

COLUMBIA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

85 Industrial Tract, Hudson, New York 12534

*****Unapproved*****

The October 16, 2013 Columbia County Fire Advisory Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Mazzacano at 7:00pm with the following people answering roll call:

Gary Mazzacano, Battal 1&2, Chairman
Chairman
Paul Pratt, Battal 4 & 5

Wally Engel, CCFCA, Vice-
Joseph H. Loeffler, CCVFA

Thomas Rector, CCVFA
John Howe, Fire Coordinator
Rob Lopez, 911 Administrator
Mgmt.
Janet Shumsky, Secretary

James MacArthur, CCVFA
James VanDeusen, CCFCA
Paul D'Onofrio, CC Emergency

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2013 meeting was made by Paul Pratt and 2nd by James VanDeusen. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

Letter from Fire Coordinator John Howe asking the CCFAB to support him for the position of Fire Coordinator for another two year term.

Fire Coordinator's Report:

Fire Coordinator John Howe gave the following report:

Paul D'Onofrio and Joe Loeffler will be attending a HazMat Leadership program on October 18th and 19th.

The Fire Coordinator's Office has responded to 16 multiple alarm incidents requiring 4 C&O activations and 3 HazMat dispatches since the July meeting.

Of note, to date there have been 7 HazMat requests so far this year.

Year to date there have been 21 fire schools completed, with 356 students graduating representing 8783 student hours. That is 1430 hours ahead of last year at this time.

There are currently 4 fire schools running all of which are near or at capacity.

Instructors Kenny and Stelling are currently at the Fire Academy receiving additional certifications.

Will be soliciting resumes for the two vacant County Instructor positions after the upcoming Battalion meetings.

Battalion meetings are scheduled for October 28th in Chatham and for Battalions 4 and 5 and October 29th in Germantown for Battalions 2 and 3. In addition to our regular business, we will have a short presentation from OFPC on group homes.

Rob Lopez is currently drafting an RFP for a FY11 HazMat grant we received for \$53,000 to hire a consultant (agency) to perform CAMEO data collection for Columbia and Greene counties to enter datasets into CAMEO database.

Instructor's Report:

Report given under Fire Coordinator's report.

EMS Coordinator's Report:

No report received.

Emergency Management Report:

ICS 300 class to begin on November 4th, 6th and 7th from 8am – 4pm at the Public Safety Building.

911 Center:

Rob Lopez reported the following information:

Olana Partnership and Scenic Hudson filed a Section 106A against the Egers so they are still in legal proceedings.

Radio Committee met a few times and discussed radio frequencies and policies and procedures for radios. The committee will continue to have regular meetings.

Copake tower shelter has been ordered and shelter site bid is due back tomorrow. The microwave for this tower has been ordered already.

The radio frequencies are close to being gotten and they continue to work toward securing them.

HazMat Team:

Report given under Fire Coordinator's report.

Cause and Origin Team:

Report given under Fire Coordinator's report.

Supervisor's report:

Gary Mazzacano reported that the procedures for the selection of the Fire Coordinator has been given to the County Attorney for his opinion.

Old / Unfinished Business:

John Howe updated Chairman Mazzacano on the classrooms out at the Philmont training tower site. Working to put electric in the building. Waiting to see what the plans are with the Pine Haven building.

New Business:

Chairman Mazzacano asked John Howe about the Worker's Compensation process when a firefighter is injured. John Howe explained that usually the paperwork is completed through the Kleeber agency which is forwarded to the County Treasurer's Office who then forwards it to Buffalo. Gary expressed concern that there are usually no updates given once someone receives Worker's Compensation and when monies stop being received by the firefighter once they are cleared to come back. This will be something that will have to be kept watch of by the Fire Chiefs and Kleebers.

John Howe and Rob Lopez met with the CC Board of Supervisors back in July to discuss and update the radio issues for emergency services. A couple different projects were put together in a package and presented to the Board of Supervisors who approved to purchase radios. John and Rob will provide more information as finalization occurs.

Asked the Secretary to send a get well card to James Briscoe to wish him a speedy recovery.

Motion made by Joseph Loeffler and 2nd by James VanDeusen to send a letter of support for John Howe as Fire Coordinator for two years. Motion carried.

Asked the Secretary to send a letter to Roy Brown thanking him for his time on the Fire Advisory Board.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15th, 2014 at 7:00pm at Public Safety Building, Industrial Tract, Hudson.

Adjournment:

With no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was made by Wally Engel and 2nd by Tom Rector. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Shumsky
Columbia County Fire Advisory Board