

Bernie Deutsch
Chairman

Russell Turner
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysch
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: January 30, 2012

Meeting called to order at: 7:30pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 13 out of 15 members present

Bethel: Timothy Blais	P
Callicoon: Paul Hemmer	P
Cochecton: Gary Cochrane	P
Delaware: Tim Hornicek	P
Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch	P
Forestburgh: Chris Cavello	P
Fremont: Anthony Wayne	A
Highland: Warren Wagner	P
Liberty: Don Sherwood	P
Lumberland: Charlie Fallon	P
Mamakating: Joe Roe	P
Neversink: Russell Turner	P
Rockland: Michael Juron	P
Thompson: Robert Yakin	P
Tusten: Craig Burkle	A (Stephen Stuart present)

Election of Officers:

Bernie was the sole nominee and elected chairman

Russell was the sole nominee and elected as Vice Chairman

Mary Ann was appointed as secretary

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

Coordinators Report:

Brian Stevens is the new State Fire Administrator. He has a great deal of experience. The State Office of Emergency Management has 2 members from the "upstate area", including one from Kerhonkson.

The State is trying to find a way for the State Emergency Operating Command Centers to better coordinate with local facilities. There was some confusion with the set up during the hurricanes in the fall.

There will be a major change to the way training records are kept. All of the fire training records will now be kept with State records. All of your training from the State, fire and otherwise will now be located in one place.

We have obtained some of the pooled training hours from the State. John Hauschild is doing a great job at the training center. The backup generator is being installed and additional work is being done on the site. The generator was paid for through Homeland Security money.

There will be a class in April sponsored by NYDOT on traffic safety on interstates. It will be open to 50 people from departments on the Route 17 corridor.

Dick will be reviewing all the SOP's for the various teams and updating them as needed. He will bring the changes to this Board for approval then onto Public Safety and then the full Legislature. No major changes are being done on most. He will email them to everyone before our next meeting. The Mutual Aid Plan needs more work.

We have a new legislature and they seem eager to learn about what the emergency services do and how they operate. Cora Edwards is the Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Alex Rau is here and wants to update us on a few things. The radio project is in a holding pattern right now. We are still waiting on the FCC for approval on the new frequencies. Blue Wing is still involved in the process. There is still a lot of planning to do, as well as land acquisitions and tower work.

The State is releasing some of the 911 surcharge money. A regional concept is being worked on to share a larger pool of that money.

Alex is always on the lookout for new grant money to become available.

George Lohr at the 911 Center talked a father through a breech birth delivery over the phone.

4 years ago when Alex got here he started working on our paging system. Text paging has limitations to the system and he is trying to get the CAD vendor to work with us. Please be patient as they are working on getting everything together. Voice paging is still our primary method, do not rely on text paging yet.

Make sure your chiefs are sending in their fire stats every month.

The county may be getting a new webmaster and we may be able to post more on the website.

Michael Congelosi has been promoted and a new dispatcher has been hired and we may hire another soon.

The 911 Center SOP's will probably be updated soon. He will bring them here when completed.

The Sheriff's dispatch takeover should happen soon. We have been monitoring for a few weeks and it is not expected to impact existing operations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Training Facility:** no report
- 2) **EMS:** no report
- 3) **Arson:** Charlie gave a summary of the year's activity, including 1 fatality and 3 arrests that were made. There will be a new policy put in place this year, there will be 2 investigators dispatched to an incident and more will be called if needed. He hopes that there will be more training this year. New members will be added to replace a couple of existing members that are leaving. Charlie wants to thank Dick and all the departments for the cooperation and interest in what his team does.
- 4) **Radio:** Will have a meeting before the summer

Correspondence: None

Old Business: Russell inquired about the Dive Team. Dick is in the process of revising the SOP's for the Dive Team.

There have been some problems getting members and Russell is concerned about the open up of the reservoirs to boating this year. Dick said he will meet with the DEP about this.

Dick explained that if there was no County Dive team there are individual Departments that have their own and could be called if needed.

New Business:

Dick will be sending some emails to everyone regarding National Volunteer Week and Recruit New York. We need more recruits locally. Jack Halchak will be coordinating with the local news media. There is additional information available on the FASNY website. Please let your chief's know about this.

Training is going well; John may come to one of our meetings and give a report.

Good and Welfare: None

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn **Time:** 8:16

**Next meeting Monday March 26 at 7:30pm at the
Sullivan County Government Center**