

Russell Turner
Chairman

Jim Doughty
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysh
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: June 29, 2015

Meeting called to order at: 7:30 pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 10 out of 15 members present

Minutes: Accepted as read

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

Coordinators Report:

Joe Mellan was here for the report tonight.

Les Greene has retired and is being replaced by Marilyn Schrader.

Our weekend at the Academy in Montour will be in October.

The post fire meeting for the Roosa Gap fire was postponed due to the rangers being involved in the search for the escaped prisoners upstate. All in all things went fairly smoothly at the fire, there were some issues early on but they were resolved as the situation progressed.

Attendance was down at Mysteryland, no big problems, just some drug arrests.

There has been a drop off in attendance for our training classes, some have been cancelled. There is some complaining about the lack of different offerings but that is not the case. There were several new courses offered this year. The problem is not just in Sullivan County, other areas are having similar issues. Part of the problem may be the pre requisites required for some of the classes. The class loads are heavy and that may also be an issue. Chief's need to get the word out to members on the available classes.

The County Dive Team is now known as Sullivan County Dive Task Force. The majority of divers come from 4 departments, those Chiefs have meet often and revamped the team. Members from other departments that are certified will be absorbed into the team. There are currently 37 active divers, and over half are public safety certified. The old policy is being revamped to reflect the changes. Ricky Graham is handling the administrative end.

If there is a water incident the Chief will request the task force and a text message will go to all the members phone to which they will respond. The team will operate much as the same as they do now. They will coordinate with the incident commander at the scene. The Control Center will be notified on who is responding.

They will be use more for recovery rather than long term search and rescue operations, those will be handled by the Parks Service and State Police. Dick would like the Task Force to meet with all the Chiefs to go over the procedures to be followed. Each Chief will have to certify members to the task force each year. There will be a new application for admittance to the team.

The Dive Association is still intact and being run by Joe Ratner.

There is a meeting scheduled in July for the radio committee. Alex will be presenting information of equipment purchases. Joe advises everyone hold off buying anything until we see what the County is looking at. Battalion meetings will be getting some information from this meeting. We hope to be able to work through any problems that may arise, or concerns people have before the new system goes live.

Committee Reports:

Arson Task Force: There were 54 investigations in 2014 with 473 hours logged in investigation time. As of June of this year we already have 20 with almost as many hours logged. Whenever there is a fatality there is a lot of hours involved in the investigation. There are 2 new team members, they look like they will work out well.

Radio: No further report.

Communications: None

Old Business: None

New Business: The FAB Policy needs to be updated. If anyone has any comments or changes please let Russ know. We will review at the September meeting.

Please get your signed Ethics letter back to either myself or AnnMarie at the Legislative office.

Good and Welfare: None

Meeting adjourned 8:12pm

**Next meeting September 28, 2015 at 7:30pm at the
Government Center**