



Suffolk County Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services Commission
102 East Avenue – Yaphank, NY 11980
(631) 852-4851

MINUTES OF
June 24, 2020 MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE MEETING

Chairman Silverman opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence for sick and departed members:

Joseph Parente – 55 Year member Selden Fire Department

Report of Officers: D. Silverman in attendance / K. Markott

Chairman Silverman:

- Welcome everybody. Hopefully, this will be our last ZOOM meeting because I am hoping by September we will be back to having face to face meetings. I'm going to do the roll call. Carolyn is not on the meeting tonight, but this is recorded so she asked, as we have done in the past, I'm going to go through the roll call and just acknowledge if you are present or not. (See attendance below.) Just to remind everybody to keep your devices muted unless you need to talk because I am hearing some background noise coming in from somebody. Hope everybody is doing well. I know we are into the next phase as of today with more businesses opening up so, hopefully, we won't see any spikes with COVID. Again, I just want to acknowledge the great job that FRES has been doing in keeping the flow of information forthcoming during the crisis, all the emails, all the webinars that we have been participating in. The flow of information going back and forth has been great. The same with our partners over in the EMS division and the Police Department. I don't really have much to report on. Like I said, Carolyn is not checking in tonight. I don't believe she had any correspondence to be brought up tonight.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Chairman Silverman: Everybody should have gotten a copy of the May 27 meeting minutes that we had, the last ZOOM meeting. The only correction I have to make is that Anthony Sullo was present for the meeting so we will make sure that he is acknowledged in this month's minutes that you were part of last month's meeting. That good? Any additions or subtractions to the meeting minutes from last month if not I'll entertain a motion?

Reilly: The name Wallace Voegel from Mattituck was misspelled. If you could please correct that name in the deceased people. I'm sure Carolyn did it from her hearing and it was pretty good spelling from what she heard, but not the actual spelling that was there.

Chairman Silverman: Okay, I see it on here and we will make that correction for the minutes. Anybody else have any corrections and if not we will just make a motion please?

The minutes of the May 27, 2020 meeting were accepted by a motion from ? All in favor and no one opposing, the motion carried.

Correspondence:

No correspondence received or sent since last meeting

Treasurer's Report: F. Bonventre in attendance

Report presented by F. Bonventre.

The June statement has not been posted yet on the internet, so the Treasurer's report will stand as it was last month with an ending balance of \$ 5,587.90.

Chairman Silverman: I do have a check to either forward to you or try to get in the bank. We did receive a check from Shelter Island. How are we doing with the dues as far as who has paid up for this year and who hasn't paid up?

Bonventre: You only have about three checks. I haven't handed out any notices. I could throw them in the mail if you like.

Silverman: We are not meeting in the summer, so, maybe, if not mailing them out, maybe you could just email notices to the associations who are in arrears that haven't paid up for this year.

Bonventre: Okay, I will try.

Reilly: Can he tell us who they are now, so we can have the info?

Chairman Silverman: Frank, do you have a list to read off who hasn't paid?

Bonventre: Just give me a minute to look it up.

Reilly: I think that would be quicker than emailing or sending.

Bonventre: I have Suffolk Vollies, Suffolk Ambulance and what's the third one you just received Drew?

Chairman Silverman: Shelter Island is paid up.

Bonventre: Those are the only three received.

Chairman Silverman: So basically everybody else has not paid up.

Bonventre: Everybody else is out. I will see if I can find the email addresses. I will figure it out somehow.

Chairman Silverman: I know with the COVID crisis it's been obviously hard, but I know some of the councils may be meeting this month. I know Town of Huntington has a meeting set up for Monday.

Bonventre: Islip is trying to find a location outdoors. I will call you during the week and we will figure something out.

Chairman Silverman: Great, I appreciate it. On the Treasurer's Report, do we have a motion to accept? All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner's Report: J. Jordan (Please see attached submitted report below)

Commissioner's FRES Commission Report

June 24, 2020

Countywide Update

- The County Executive on his own accord has reached out to various stakeholders and groups throughout the county, and he may have spoken to several of you already, to discuss the state of the County's financial situation due to COVID-19.

Operations & Personnel

Provisional Employment Opportunities

- Two expected open postings for provisional employment opportunity within the department: Training Officer & Resources Management Officer
- Promoted Ken Kutner to Community Emergency Evacuation Coordinator
- Communications Trainees (x3) come off training on June 29.

Zoom Webinar Events for FD/EMS Agencies

- June 18 – Attributes of Leading (AoL) 2.0 Rollouts: Streamed webinar to Facebook for the first time and got good results, 61 registered and 55 attendees. Since then, it has logged nearly 600 views. We have also included integrated the recording and information across our sharepoint, website, mass email and secured text message systems.
- Next webinar, June 25 at 2 p.m. – What is the VAP and Why Should I Use it?
- Access: Zoom Meeting - Registration Required
https://suffolkny.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2mek50BOSqybdmhIByOPOQ

Equipment

- MERV repaired and upgraded (\$21,196)
- MCU 1 repaired and upgraded (\$7,306.88)
- Bottle trailer currently being tested bi-weekly to assure readiness
- All required inspections and servicing is being maintained as needed during this event.
- We've started to receive a number of grant purchased pieces of deployable equipment as we build out our communications unit: portable/deployable repeaters, portable interoperable gateways, and microwave units.

OEM**OEM Report – COVID-19 Response Continues**

- Suffolk EOC operating at Level 3 from 08:00-16:00hrs Monday through Friday and 08:00-12:00 hrs. Saturday and Sunday.
- Saturday 6/20 marked the 100th day of EOC activation during the COVID-19 emergency event.
- ESF 3, ESF 5, ESF 7, ESF 8, ESF13, and SC Sheriffs representatives staffing the EOC.
- FRES Supply POD still operating 08:00-15:00hrs. 7days/week
- The FRES POD has distributed over 6 million pcs of PPE year-to-date.
- To date over 283.1K people tested in Suffolk County
14.5 percent or over 41K of those tested positive for COVID-19.
- Suffolk County Confirmed Cases-40,908; Deaths 1,964.
- SC Health continues to use contact tracing as containment strategy.

- Suffolk is currently in Phase 2 of business reopening and is on track to enter Phase 3 on Wednesday June 24.

Communications/IT

COVID19 Response

- Continuing to support OEM's COVID-19 effort through technical support of the EOC, POD, etc.
- We continue to appreciate and work with the increased number of ambulance agencies that are communicating regularly with MEDCOM. Since the start of the pandemic we have seen a doubling in the amount of transmissions through MEDCOM.
- The center continues to operate at Pandemic Level 1 response, in alignment of the field responders viral triage protocol.

Communications/IT

- ASAP to PSAP is operational and FRES is now electronically processing calls for its primary agencies. Turnaround time on these calls has gone from an average of 11/2 -2 minutes to 15- 30 seconds.
- In conjunction with the ASAP project we have offered out **our I/Netviewer** product to these primary agencies so they can monitor ALL their FRES processed events (not only ASAP) and it also allows them to communicate electronically back and forth with the ALARMCO directly. To date: West Sayville, Greenlawn, and Dix Hills have signed on.
- Last Wednesday, June 17th the first step in restoring our **text to 911** system occurred, without incident. This Wednesday the second and final step should bring the service back online.
- Certified letters were sent to all **PAGE WEST** agencies, those west of our Yaphank headquarters reminding them of our intention to abandon the low band system on the west end of the county by years' end. We will work with any agency to insure that FRES can provide primary or back up dispatching services for any agency interested.
 - 5th pct and st Charles are starting back up (covid delayed)
- We are going through the FCC licensing process for a more viable **PAGE EAST** frequency. We have reached an agreement with NYS EMS for a locally unused UHF repeater pair.
 - Hampton Park/ITT is set to break ground on the tower there
 - Montauk GATR site is moving forward
 - Greenport water tower, still under negotiations
- **VHF (MEDCOM)** paging upgrade and Coram refresh POs were executed and in the pipeline to start design review.
- **Coram backup center** – fail over telephone system installed and operational
- TBAND - HR 5928 "The first responder Act of 2020" proposed by Congressman Walden (OH) appears dead in the water. This was the change that would have repealed TBAND

legislation and put some considerable limitations on the use of 911 funds by the state. It was not likely, and remains unlikely to pass.

- HR6800 – The Hero's act of 2020 which makes emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes had the TBAND repeal buried in it. This shows a 94% chance of passing based on GOVTRAK, It passed the House of Representatives and was last taken up by the Senate committee on housing, community development, and insurance on June 10th. There is no updated status available.

Fire Marshal

All fire marshals are still actively involved in operations addressing the COVID-19 event.

FELB:

- FELB has conducted 2 meeting via zoom. Next meeting is going to be held at the SCFA and will practice all safety directives of the CDC. FELB has elected Al Duspiva of A's Sheet Metal and Fire Safety Inc. as the new Industry Representative to the FELB board. He replaces charter member Ken Hahn of Ken-Mar Fire Extinguishers. Next week the board will begin working on all license and business renewals as well as all new applications. All licenses/Registrations are still in effect until further notice.

Inspections:

- County building inspections are expected to resume shortly. Currently all county parks are in the process of being inspected as they are opening up.

Training and Exercises:

- USAR team performed logistic and maintenance on all water assets (Jet Ski, Boat and Dry Suits) and repaired a damaged switch on one of the boat motors.
- The Fire Marshals will be assisting the SC Sheriff's Office again this year with Operation Shield in July and Aug.
- FM Fischer will be going upstate for his Fire Investigator training from July 20-31
- FM Martinez will be attending K9 recertification in August.

Planning and Meetings:

- FMASCO Meeting cancelled
- The county marshals have resumed their weekly meetings, as possible, while continuing COVID-19 work.
- 6/2 – FELB Executive session to recommend new industry representative. (zoom)
- 6/18 – FELB regular meeting (zoom)

- 6/25 – USAR meeting at SCFA. All safety guidelines will be adhered to.

Responses:

- Routine alarm responses handled.
- CO emergency at the 3rd precinct handled by FM Peterson
- FM Martinez assisted in Equine Evacuation plan for West Hills Park.

Grants and Contracts:

- Radiological calibration unit has been set up and training was delivered to the FM's on Sat June 20th. This will allow us to save money by calibrating our own radiological equipment and can assist other agencies as needed.
- Trailer remains slated to have new security door installed as well as window bars.

Fire Academy

- Deputy Commissioner Gehres moving forward will serve as the Department's day-to-day liaison to the Fire Academy to ensure continuous operations.

Deputy Commissioner's Report: A. Gehres in attendance.**Deputy Commissioner Gehres:**

- **Countywide update:** As you know the County is in a fiscal crisis due to COVID-19. They are looking for ways to try to get the budget back into balance. It has been reported that nothing is off the table. We are hoping that we won't see any cuts more than we have already, but like I said, we are not sure where this is all going to play out to.
- **Operations and Personnel:** We have just sent out for a training officer and a resource management officer employment opportunity. If you know anyone interested in working for the County Department of FRES, please have them go to the website and fill out the appropriate paperwork. We had an internal promotion. Ken Kutner was promoted to Community Emergency Evacuation Coordinator and once we are able to get his line freed up for hiring, we will be posting that one. The Communications Division has three trainees scheduled to come off probation on the 29th of this month. They will be full members then. During the last ZOOM webinar, Attributes to Leading, they went with the AOL format as well and they had really good results with sixty one registering and fifty five attendees with nearly 600 views of the event. We will be exploring that for future things. Next one will be tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. As far as equipment, the MERV and MCU received required repairs and upgrades that they needed. Bottle Trailer is being tested bi-weekly now to ensure its readiness if needed to be deployed to the field. All required inspections and servicing is being maintained during the COVID event and we started to receive a number of grant purchased pieces of deployable equipment and building out our communications unit with portable/deployable repeaters, portable

interoperable gateways and microwave units which will be available shortly for deployment.

- **OEM:** OEM continues to run the EOC at a Level 3. The POD is still operating seven days a week and has distributed over six million pieces of PPE throughout all the competencies in the County including small businesses. EOC will be changing hours slightly as we scale back a little, but still running POD seven days a week. So far in the County they have 40,908 confirmed cases and decedents are at 1,963 to date. SC Health continues to use contract tracing as a containment strategy. We entered Phase 3 of the reoccupation today in Suffolk County.
- **Communications/IT:** We continue to work to increase the number of ambulance agencies that are communicating regularly with MEDCOM. Since the start of the pandemic we have seen a doubling in the amount of transmissions through MEDCOM which is a positive move. The center continues to operate at a Pandemic Level 1 response, in alignment with field responders and viral triage protocols. The ASAP and PSAP is operational at FRES and is now electronically processing calls for primary agencies. The turnaround time for these calls has gone from an average of two minutes to about 30 seconds. Restored the text to 911 and should be back online today. That's what caused the communications failure a couple of weeks ago. The company was able to reprogram the system and get that back online. Certified letters were sent to all Page West agencies, those west of our Yaphank headquarters reminding them of our intention to abandon the low band system on the west end of the County by years end. Hoping they take the appropriate steps to ensure they will have flawless communication. We are going through the FCC licensing process for a more viable Page East frequency and we have reached an agreement with NYS EMS for a locally unused UHF repeater pair. VHF Medcom paging upgrade and Coram refresh POs were executed and in the process of developing a new pipeline to start the review. Coram backup center has had telephone issues over the years and have installed a new operational phone system that they are undergoing training on now.
- **Fire Marshals:** All fire marshals are still actively involved in operations addressing the COVID-19 event. FELB has conducted two meetings via ZOOM. The next meeting will be held at the Fire Academy and will practice all the safety directives of the CDC. County building inspections are expected to resume shortly. Currently all County parks are in the process of being inspected to make sure they are operational and safe for opening day. USAR team performed logistic and maintenance on all water assets and repaired a damaged switch to one of the boat motors to get that back into service. The fire marshals will be assisting the SC Sheriff's Office again this year with Operations Shield in July and August.
- **Fire Academy:** I will be overseeing the Fire Academy now and working with the good people over there to ensure we have flawless training for the members of the departments in Suffolk County. Working on several new initiatives to enhance that. One of them is going to be involving SC EMS where they are going to have a cohesive approach to fire operations and extractions where fire units and EMS units work simultaneously at building fires and car accidents disentanglements, so they have better line of communication for future operations which we think will improve patient outcome. Any questions?

Bologna: I have a question I've been hearing rumors and you mentioned about the County losing money, I guess because of the taxes. Do you plan on any layoffs? Have you heard of any layoffs?

Gehres: We have not been told anything about layoffs. As you have probably seen on the news, all the managerial positions raises that were scheduled for this year have

been, I guess, put on hold and there is a potential for next year's to be put on hold at this point.

Bologna: Alright second question. On the new dog replacement, I know they were going to work on that this year, but because of what's going on they are not.

Gehres: I have spoken to Chief Fire Marshal Don and we are on a list anticipating an answer in the near future for a possible dog to be delivered sometime in the fall of this year.

Bologna: Oh ok, that was sooner than I thought.

Gehres: It's basically up to the ATF now if they are going to fast track it and give us the dog or not.

Fire Marshal's Report: D. Lynch in attendance

Chief Fire Marshal Lynch:

- I think the DC covered pretty much everything. The only thing that wasn't touched on was that I called about seventy departments in the last 10 days to try and get the NIFA reporting up to date. We were woefully deficient in 2019. Honestly, a lot of the problems I saw was the fact that some of the departments thought their software company, be it Red Alert, SCM or whoever, were sending the report to the State. A lot of times what happened was they generated the report for the department, but the department needed to send it to the State. We have corrected about twenty two departments already. I'm in the homestretch with departments that are missing.

Deputy Commissioner Gehres: If you guys could reach out to the people that are not complying and help us that would be greatly appreciated.

Chairman Silverman: We would need to know who is not compliant. We can't go to department unless we know who is deficient.

Deputy Commissioner Gehres: I'm going to have Don work on that to get the information to you guys and, hopefully, you will be able to work on that.

Chairman Silverman: Don, you froze up in the middle. I don't know if you can still hear us or not. I lost Don. His picture disappeared. Like I said Al the Commission is willing to help through our delegates, but we need to know exactly what departments. We can't take a blanket approach on this if there are specific agencies. Chief Lynch, I see you are back up.

Chief Fire Marshal Lynch: Okay, I'm back, sorry about that. Not sure what you heard or didn't hear. If I have any problems with any of your agencies, I will reach out to you guys. It's not a problem with the agency. Most agencies believed this information made it to the State, but I've learned there are nuances and quirks. I've learned more about this system in the last two weeks than I care to know, but I think we are on a good track to get everything fixed. Any questions feel free to call me in the office. I'll be happy to let you know, maybe there are some departments you know. On July 1st that list is frozen now and we can't amend it for 2019. As you know it affects grants for the department, it affects grants for the town and, ultimately, the County. Moving forward, I will be staying a little bit more on top of this so I might start harassing the departments a little sooner than one week before the list is going to get locked out. Any questions?

Bologna: When does that have to be filed with the State?

Chief Fire Marshal Lynch: It needs to be filed, by, I would guess, by the end of this month, because on the 1st that list is frozen and done. I think, for instance, West Babylon had one month in 2019 that did not make it up to the State. That's usually a glitch. That's not them not doing it. I sent an email to Commissioner Manzi and hoping that can get fixed. I'm not singling out any department. Trust me, it was probably 75% of the departments missing one, two or, we had about twenty departments that had

zeroes for the entire year. It just never made it up there yet they did the reporting and we managed to fix it. Definitely, it's not the departments; it's the software and things like that.

Chief of Fire Rescue's Report: J. Vetter

OEM Report: E. Schneyer

Communications Report: G. Miniutti in attendance

Chief Miniutti:

- Report as reported

Fire Academy: R. Holley/E. Johnston

EMS: M. Masterson in attendance.

- Quick update: Throughout COVID, starting in January to current, my staff, I want to give a shout out to. With modifications to courses and spreading out practicals and all kinds of activities we had to do, we were able to successfully push through about 240 people from January to the end of last month which was about 5% of population so we were able to keep the agencies replenished with providers. I want to give my staff and the instructors a shout out. We were one of the few training centers in the State that continued to run. Second update I have is, First Bridge Course tested earlier this year. They all passed their NYS written. We have twenty new paramedics in Suffolk County thanks to the Bridge Course. Other Bridge Courses running are Cohort 2; will be testing later this month, Cohort 3; will test in September, and 4 will test in March of next year. Expect something on our website for the 5th Cohort of CCs to Medic Bridge class to be sometime in October of this year.
- CMEs: Quick update again. I know everyone has already been told this. We switch officially the end of the month and no longer using old forms only new. Everything is updated on the website. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out, but everything is on there.
- Wanted to cover a quick number on our system. We now have real numbers, so when we look at our credentialing through REMSCO, we have as of the beginning of this month, 16 CFRs credentialed, 3532 EMTs credentialed, 345 CCs credentialed and 695 paramedics credentialed. First time we have a real number of 4588 folks that answer all the alarms in the whole County. I know all the agencies are realizing that after COVID and expect a big push on recruitment and retention.
- COVID is still going. Can still find info on top of the web page. It says Infectious Disease Control/COVID. We are leaving everything up there. You can actually go back to Ebola ten years ago. That information is still up. That is a chronological posting that lists every policy, notification and education having to do with any of that stuff. Sometimes I get questions and I actually refer back to documents that are posted there. Any questions?

McConville: Can you go over those numbers slower? (Masterson repeated numbers and added that the 3532 EMTs included 900 Suffolk County Police EMTs.) Thank you Mike, I really appreciate it.

Chairman Silverman: I noticed Dr. Winslow sent an email out earlier this week I guess talking about inviting people to become voting or non-voting members of REMAC. Do you want to elaborate on that so the Commission knows what's going on with that?

Masterson: I think the email he sent out as Chairman of REMAC. They have half the

body that gets voted in for one year and half for two years. No application it's more of a resume. The email went out and it's listed on our website. All those go directly to Dr. Winslow. If you are interested on being on the REMAC Committee for non-voting members and doctors as well.

Chairman Silverman: I've also been reading notes from the upstate people, from Bureau of EMS regarding credentialing. There's going to be a delay in actually getting new cards out to people especially with the extension of the one year. Do you have further information on that?

Masterson: I thought we addressed this a while ago, but I will reiterate it again. So NYS is not in their offices so when students get a State exam they are taking it at a testing center and getting a temporary certificate that is valid that day. They should be mailed a new card. Unfortunately, the State is not back in their office. However, agencies can check the Health Commerce system to verify certification levels of providers. That is still on our email and our website as far as the process. I think I covered that three months ago and two months ago with agencies that would need assistance on getting onto the Health Commerce network for New York State. You can actually look up a provider's certification in lieu of a card and it is valid. Does that answer your question Drew?

Chairman Silverman: Yes, there was just some misinformation out there. I was still hearing from people saying, "Isn't the State supposed to be mailing us new cards or certificates?" I said, "I don't believe so, I believe there is going to be a centralized website where the agencies can check their personnel and it should be on the REMSCO website. So nothing has changed basically from what you reported two months ago.

Masterson: I have heard the same thing..."coming soon, coming soon." As it stands now, I know the Bureau is not in their offices. They are working from home and coming in for a couple hours a week, so they haven't been able to mail out cards. They expected within sixty days of their temporary card to be able to do that. But if a provider is unable to get a card, it's still valid to check through the New York State Health Commerce system for that certification. Once the Bureau is back they will be mailing certification cards. There was talk about a website, but I don't know if that has manifested at this point. We don't control that, that's the State, but I can tell you HSC is accurate. If a student passes, within two days, they are on that site.

SCPD – Special Patrol Bureau: Deputy Inspector Vincent Maronski in attendance

- The month of June, as you guys know, has been crazy throughout the Country, particularly in Suffolk County. Specifically, we've had over 150 protests throughout the County. It has slowed down greatly. Where we were looking at during the week, double digit numbers and on the weekend, I think one weekend we did 35 in one weekend, now we are down to maybe two a day. That's what it looks like for this weekend. Two Saturday, two Sunday and I think two tomorrow night. We couldn't have done it without everybody's help. Thank you very much. It's been greatly appreciated all the support we have had out there. So, if you can just pass that on to all your members. Regarding the helicopters, everything is operational. I know we are flying a lot of them, using the downlink with the protests going on. A couple of them are coming up on inspections, but they are all operational right now. Last thing to note is Dr. James Vosswinkel from Stony Brook is our new medical director for the Police Department. Any questions?

Chairman Silverman: Thank you; you guys did a great job. I know the protests put a lot of pressure on the Police Department. I happen to be kind of passing by the one that we had by the 2nd Precinct and the police officers over there did a tremendous job dealing with the protesters there. Everything went as smoothly as possible over there.

Deputy Inspector Maronski: Thank you very much. I'll pass that on to Inspector Scrima and the cops over there in the 2nd.

Chairman Silverman: Yes, absolutely. They did a great job, thank you.

Budget Committee: D. Silverman in attendance

- **Chairman Silverman:** I anticipate having a meeting possibly over the summer. I will let the Committee members know what's going on. It's obviously what the Deputy Commissioner talked about with the County fiscal situation with the COVID crisis. I know the County Executive Office has been reaching out, I think, to some of the associations. I know the Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs Association has a Zoom meeting set up with County Executive Office tomorrow night to specifically talk about these budgetary issues. I know I personally have a concern about keeping the training budgets intact for both the Fire Academy and EMS division obviously because training is always a priority, and of course, operational budgets too with the Department of FRES and Fire Academy and EMS division. It's all going to be dependent upon if the Federal government comes up with any money that will trickle down to New York State and then New York State will allocate it to the County so there are a couple of hurdles that hopefully, we will be able to get over so that we can keep things intact. Don't know what's going to happen yet. We've got a long way to go before things are determined and settled. I will certainly keep the Commission informed of that.

Arson Task Force: T. Duckham

Combined Radio Committee: N. Reilly in attendance

- **Reilly:** Mr. Chairman we haven't had a meeting. Chief Miniutti might have a report for tonight. Maybe we will try to set one up in July or whatever, but I don't have anything to report. Chief, do you have anything to bring to the attention of us?
Chief Miniutti: Actually, there's one thing that the Deputy Commissioner didn't mention. There was some movement on the T-Band. Bad news first; Resolution 5928 which was the First Responder Act of 2020 which was proposed by Congressman Walden. That was the one that had a whole bunch of stipulations regarding the State's use of 911 money attached to it. That one does not look like it's going to go anywhere. In terms of the good news, the T-Band Act repeal is part of HR 6800 which is the Heroes Act of 2020. That's the one that deals with providing lots of extra money to the first responder system based on the COVID response and it is buried in there. GovTrack does show a 94% chance that that bill will become law, not necessarily without amendment, but it was passed by the House of Representatives and it is currently sitting in the Committee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance at the Senate waiting for some movement. So there is some positive progress although no resolution yet.
Laferrera: Can you just repeat number HR?
Chief Miniutti: The House resolution that is not anticipated to pass is 5928 and the one that looks like it will go through is 6800.

Buildings & Grounds: E. Tully

Legislation & Standards: A. Laferrera in attendance

- **Laferrera:** In reference to LOSAP legislation; that was signed June 17 by Governor. All ready to go, so he signed it on June 17. I guess that's good news. It's very important. It's going to help out a lot of people I gather. Other than that, that's really the only priority I had with legislation unless I'm missing something that you might have heard of.

Bloom: I just want to verify about that legislation. I want to confirm that's the one numbered 8251, correct?

Laferrera: 8251A signed on June 17.

Bloom: Wonderful news, thank you.

McConville: Did this (?) that they made changes to. Does that affect the Fire Service in anyway? I've been hearing some chirping that it opens our books to people who can FOIL our membership and stuff like that. Do you know anything about that?

Laferrera: First I'm hearing of it Bobby.

McConville: Ok, just throwing it out there for you.

Laferrera: I'll keep my ears open, no problem.

McConville: I know, thank you.

Codes & Prevention: V. Bologna, Jr. in attendance

- **Bologna:** Everything had stopped around February. It's been quiet, no meetings. I asked my questions earlier.

REMSCO: B. Prosek

Burn Center: J. Coughlin

Recruitment & Retention: G. Turza in attendance

- Nothing to report
Chairman Silverman: I know we have the other ad hoc committee that we put together. I don't know if Chief Brown has checked in. That was regarding the fires out in Manorville and clearing of property. Does anybody have an update on that?
Turza: Nothing.
Silverman: Ok, I haven't heard anything either.

Suffolk Chiefs: J. Coughlin

Fire District Officers: J. Egan/E. Tully

Suffolk County Ambulance Chiefs : D. Silverman in attendance/B. Prosek

- **Chairman Silverman:** The only thing I have to report is that we have a ZOOM meeting with the County Exec's office scheduled tomorrow evening to discuss budget issues.

Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association: A. Sullo in attendance/R. McConville in attendance

- **Sullo:** They are cancelling the July meeting and everything from now until January 1st.
- **McConville:** I want to thank all the organizations, especially the one that Chief Laferrera is on about the fireworks. I was up in Troy last night. Troy, Albany, Utica are inundated upstate with fireworks. They cannot keep the fireworks in the stores and us folks, we fought that three, four years ago to keep fireworks out of Nassau and Suffolk County, and I just want to thank all the organizations because we told the folks upstate and around the State that they would eventually be inundated with fireworks and, as you can see, they are. I just want to thank all the associations that supported the Suffolk County Vologies and Districts and Chiefs and all the groups that fought the fireworks bill and a great job was done by all without a doubt.
Laferrera: Bobby, what do you want to tell them I told you so?

McConville: I was up in FASNY world yesterday and I don't want to get into FASNY world, but they think they are going to try to push for legislation to ban all fireworks because we think this is a good time to do that and yes, tell them, this is what happens when you don't listen to the fire service. Hopefully, something will come of that.

Laferrera: We all did it together.

McConville: Great job done by all.

Chief Fire Marshal Lynch: If I could just piggy back what Bob just said. New York City Fire Marshals arrested two guys in Staten Island with about 60 grand worth of fireworks they were getting ready to sell and I know a lot of vendors in Pennsylvania and what not have halved their prices because they weren't moving anything. People are going and buying twice as much as they would have. So be very careful while you're out there because I know there's been bulletins flying around from the ATF, various other agencies, saying that they expect the fireworks, and with the rioting or the protesting and some of the other things going on, it's going to be very difficult for the law enforcement agencies to stay on top of it. So I just encourage you and your departments be very, very careful out there, because you could see a lot more than normal.

Fire Marshals Association of Suffolk County: V. Bologna, Jr. in attendance

Township Chief Councils:

Babylon- A. Laferrera in attendance

- **Laferrera:** Thank God, everything has been quiet. Those two chiefs are, I would say, almost 100%. They are doing well.
- Chairman Silverman:** Excellent news.

Huntington- J. Hoffmann in attendance

- **Hoffmann:** Just got a little information; Michael Murphy Foundation is doing a night run on this Friday. It's going to start in Commack's substation, or actually it might be their headquarters, going from Commack to West Sayville, MacArthur Airport to Lake Ronkonkoma and then going to Calverton. I don't know what the logistics; someone just sent it to me. Guys in those different townships just be aware there's probably going to be a group of 20-30 guys running down the road. Otherwise, I would like to thank Chief Miniutti. You have had some communication in reference to one of our residents that likes to make phone calls. With a couple of jobs we have had in Huntington Manor, the coordinators in Suffolk County have been doing a great job. We really appreciate it, thank you.

Chairman Silverman: I believe you guys are definitely having a meeting Monday?

Hoffmann: Yes, one of our township departments has an outside area that they said they would host and we are actually going to meeting in person for a change.

Chairman Silverman: So that's going to be in Northport in the pit?

Hoffmann: Yes, Northport in the pit. Nobody is having their fairs.

Chairman Silverman: It will be nice to see everyone in person for a change

Hoffmann: Absolutely.

Islip- F. Bonventre in attendance

- Nothing to report

Smithtown- T. Duckham

Brookhaven: Vice Chairman K. Markott

Riverhead: L. Brown

Southampton- E. McGrath

Southold – N. Reilly in attendance

- Nothing to report

Chairman Silverman: Had that big bonfire though a couple weeks ago?

Reilly: We did, last week. Had the old school fire up there. No electricity, no gas, no anything there, just bought by somebody from the city, torched up or whatever, but, totally destroyed. No water supply up there, had to rely on tankers and whatever.

Chairman Silverman: I was listening to that operation on that Sunday afternoon. It sounded like it was very well organized.

Reilly: It was. Very well done by the chiefs.

East Hampton- G. Turza in attendance

- Turza: We are going to go back to meeting in person in July. No more Hollywood Squares thing.

Shelter Island: A. Bloom in attendance

- Rescue calls and fire calls are on average with all other years prior to this and the department will be meeting again outdoors, no food and everybody staying away from each other.

Chairman Silverman: At least that's a positive step forward.

Old Business: N/A

New Business:

- **Laferrera:** NYS Chiefs, on June 13, since our conference was cancelled, we did have an election of our new Executive Board and Directors and they were sworn in on ZOOM and, hopefully, we'll be able to do something for the new president in July up in Syracuse with a small gathering, but that was done on June 13 with the new Executive Board and Directors.

Chairman Silverman: I did see that email come through from The Bugle or whatever and I saw the photo of the new President and you have some new people in there and you have a new EMS liaison I guess also. So it sounds like you guys are moving forward even though it was via ZOOM.

Laferrera: Had to do something.

Chairman Silverman: Absolutely. Life has to go on.

Laferrera: Yes it does.

Chairman Silverman: Anything else?

Bologna: July and August there is no meeting, correct?

Chairman Silverman: Right, I was just about to say that. You took the words right out of my mouth. We normally do not meet in the months of July and August. I want to wish everybody continued good health. Have a very safe and healthy summer and I'm hoping and praying that by September we will be back to normal and we can meet face to face again and live our lives normally again. Wish everybody well.

Public Comment: N/A

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by Bologna and seconded by? Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Members Present	Staff Present	Guests Present
Drew Silverman	Albert Gehres, Jr.	M. Masterson
Frank Bonventre	Donald Lynch	Dep. Insp. Maronski
Arthur Bloom	Gregory Miniutti	
Vincent Bologna, Jr.		
Jon Hoffmann		
Anthony Laferrera		
Robert McConville		
Norman Reilly, Jr.		
Anthony Sullo		
Gerard Turza, Jr		
Alternates Present		

NEXT MEETING	Wednesday, September 23 , 2020
TIME	7:30 pm
LOCATION	TBD
REFRESHMENTS	