

Russell Turner
Chairman

Jim Doughty
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysh
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: September 28, 2015

Meeting called to order at: 7:35 pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 6 out of 15 members present

Unofficial meeting, no quorum

Minutes: Accepted as read

Bethel: George Roosevelt	P
Callicoon: Jim Doughty	P
Cochecton: Gary Cochrane	A
Delaware:	
Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch	A
Forestburgh:	
Fremont: Shane Cruz	A
Highland: Warren Wagner	P
Liberty: Carlton Fitz	P
Lumberland: Charlie Fallon	P
Mamakating: Tim Koestler	A
Neversink: Russell Turner	A
Rockland: Michal Juron	A
Thompson: Brain Soller	A
Tusten: Craig Burkle	P

Coordinators Report:

Dick thanks all who sent in their ethics forms. We had 2 members who did not sign and have been removed from the Board.

Progress is being made on the new radio system. 2 tower sites at a time are being worked on, now it is Tusten and Hankins. Once they are completed the project will move to the Decker Road site in Lumberland and the Monticello site by exit 104.

Alex is working with Motorola on the equipment design, there will be a model built out and demonstrated, after that it will be added to the tower sites. No one will be sharing space on any of the County towers.

New outdoor lights are being put in at the training center.

Art Hawker and Brad Paddock are leaving as instructors and there will be another vacancy in the spring. The State will be sending out letters to apply for instructor positions. We need to make sure we have enough people to fill classes before replacing all 3.

There was a meeting in Albany for "New York Responds", the new statewide weather reporting system.

Some of the issues the Fire Service would like the State Legislature to take up are stress related heart attacks and cancer incidents resulting from fire sources and contaminated turnout gear.

The National Firefighters Memorial Service and the New York State Service will be honoring Fred Edwards from the Liberty Fire Department. Members of his family will be in attendance.

There is work being done to try to resolve issues with the Firefighter 1 course. The hours increased to 120 from 94. A committee has pared it back to 104 hours. There are people who are completing the skills test at the end of the course.

The Fire Officer 1 class is also being reviewed.

There was a meeting held on "Radiation Ingestion". The 50 mile perimeter from Indian Point includes part of the Town of Mamakating. There is concern for ground contamination. Ultimately there will be special training and procedures put in place.

Pennsylvania requires 170 hours of training to become a firefighter and New Jersey does as well. In New Jersey, all community colleges offer firefighting courses, Pennsylvania does their training in blocks. Dick feels that the quality of the course is more important than the time. The Firefighter 1 course contains things that are not really needed in it.

Dick and Charlies are reviewing the Arson Task Force and may be making some changes to it.

Dick will look into the Tenannah Lake Fire Tower and see if there are any problems with it.

Committee Reports:

Arson Task Force: In 2014 there were 50 Fire investigations, so far this year there are over 70. Craig asked about the percentage that were considered to be arson. Unofficially it was about 10% last year and 15% this year, some are still under investigation. Most fires are caused by not paying attention or ignoring problems before they get too bad.

There are 2 probationary members and they appear to be working out.

There will be a training class at Montour Falls for investigators. Charlie would like to see this a yearly event.

Radio: No further report.

Communications: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Good and Welfare: Send out appointment letters for next year to all members to pass along to their supervisors.

Meeting adjourned 8:12pm

**Next meeting November 30, 2015 at 7:30pm at the
Government Center**