

Craig Burkle
Chairman

Carlton Fritz
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysch
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: September 28, 2020

Meeting called to order at: 7:30 pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 8 out of 15 members present

Minutes: Accepted as read

Bethel: George Roosevelt	P
Callicoon: Jim Doughty	P
Cochecton: Jason Knack	P
Delaware: Tom Dent	A
Fallsburg: Harry Barrett	P
Forestburgh: Zachary Petrowsky	P
Fremont: Shane Cruz	A
Highland: Philip Deyermond	A
Liberty: Carlton Fritz	A
Lumberland: David Hook	A
Mamakating: James Hughes	P
Neversink: Glenn Vandenberg	A
Rockland: Chris Tuleweit	A
Thompson: Chris Bastone	P
Tusten: Craig Burkle	P

Minutes from the previous meeting, May 18th, via Zoom, were read and corrected under Coordinators Report to read the DEC Grant was not applied for, applications were sent out to departments. Minutes accepted as corrected.

Coordinators Report:

There was no formal July meeting, an informal meeting was held in the parking lot. Our Covid 19 numbers have been up and down. A second wave is expected in the fall. Buy PPE now, do not wait. The EOC has a limited amount and the State will not be supplying any more. Be prepared, the spike will happen during flu season.

The County has put a bid out for PPE. Departments may be able to piggyback off that bid. Prices look pretty good.

There is still training going on, 7 classes are available. There are 72 new members and there is a waiting list for basic classes. There is a HAZ-Mat class available, maximum of 20 people if at training center, can be done at individual departments as well. A fire Officer series has also begun. There will not be any new classes until at least in the spring.

Weekly Chief calls went to 1 month and are now every 2 months, if Covid spikes they will go back to weekly or monthly calls.

The Mutual Aid Plan, Arson Task Force Plan need to be updated. Once that is done they will come here for review and then on to Public Safety and the full Legislature.

The Fire Academy is open for basic classes, but the cafeteria has limited seating and the food is served to you, no salad bar.

Everyone needs to get the fire reports in for the rest of the year so we can get the full amount of the scholarship available. Last year's money, \$1,000.00 is being held for us.

There is a new company for Workman's Comp as well as new forms. It seems to be working well. Please note you need to call and fill out a form for all injuries, no matter how small. There is a number on the bottom of the form. Once you call you will be given a claim number and a report needs to go to Risk Management.

Doctor's offices have been opening that will make it easier to get physicals. There are some new companies providing that service as well.

All 72 new members in the fire service need to have background checks completed. Losap has been on hold due to Covid. NYS passed a law that makes points available through April 2021. Districts will need to apply. There are points available for each month due to Covid shutdowns.

Our Red Cross chapter is now out of Binghamton, there is no change to local personnel. If anyone has any issues let John know.

A survey on recruitment retention was sent out to all chiefs. It needs to be completed and returned. It should only take a few minutes to complete. There is also a link on the website for the form. Both departments and districts should fill it out.

We will have a booth next year at the Grahamsville Fair.

Committee Reports:

Arson Task Force: The investigators have been very busy and are doing a great job. There has been an arrest and another one is likely. The DA's office has given the investigators 2 new cameras.

Radio: They are still working on the paging and radio issues that some are experiencing. There is still some user error taking place. Please take the pagers off the scan feature, that should solve some of the issues. Repeaters can be brought in in some of the more remote areas if needed during an event. It will take about an hour to get a repeater to a scene.

Testing is being done for text and voice paging.

Communications: None

Old Business: Harry has been attending the Public Safety meetings and finding them informative.

New Business: A motion was made, discussed, and passed to extend the Chairman's term for an additional 3 years. Our by-Laws will need to be amended.

We may move our meeting times to 7 instead of 7:30.

Also discussed was having alternate representatives with voting rights. That will need to be checked with the County Attorney.

Our November meeting will be in person unless there is a Covid spike. (which there is, now a Zoom meeting)

Good and Welfare: Please keep Harry Barret's granddaughter in your prayers. She has cancer and there is a fundraiser in Loch Sheldrake next week.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07

Due to Covid

Next Meeting November 30, 2020 via Zoom

7:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96870175936?pwd=Tk9KQUJSchHvcHF0UzNnQ3BJeUIFZz09>

Meeting ID: 968 7017 5936

Passcode: 383829

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,96870175936#,,,,,0#,,383829# US (New York)