

Columbia County Fire Chief's Association

General Meeting March 18, 2014

Meeting was brought to order by President: Mark Sheline.

Members were welcomed by Dick Howard of the Philmont Fire Company.

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Bill Hunt/Tom Rector to accept the reading of the previous general meeting minutes – Carried.

December Directors' meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, therefore there are no minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Daryl Garafalo/Bill Hunt to accept the treasurers' reports as read by Russ Wheeler – Carried. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

Coordinator's Report: John Howe state: Since the last meeting in February the Coordinators Office has attended 14 meetings and has been present at 4 incidents, requiring one C&O investigation. Schools for the first half of 2014 have been posted and are filling quickly. We have been working with the Columbia County Sheriff on developing an Active Shooter course for first responders. We hope to roll this program out by June 1st. To Date 5 classes have been completed with 85 students attending for a total of 879 student hours. I will be moving the name of Melissa Eigenbrodt forward at the next Public Safety Committee meeting to fill one of the two vacant County Fire Instructor positions.

Our program to compile Hazardous Material data from all the businesses in the county is moving along. We have had three meetings with Needham Risk Management, the contractor on the project and with Greene County. So far the results are encouraging. The assessment of all the Fire Stations and Apparatus for new radio needs has been completed by Motorola Corp. We are expecting the final proposal soon.

The radio committee has been meeting on a regular basis and hope to have a draft of the new radio policy and procedure manual done soon for review of all the departments.

We expect to have radio shelter for the Copake Tower set in place today.

The Chief of Stockport Fire Co., representatives from the town of Stockport, National Grid, and I attended a meeting last week regarding concerns that both the Fire Co. and the Town had over a recent incident. The meeting was very productive with the Fire Co. and the Town pleased with National Grids response to these concerns.

**Treasurers' Report on a legal issue: Russ Wheeler gave a brief explanation of the current legal status concerning an inheritance. The proposed ruling should be Wednesday, March 19, 2014. Russ has recommended that when the money is received it should be split and deposited into 2 separate CD's (1-2 yr. and 1-3 yr.)
A motion by Wally Engel/Bill Hunt to follow Russ' recommendation. – Carried.**

Entertainment: Roger Scofield of OFPC presented the new SCBA Standards and a review of some programs and services OFPC has available.

Reports of Committees:

**Fire Safety & Prevention: There have been several requests for the safety trailer. See Dick Howard or Dave Goid.
Russ questioned when the registration is due.**

Legislative: Mark Sheline announced a Legislative Out-Reach Program, March 29th in Rosendale and April 12th. in Liberty, which will be a Fire Police Seminar.

Bills: There will be no bill for the night's refreshments per Dick Howard.

Communications: A request that we purchase an ad in Ancram's 75th Year Anniversary Booklet was received. A motion to purchase a ¼ page Black and White ad Wally Engel/Daryl Garafalo –Carried.

An acknowledgement and thank you from St. Peters' Hospice in memory of Foster Hettersheimer was received.

Unfinished Business: Mark stated that the remaining \$3,300 of the grant must be used by July of 2014. He is waiting for a price on smoke detectors. The Sun Shine Committee presented guidelines as follows: In the event of the death of a member, a \$50.00 contribution will be made to the organization of choice of the family. In All Other situations a card will be sent. Only under Special Circumstances will a decision by the membership take precedence. A motion to accept the guidelines as presented Bill Hunt/Michael Layman – Carried.

New Business: Bill Hunt has repeatedly reported no activity concerning the scholarship Fund. Therefore, he suggests we withdraw from the current scholarship Fund with Greene County and develop our own. The committee should get together and determine the process and the amount and present it to the membership. Motion to withdraw from the current Scholarship Fund, develop our own Fund, and set our own rules, Wally Engel/Jim Van Deusen – Carried.

An application for membership was received from Matthew Francschi. Motion to accepted the application Jim Van Deusen/Bill Hunt – Carried.

A get well card was signed by the members to be sent to George Hoover, who has been hospitalized.

50/50: Was won by Daryl Garafalo.

For the good of the Association: Ghent Ladies Auxiliary will be holding a breakfast Sunday, April 6th.

Next Directors' meeting: April 15th at the Vanderbuilt in Philmont.

Next General meeting: May 20th at the Mellenville Fire Station.

Adjournment: Motion by Tom Rector/Jim Van Deusen – Carried.

Secretary Irene Huston

