

Columbia County Fire Chiefs' Association  
General Meeting            May 18, 2021            19:30

Meeting was called to order by the President, Wally Engel.  
Members were welcomed to the West Ghent Fire Station by  
Columbia County Fire Coordinator, George Keeler.

Minutes: A motion to accept the reading of the previous General meeting  
Gregg Gilliland/Gary Mazzacano - Carried.

FAB: Gary Mazzacano stated a new project is starting with the cooperation of  
the Coordinators' Office to recruit & retain membership. Letters will be sent to  
all chiefs. Photos of firefighters will be made into posters, fliers will be  
circulated, & possibly billboard advertising will be used. Interested individuals  
should apply on line.

The Advisory Board thanks the County Coordinators for all their help with the  
new Facility.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Christine Hasse, a copy is attached to these  
minutes. AB Shaw Ladies' Auxiliary donated \$50 to the Burned-Out-Victims  
Fund in honor of the Jim & Wanda Van Deusen.

Christine stated she continues to receive statements from the close Berkshire  
bank account. Gregg will resolve the problem.

Motion to accept the report Gregg Gilliland/Tom Shumsky - Carried.

Coordinator's Report: per George Keeler

Our office responded to the following calls for the first quarter of 2021:

19 Structure type fires

5 Multiple agency brush fires

2 HazMat stand by and 1 response

2 C & O calls and 1 assist from OFPC at a fatal fire investigation

Training Facility updates:

Classes completed to date:

HMFRO refresher

Survival/Fast Class

Apparatus Operator Pumper

Ongoing class for CCSO five days per week

Ongoing BEFO

1 Saturday class by EMS office

Current schedule includes HMFRO, Emergency Vehicles Operator, and IFO

April training hours were 1550 man hours

YTD approximately 2700 man hours

Expect to have a scheduling meeting in June for the next semester of courses.

Fire Tower props will be turned over to us officially on May 19.

Work continues on interior and stand by generator for facility.

We will be reaching out to Battalions to assist in constructing a mask confidence maze for training programs in the next month or so.

LMS training on May 17 at 7pm via Webex.

Fast Team development:

Fine tuning policy, team requirements and dispatching protocols.

Have acquired SCBA's and spare bottles working on other equipment needs.

Expect to be reaching out to all department chiefs for an estimate on the number of

Members interested in being on the teams.

Membership: Collin Brown of Clermont and Mark Taylor of Greenport attended the meeting.

Publicity: Evan Tompkins of Clermont was presented with the Scholarship award before the meeting. A photo will appear in the Register Star.

Barbara Fisher stated departments can send photos and other info to her to be shared with the Mohawk-Hudson and Hudson Valley regions.

Burned-Out-Victims Fund: Wally will acquire 5 gift cards to replenish the ones distributed in Philmont.

Fire Safety and Training: Ben Wheeler stated that an inspection of the trailers needs to be done to determine what repairs are needed.

Education & Training: Fresh ideas are needed for the continuation of training at general meetings.

Sunshine: Russell Wheeler has greatly improved and Bill Hunt continues his improvement with physical therapy.

CCVFA: Laura Foster stated there will be a banquet in the fall.

The By-laws have been revised, the positions of 2nd Vice President and 1 Director have been eliminated.

The convention will be in Stuyvesant Falls and the yearbook is being assembled by Philmont Fire Company.

Gary Grimes of Hoysradt Hose has withdrawn from the Association which leaves the Director for the year 2026 open.

At the recent Columbia County Fire Chiefs Association meeting we presented a check to our scholarship winner Evan Tompkins of the Clermont Fire Company. Both CCFVA and CCFCA contribute to this annual award given to a volunteer firefighter in Columbia County attending college. Just a small token to give back to those who volunteer. CCFCA Committee Member Ben Wheeler, CCVFA Secretary/Past President Laura Foster, Clermont Fire Chief Collin Brown, CCFCA President Wally Engel, Firefighter Evan Tompkins, CCVFA President Tim Trowbridge and CCVFA Director Mark Taylor. Photo credit Greenport Assistant Fire Chief Tom Shumsky.

Communications: AB Shaw Ladies Auxiliary in 2020 donated \$50.00 to the Burned-Out-Victims Fund in memory of Jim & Wanda Van Deusen.

CCVFA stated our ½ of the Fire Safety costs is \$915.34.

AB Shaw Ladies Auxiliary also donated \$50.00 to the Burned-Out-Victims Fund in memory of Jim & Wanda Van Deusen for the year 2021.

Old Business: A motion by Ben Wheeler and second by Laura Foster to pay CCFVA \$250 for our ½ of the Scholarship Fund. - Carried.

New Business: Bob Adriance made a motion to purchase \$50.00 of annual raffle tickets from CCFVA second by Laura Foster - Carried.

Gary Massacano asked for a donation toward the recruitment project. Motion by Bob Adriance to donate \$500.00 second by Ben Wheeler - Carried.

Wally Engel said anyone who wants to order a sweatshirt, hoodie, or t-shirt with Chief's insignia see him.

Next Directors' meeting Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> location to be determined.

Next General meeting Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> location to be determined.

Motion to Adjourn Gregg Gilliland/Gary Mazzacano - Carried.

21:15

Secretary,  
Irene Huston