Council website to access free recruitment tools and to post volunteer needs: [portal.nvfc.org](http://portal.nvfc.org).

**Fire Marshal**

No report; none present.

**LCWC / Communications**

Rick Harrison announced to everyone that he has given his resignation notice at LCWC, effective Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>. He is taking a job in the private sector, beginning in January. Ann Weller is moving up to fill Rick's position as the Operations Manager.

Radio System Update: Mike Weaver reported that they had to shut down the low-band patch due to console problems. They were uploading a fix this evening, hoping to have it fixed by tomorrow.

There is a P25 Programming and Purchasing Policy on the LCWC website. Everything you need to know to buy a radio and get it programmed.

LCWC received approval from the FCC for the reprogramming of the receiving frequencies. They will fix it zone by zone (tower sites). The goal is to be ready to program by the end of January and be completed by the end of February and then make the switch to the new frequencies. Relm radios do not need to be touched for the first round of programming (they just need to be turned off and on to "reboot"). Motorola radios will need to be touched both times. The second touch will clean up the radios, take out the old frequencies and change the code plugs.

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Mike asked for Ron and Keith and at least two additional chief officers to serve on the committee to meet with LCWC reps to come up with a list of changes for the new code plugs. There is no rush now to make the changes, but would like to vote on it at the March meeting.

Matt Shenk spoke on the topic of Simplex channels. Currently, we have analog Simplex channels. Police have digital Simplex. The Emergency Button only works on digital Simplex. He is doing research on the two systems and what could benefit the fire service the best. Also, LCWC Technicians are doing all of the programming of the radios, not Mannion, Moyer, etc.

Keith Eshelman reminded everyone to keep sending him or Ron Oettel emails with questions or suggestions about the radio system.

Rick Harrison spoke about the Incident Types that are given Ops Channels. Class 1 crashes will no longer be assigned an Ops Channel. Gas Leaks will now be assigned an Ops Channel. He encouraged everyone to continue to use your private channel as much as possible, or your municipal channel.

**Lancaster County Emergency Management**

Randy Gockley reported on the county's preparedness for the Avian Flu. Currently there are no Avian Flu cases in the United States. Randy advised every one of the online video to watch concerning active shooter situations and the "Run-Hide-Fight" concept.

**Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center**

Craig Elmer reported that they are working on addressing security concerns at LCPSTC and how they can make sure all guests are protected. Craig reported on the success of the fire academy and now there will be a fire police academy.

Dave Gribble resigned but stayed on until the Thanksgiving holiday to help with the transition. Todd Kirkpatrick has been hired to replace Dave as the Fire Services Training Coordinator. His first day will be January 11<sup>th</sup>. Dave's email will no longer be active, so continue to contact Craig if you have anything related to fire training. Once Todd begins, his email will be forwarded to everyone.

**Lancaster County Fireman's Association**

No report.

**South Central Terrorism Task Force**

No Report

**Apparatus Reviews**

Truck 43 and Brush 59 were reviewed.

**Standards Committee**

No Report

**Golf Committee**

This year's tournament will be Friday, July 22, 2016. Because of Rick's resignation from LCWC, he asked for someone to step up to take over as the Chairman of the Golf Committee. He will continue to help, but he will not have time to lead it anymore.

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**EAST Committee**

One American flag was used this past week for a local funeral.

**Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business.

**New Business**

No new business.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Rick Harrison reported \$63,364.54 in the savings account and \$15,242.27 in the checking account, for a total of \$78,606.81. Two bills were paid, \$250 to LCPSTC for food for the last meeting and \$365 for the Officer Bonding.

**Good of the Order**

No Report.

**Roll Call**

Roll call showed (69) in attendance with (30) Fire Chiefs, (11) Deputy Chiefs, (13) Assistant Chiefs, (7) Past Chiefs and (8) Guests, representing 46 fire departments.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 19:30 hours at the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Ober

Secretary

Lancaster County Fire Chief's Association, Inc.