

Tim Schadt
Chairman

Bernie Deutsch
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysch
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: September 23, 2011

Meeting called to order at: 7:30pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 12 out of 15 members present

Bethel: Timothy Blais	P
Callicoon: Rick Graham	P
Cochecton: Gary Cochrane	A
Delaware: Tim Hornicek	P
Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch	P
Forestburgh: Arthur Salomon	P
Fremont: Anthony Wayne	P
Highland: Tim Schadt	A
Liberty: Don Sherwood	P
Lumberland: Charlie Fallon	P
Mamakating: Joe Roe	P
Neversink: Russell Turner	P
Rockland: Michael Juron	P
Thompson: Gary Smith	A
Tusten: Craig Burkle	P

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

Coordinators Report:

There are several members of the Fire Service on the State level that are retiring. There will be some new faces and changes that will occur.

It was a busy summer with the earthquake, 2 hurricanes and the Elton John concert. The EOC was up and running during the first storm, power was lost but the generator was soon running. The 911 center was down for awhile, there was a power outage at the Verizon facility on St. John Street in Monticello. Calls were routed from Nyack to the Liberty State Police. The Police Barracks also lost power. It took some time after the power was restored there to get the phone service back on line. NYSEG was contacted and was told that that kind of situation is not acceptable. The access road to the hospital also flooded during the storm. There was no loss of life or serious injuries.

Dick is working on getting a large generator for the training facility, as well as a larger LP tank. There is some Federal money to pay for it. NYSG and O&R were very helpful during the storms, Central Hudson responded several days later.

The State Mutual Aid plan kicked in during the storms. If surrounding counties are unable to help the call goes out Statewide. The State sends the orders to a central location for dispatch. We need to be aware that we have to take care of our own people first, and help other areas when we can without endangering ourselves. Firehouses should not be used as a public shelter if it can be helped. We did have several trucks respond to areas that were hit harder than we were. Dick is very proud of the way we handled the various crisis. The few problems that did occur will be addressed. Alex had a family commitment and could not be here tonight, he will try to attend the November meeting.

There was a drill at SCCC to address issues that could take place there.

Dick is checking on Flu shots for Emergency Service Personnel.

There were 194 attendees at the Sullivan/Orange weekend at the State Fire Academy.

There are a couple more battalion meetings scheduled.

The Orange County Haz Mat team has certain expenses that are billable. Homeowners need to be aware of this and if their insurance coverage has a deductible it must be paid by the homeowner.

Dick is working on the protocols for the Dive team and some of the other special teams. Russell mentioned that the reservoirs may be open to kayaks and sailboats next year and the teams should prepare accordingly. The Arson Investigation Team runs well with no problems thanks to Charlie.

There was an incident at the Neversink Reservoir after the storms and flooding. A camp counselor took some kids over and was taking pictures in an unsafe area. The counselor was brought to the Board of Water Supply Police.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Training Facility:** They are now booking classes to the end of the year. We will be using all of our allotted money for 2011; we will see what happens next year.
- 2) **EMS:** no report
Arson: There have been 40 investigations so far this year as compared with 31 last year. There are a couple of criminal cases and a couple more suspicious ones. Charlie is pleased with the cooperation the team has been receiving from the local fire departments. He asked that the structures remain intact and not be bulldozed before the investigations are completed. There may be information that could be obtained by his team.
- 3) **Radio:** See Coordinators Report

Correspondence: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Craig has posters for Fire Prevention Week.

Dick discussed the problems encountered in Goshen while searching for a missing child. There were many people involved outside the search and rescue teams and some search protocol was not followed. He also spoke about the incident in Ulster County that involved a missing child who was found to have taken a cab to NYC. There was a call out for crew bosses to help organize the search. The crew bosses for search and rescue teams are extremely important. They keep everything organized and on track.

Please bear in mind that our Search and Rescue Team, as well as our other teams have some older members and may need to be replaced. We have some people trained for that event but we should always keep in mind our needs for the future.

FASNY has an education grant available.

There is a consortium among our local counties with the State Fire Academy and earning an Associates Degree. The program would be on a first come, first serve basis.

Russell had some questions regarding the County Parade rules. He was told to check with the County Fire Association.

Regarding newspaper coverage of the parade please check with Mike Hoyt.

Good and Welfare: None

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn Time: 8:20pm

**Next meeting Monday November 28 at 7:30pm at the
Sullivan County Government Center**