



## Suffolk County Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services Commission

PO Box 127 – Yaphank, NY 11980  
(631) 852-4851

### MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2014 MEETING

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Chairman Egan opened the meeting at 8:03 p.m., followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for sick and departed members: Loonie Gooch, Ex-Chief North Amityville Fire Company, Smithtown Fire Marshal and Fire Academy Instructor; Frank Obremski, Ex-Chief North Babylon Fire Company, Past President of the Town of Babylon Fire Chiefs' Council and Suffolk County Deputy Fire Coordinator FC-19; John Urevich, Riverhead Fire Department; Ex-Chief Donald Kondenar, Smithtown Fire Department; Ex-Captain Edward Hanson, Smithtown Fire Department; and Ex-Chief Ross Huffer, Nesconset Fire Department.

#### Correspondence: T. Portoghese

Correspondence received since last meeting:

- A memo from the Chief Deputy County Executive: mileage reimbursement rate for the use of personal vehicles to conduct County business has been decreased from 56.5 cents per mile to 56 cents effective January 1, 2014.

Correspondence sent since last meeting: Letter of support for the SAFER four year grant application to: Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and Congressmen Bishop, King and Israel.

List of courses offered are on the last page of these minutes.

#### Treasurer's Report: Chip Bancroft

The opening balance at SCNB was \$3085.78. Closing balance at SCNB is \$3335.78. FASNY balance is \$1000.86; total available balance with both accounts is \$4336.64. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. All in favor and no one opposing, the motion was carried.

#### Report of Officers: J. Egan / A. LaFerrera

Egan: we have a couple of new people here – introductions all around were made. New additions were approved by Legislature (Kyle Markott, Brookhaven Town Fire Chiefs' Council and Richard Rizzuti, Huntington Town Fire Chiefs' Council). We eliminated blanket excuses for absences. Pete Garypie was rejected as an appointee. We need a new representative. Chip Bancroft mentioned that his work schedule had been changed and he wasn't able to make meetings. Send a letter to all organizations telling them importance of these meetings. Motion made by J. Egan and seconded by R. Murphy. Please add Radio Committee to letter.

Commissioner's Report: J. Williams

- To clarify attendance, first red flag goes up when Terry submits attendance with resolution for those being re-nominated.
- We sent letters out but were not awarded new SAFER grant. It runs out next week and we are putting an appeal in but no decision has ever been reversed. No funding for Fall semester. All in program have received a letter. We are out of SAFER grant funding for at least the next year. Advised students that they can apply to FASNY for funding. We have spoken to congressional and SAFER people but money is getting tight. Our history is that we got one grant, then denied, then approved. Need to let your people know until at least Fall of 2015, we have no funding. County was funding the EMS side. There is some money left in grant that we will use.
- FRES finally got new vehicles in; capital projects will come up later.
- VEEB contract – I feel confident that we will have a contract shortly. I think we will walk away happy.
- Jay is at meeting at Town of Babylon due to a USCG presence. CG is not looking to patrol water but they have said the federal standard of SAR is that FDs or PD has a boat, they follow those guidelines. FD is in charge of firefighting; PD is in charge of crime scene; CG is in charge of the water. N. Brookhaven's issue is that they don't get the call. (PD issue).

Deputy Commissioner's Report: J. Jordan (absent)

No report.

Fire Marshal's Report: E. Springer (absent)

No report.

Fire Academy: E. Johnston

- Issues with buildings repaired, a lot of repairs have been done and moving in the right direction.
- FF1 only one failure and grades are very high.
- Babylon Chiefs wants to dedicate the F room to Lonnie Gooch.
- Haz Mat on-line refresher – meeting in Hauppauge in May. Hope to have it going in the summer.
- Had 281 fire police people in refresher class which is a new record.

J. Egan: There is no representative here tonight from the VEEB Board. This Commission is part of Joint Council and VEEB said we can go to any meeting.

Joint Council was given task to interview candidates; name picked and selected by Vollies and supported by Joint Council. VEEB did not choose candidate selected. It is the Vollies fight and Joint Council will support the Vollies, not for the individual but for the principal.

The person picked by VEEB, his department is not part of Vollies and has never gone to a meeting. There was an ad in Fire News regarding this issue.

E. Johnston – you will see a change in the VEEB.

R. Murphy – Jerry Owenburg got a letter telling him that he can go to next meeting. There was a vote that no representative from the Vollies will attend meeting. No representative from VEEB has attended a Vollies meeting since July 2013. We have to go to them. Selection process was

a slap in the face. We will pursue Legislative support not to approve VEEB candidate. A slide was given to Bob Holley to advertise for Firefighter of the Year.

N. Reilly – should set up a regional center for fire police refresher.  
There will be one in Riverhead.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Capt. J. Blosser

- The twin engine 145 is out of service for an inspection; should be back by Memorial Day.
- Capital budget – hoping our new helicopter gets consideration this year. Will be going to townships.
- Statement at Public Safety – want detectives to go to Arson calls, not just a firefighter.
- New helicopter is subsequent year. The longer we wait, the more expensive it will be and the less likely it is that we will have a new helicopter.

D. Silverman – is there anything we can do to help. We can send a letter, but I don't feel it's very helpful (J. Egan).

Blosser – this would be a good year to get a new one because it would be an older model and more affordable.

EMS: M. Masterton

- Many agencies already have narcotic licenses. There are only a few agencies that haven't started the process and don't have narcotics. 93% of ALS agencies either have it or are in the process of getting it.
- Many classes going on
- Citizen Narcan – regular citizens are getting training.
- Active Shooter classes are continuing.
- CPR – 681 people trained in 2 months. Those numbers are growing.

CFR discussion ensued.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman

- Met tonight; we did very well with Capital Programs: CAD system update; vehicle replacement; improvements to Fire Academy and EOC back-up center.

Joel - This was the largest capital budget that made it past the CE's office in the past 10 years. Majority of capital projects have been funded as submitted.

Bologna motioned that capital projects letter be sent, D. Silverman seconded; motion carried.

Arson Task Force: T. Crafts

No meeting; no report.

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly, Jr.

Some money for infrastructure. Spoke about back-up radio room with a lot of good discussion. Next meeting is June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

G. Miniutti: We will be exercising back-up center so we will be out of Coram.

There was a press event over expansion of digital 800. Within next couple of years should get system up and running.

Whole system needs to be refreshed.

Discussion ensued regarding Huntington Town and radio systems.

Buildings & Grounds: E. Tully

Haven't been over grounds but at budget meeting we were told that improvements have been made. Would like to get group together for next month (May) at 6:30pm.

Legislation & Standards: E. Tully

Election year this year; governor signed low-sap. Will pay federal tax on low-sap. Take 10% out right away.

Islip Town Districts can't get peace officer status for Fore Marshals, so it was recommended that we try to get a law passed that FMs become peace officers.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna

SCFM appointed a new alternate – Don Lynch.

Using 2006 code.

Residential sprinklers

EMS & REMSCO: A. LaFerrera

Missed meeting due to an emergency Board meeting.

Still looking for people for seats.

Burn Center:

We have to put it out there that we need a representative for the Burn Center. We will discuss further.

Recruitment & Retention: R. Murphy

- Commissioner covered most under his report with SAFER grant. Commercials, etc. were from that grant. If anyone needs anything we can still support that.
- Next meeting is in May.

Can we get more signs? (Egan) we are looking at OFPC's grant program, maybe that's something that this project can fall under.

- EMS does not fall under FASNY's grant program.

(Williams): Why hasn't EMS community put pressure on those that have authority to give funding?

Old Business:

Nothing.

New Business:

Motion: R. Murphy reimbursement for shirts; E. Tully seconded; motion carried.

Public Comment:

Working all next week on capital projects.

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by Bologna and seconded by T. Crafts. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Members Present	Members Excused	Staff Present	Guests Present
A. LaFerrera	N. Luparella	J. Williams	R. Knight
A. Bloom		E. Johnston	M. Masterton
V, Bologna		G. Miniutti	
R. Murphy		T. Portoghese	
C. Bancroft			
T. Crafts			
A. Sullo			
D. Carrigan			
E. Tully			
R. Rizzuti			
N. Reilly			
D. Silverman			
K. Markott			
J. Egan			
B. Prosek			
<b>Alternates Present</b>			
J. McDonough – Huntington Town Fire Chiefs'			

<b>NEXT MEETING TIME</b>	Wednesday, May 28, 2013 8:00 pm
<b>LOCATION</b>	SC Dept. FRES Library, Yaphank
<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	Ed Tully and Rich Rizzuti

**LIST OF COURSES OFFERED**

Course	Location	Dates	Days / Time
EMT Refresher	Babylon Village FD	3/1-5/15/14	Thurs, Sat & Tues
EMT Refresher RAPID	SC EMS Academy	3/31+6/19/14	Monday thru Friday
EMT Refresher RAPID	SC EMS Academy	3/10-5/15/14	Monday thru Friday
EMT Original	Bay Shore-Brightwaters Amb	1/24-7/17/14s	Wed / Fri / Sun
EMT Original	Southold FD	1/6-6/19/14	Mon / Wed / Sun
EMT Original	Miller Place FD	1/22-6/19/14	Sun & Wednesday
EMT-Paramedic Refresher	SC EMS Academy	3/11-5/15/14	Tues & Thursday
EMT Refresher	Commack Ambulance	3/18-6/19/14	Tues & Sunday
EMT Refresher	Hampton Bays Ambulance	3/10+5/15/14	Mon / Wed / Sat
EMT Refresher	East Brentwood FD	2/27-6/19/14	Tues & Thurs
EMT Basic Original	East Moriches Ambulance`	6/12-12/18/14	Thurs & Suns
Rapid Summer Daytime	SM EMS Academy	7/7-9/18/14	Mondays - Fridays