

Bernie Deutsch
Chairman

Russell Turner
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysch
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: April 16, 2012

Meeting called to order at: 7:35pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 15 out of 15 members present

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

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

Coordinators Report:

Dick spoke at length about the fire at Grandview Palace. It was one of the largest that we have had in Sullivan County. There were a multitude of problems, especially in the early stages of the fire. Mutual Aid calls went out right away and everyone involved did a great job under extraordinary circumstances. Grandview security discovered the fire and evacuated all the people from the building right away though there was some confusion and firefighters were sent in as well to make sure the building were empty. It was difficult to account for all the residents at first, some left before security got all of their information. There were no major injuries suffered. Russell added that over 19 acres were burned as well and the companies in charge of those fires did a great job. There were 8 investigators at the scene, including some from Orange County and the OFPC. The investigations will be ongoing for awhile. The main building was completely destroyed and all that remains are 2 buildings on either side of the main structure.

Dick wants to thank everyone involved for the hard work, firefighters, police, EMS, the Town of Fallsburg Water Department and Town Board, the legislators and anyone else who gave their time and efforts.

Dick read a statement from Cora Edwards thanking everyone as well and Gene Benson, a legislator representing part of the Town of Fallsburg was at our meeting and wanted to thank everyone as well. He would like everyone to tell their members how much their efforts are appreciated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Training Facility:** no report
- 2) **EMS:** no report
- 3) **Arson:** no report
- 4) **Radio:** Alex gave a report, things are moving slowly but work is being done. The towers that will be in use are being upgraded and negotiations are under way for new sites as well. There are environmental and possible archeological concerns that slow the process. There was a 1.2 million dollar grant used for improving existing towers. If we can get at least 6 of the proposed 9 tower sites up and running we can move forward and add the others as they are completed. Motorola is working with us on the equipment that is needed to set up the towers. Work is also being done on obtaining the new frequencies needed. If all goes well we are looking at 2013 or 2014 to be up and running on the new system. Blue Wing continues to work with the County as well.

Correspondence: none

Old Business:

The Dive Team protocol was reviewed and discussed. There are a couple of changes that are needed. On page 5, item E should state that the requirements are the same as the OSHA physical, minus the fit test. On page 6 C1 it should read on recommendation from the Dive Team. On page 7 D1 it should be based on the recommendation from the Dive team and on 6 – 1 it should be **Do not** call in to 53 control and there was a typographical error, control was misspelled, a 6 – 2 should be added that the members responding must notify their chiefs that they are going to a call.

Once this had been approved on the County level the Dive Team will be doing some internal policies and procedures as well. They will bring it here when finished and have it attached to the existing policy.

There is no County dive boat. When a call is made for the dive team you must make other arrangements for the boat. There will be a list of the available boats attached to the policy.

After discussion all of the changes were passed and Jack will make the changes requested.

New Business:

Alex was at the meeting and gave a rundown on what is going on at the 911 center. There is a new dispatcher who is still learning the area so please be patient George Lohr will be retiring and the emergency services may be asked to help with his farewell. He also wanted to commend the 911 center staff for all their work in the Grandview fire. Alex asked that the Dive Team keep him in the loop with what they are doing and possibly having a drill before summer.

Good and Welfare: none

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn

Time: 8:19