

Tim Schadt  
Chairman

Bernie Deutsch  
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysh  
Secretary

### **Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board**

**Date:** November 30, 2009

**Meeting called to order at:** 7:42pm

#### **Pledge to the flag was held**

**Attendance:** out of 15 members present

Bethel: Ed Lubniewski	P
Callicoon: Paul Hemmer	P
Cochecton: Gary Cochrane	P
Delaware: Bob Simon	P
Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch	A
Forestburgh: Arthur Salomon	P
Fremont: Anthony Wayne	P
Highland: Tim Schadt	P
Liberty: Don Sherwood	P
Lumberland: Charlie Fallon	A
Mamakating: Joe Roe	P
Neversink: Tom Matthews	A
Rockland: Michael Juron	P
Thompson: Gary Smith	A
Tusten: Craig Burkle	P

**Reading of minutes from previous meeting:** Minutes accepted as read.

#### **Coordinators Report:**

Dick, with the FF Association and Don Sherwood is looking to set up a FF Memorial at the Government Center. Public Safety will determine the location but it looks like it will be the Jake Gunther Memorial. They have viewed the one in front of the Orange County Training Center and would like something along those lines. They would like it to contain a Maltese Cross impression and be around 6 feet tall. The costs and payment options for the project are being investigated.

The State budget is being looked at by the Governor and changes may be made. At this time we are good with our training classes through April, but that could change.

The OFPC is down 39 people and they are not being replaced at this time.

The County Budget is the worst Dick has seen, he was originally asked to make 5% in cuts, then 12-14%. He will be losing his administrative assistant. If it is put in place as is.

The training site is closed for the year. The groundbreaking was called off as well. Work has begun, footings are in and they are looking to start the steel in January. The money has already been obtained set aside; there will not be any problems with that. There is \$500,000.00 and the bid was \$493,000.00.

The Orange/Sullivan Academy was successful, there were some problems getting seats. They will try to do another one and there will be a maximum of 198 seats available. They will also try to do it in 2 parts.

Aileen Gunther obtained a \$10,000.00 grant for equipment for the Dive Team and the Wildland Search and Rescue Team.

There will be no Chief's Academy in April this year.

Alex will speak later on Blue Wing. When the report is issued everyone, the SCFAB, the commissioners and the chief's must be on board and agree. We cannot be divided on this issue if we want to see results.

Next year the Commissioners and Chiefs need to focus on the workman's compensation issues. The process needs to be understood and done correctly otherwise payments can be held up. There needs to be a list of steps and items needed for coverage. There is a lot of paperwork involved.

Charlie is not here tonight, his wife is very ill.

Dick will be going to the legislature for money for the communications project. It will be very expensive and we will need to pressure all 9 legislators if we want results.

Everyone have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alex Rau was present at the meeting and spoke about Blue Wing and their progress with the study. The final report should be available in 4 to 6 weeks. They are looking for available frequencies. They are difficult to find as everyone around us is looking as well. They are looking at our tower sites as well in an effort to find solutions to our problems. There will be a small committee with fire, ems, police and dispatch to insure that everything will work together.

The maintenance work on all 5 towers has been completed for this year. It is done twice a year.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 1) **Training Facility:** no report
- 2) **Tax Abatement:** no report
- 3) **EMS:** no report
- 4) **Arson Investigation:** no report
- 5) **Radio:** no report

**Correspondence:** None

**Old Business:**

In regard to the SOP's there were some questions regarding the announcement policy. Alex explained that the Chief's need to call them in and they are limited to 1 announcement per event. The control center sets aside time each day for these so they should be called in I advance.

Tim clarified that announcements at scenes for apparatus requests can be made by any unit on scene if a chief is not available.

**New Business:** The Town of Liberty's Fast Team should be up by January.

**Good and Welfare:** none

**Adjournment:** Motion to Adjourn      **Time:** 8:09pm

**Next meeting January 25, 2010 at 7:30pm at the  
Sullivan County Government Center**