

Columbia County Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.
General Meeting Minutes 3/16/10

Meeting called to order at 19:34, Sheline presiding.

Philmont Chief Chris Carlsen welcomed the membership.

Motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, VanDeusen/Rector – carried.

Treasurer Russ Wheeler presented two reports: one for the February BOD meeting which was cancelled due to severe winter weather and one for the Philmont General Meeting. Motion to accept both reports, Hunt/Engel – carried. Copies of both reports are attached to these minutes.

Coordinator's Report: Jim VanDeusen said that the fire school schedule for the year has been set. FFI will be starting April 20 in Niverville and April 6 in Hudson at the main station. Up to 10 extra people may attend the HazMat Ops segments of these classes but they must preregister. HazMat Ops classes will also be held in Stottville starting May 3rd and in Kinderhook June 2nd. The course takes 5 nights. FF Survival starts April 14th in Copake and May 18th in Spencertown. 23 students just completed Intro to Fire Officer in E Chatham. 18 students in the AOEV class will graduate tomorrow. The current plan for the new Fire Police School is for HazMat 1st Responder to be a prerequisite and students must be sworn in before attending. There will be a test after 7 weeks of classes. Jim announced that there will be a full battalion meeting in Chatham on May 17th. He has lined up a variety of good presentations including one on Accountability. Jim said that it appears that the State is moving forward on consolidating all emergency service units under one Homeland Security Agency, perhaps in April. It is unclear what effect this may have on the OFPC budget. Jim reported that progress is being made on the new high band radio system. He thinks the final new system will be functioning in about 3 years.

Education Committee: Ray Telucci of 1st on Scene gave a presentation on the Fit 5 fire suppression device.

C&O: No report.

HazMat: Jim VanDeusen said that 7 team members attended the recent challenge event at the Academy and came in 2nd by a one point margin.

Banquet Committee: Bill Hunt said that 65 tickets have been sold for the banquet next Saturday at Churchtown.

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Fire Safety & Education Committee: Dave Goold said there has been one application for using the trailer so far this season. Mark Sheline said the Committee needs to get together to assess the needs of the program. Russ Wheeler pointed out that the program is very low on funds and will soon not be able to meet its fixed costs.

Legislative Committee: Mark Sheline said that presently there is not much happening with legislation.

Fair Committee: Mike Layman from Mellenville will be helping with the Fair Booth.

Bills: \$3.45 to Ed Goldfrank for a get well card. Philmont donated the evening's food. Motion to pay the bills, Goold/Engel – carried.

Old Business: The final price for polo shirts will be \$15.00 each. Pre-payment is required with the order. There will be a sign-up sheet on the front table after the meeting. Acting Secretary Goldfrank reminded members that we need a new full time secretary. Bill Hunt requested a list of committee assignments. Mark Sheline has been working on the list.

New Business: Mike Layman asked if the Association would be interested in allowing smaller companies to use its 501(C)(3) status in their fund drives for a fee for some kind of pass through of donations. Russ Wheeler will check on the legality of such an arrangement.

Good of the association: Bill Hunt said that tonight is the last chance to buy tickets for the banquet. VanDeusen/Engel moved that the Secretary dedicate one blank page of the minutes to the memory of Past President Charlie Rothmell – carried.

Motion to adjourn at 21:05, B Wheeler/B Fischer – carried.

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**This page is dedicated to the memory of
Past President Charlie Rothmel**