



Pennsylvania Fire Police Association

"Safety Unit of the Volunteer Firemen"

4050 Mulberry Lane, Dover, Pa 17315

FOUNDED 1948

(717) 292-3154

CHARTERED 1949

Pennsylvania Fire Police Association
Bi Monthly Meeting
Wormleysburg Fire Company-Cumberland Co.
July 19, 2009

President Harold Crosby opened the July 19, 2009 meeting of the Pennsylvania Fire Police Assoc. at 1:05pm. He appointed Bob Ritter, and George Morton Jr. Sgt At Arms. He stated the smoking lamp was out, hats were to be taken off, and no drinking or eating.

The Invocation was given by the Chaplain Nelson Brenneman. Pres. Harold Crosby then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

George Morton Jr. introduced his officers, and welcomed everyone to Wormleysburg.

Gary Pennick, President of Wormleysburg Fire Co., spoke on all his years in the fire service. He stated to keep safe, and watch your backs. He also welcomed everyone, and wished all a safe trip home.

Second Vice President John Johnston gave the Response. He stated he was happy to be there, and see all the smiling faces. He wished all a safe trip home.

Recording Secretary Helen Thomas took the roll call of officers, and counties. Through a motion, and second, the reading of the May Bi Monthly meeting minutes were dispensed with. M/C Robert Hill did note that his e-mail address was incorrect. It should be ka3rfh.net. This correction has been noted. Helen Thomas then read the May Executive Board meeting minutes, and these were accepted as read.

Adams Co. was having a fund raiser for Mel Leher, who was hurt while performing his fire police duties. Nelson Brenneman asked everyone to keep Mr. Leher in their prayers.

Alternate Delegate to the State Firemen, Miles Dooley, talked about the Right to Know House Bill 250. This required fire companies to produce their records upon request within five days of the request. York Co. had refused to release addresses, and location, dispatch and arrival times of EMS personnel. They felt this could endanger crime victims, especially in domestic violence. They have a lot legislative support, there has been a request for a Judicial ruling. A court ruled the fire companies in Tioga Co. did not need to respond to a similar request. The Court ruled in favor of the fire company. Miles also spoke on the Day Amendments that expand and encourage more volunteerism, and Tax Credits on property taxes, and earned income given by school districts, and counties. Keep watching for more information on this bill.

Alternate Delegate to State Firemen Jim Ploumis, spoke on the Federal \$100 tax credit rebate. He hoped everyone filed, and that all that filed received the credit.

Nelson Brenneman spoke about The Secret List. This involved an e-mail from Firehouse-Com. This e-mail indicated that IAFC supported raising the fire grant programs local match for smaller departments. IAFC denies this e-mail, and does not support raising the matching funds for jurisdictions serving smaller populations. If anyone wants to see this information, it has been made a part of these minutes. This information Alert for the Secret List came from Tom Savage, the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute.

Second Vice President John Johnston noted that the contracts for the Bi Monthly meetings, and Conventions may change in 2013.

Gary Eline from the Publication Committee asked to have more good recipes for the newspaper.

John Bronson read an e-mail he copied concerning roadside vest regulation. Firefighters, and EMS personnel are now exempt from wearing high-visibility vests while engaged in direct firefighting operations on the highways. They are exempt when exposed to fire, flame, heat, or hazardous materials. They may wear retro reflective turn-out gear that is specified and regulated by other Organizations, such as the National Fire Protection Assoc. Fire fighters or other EMS working within the right of way of a Federal-aid highway and engaged in any other types of operations shall wear high visibility safety apparel.

Roy Burton gave his Registration report of 57 members, and 9 guests representing 16 counties. His report was accepted as read.

The guests were recognized, and Doris Harper was welcomed back.

When nominations were opened to the floor, Miles Dooley, Robert Hill, Jack Urling, and Roy Burton were nominated for the office of Second Vice President. Through a motion, and a 2nd, these nominations were closed.

The nominations for Delegate to the State Firemen was opened. Miles Dooley, and Jim Ploumis were nominated, and the nominations were closed by a motion, and a second.

M/C

Alternate Delegate to the State Firemen was opened. Nominations included Miles Dooley, Jim Ploumis, and Charles Froman. By a motion, and a second the nominations were closed. M/C

Robert Hill brought up the subject of why the Pennsylvania Fire Police Assoc. would not release the names, and address of all its members. These were wanted to send out pamphlets for their NEPA Fire Police Weekend Academy for fire police, fire fighters, and EMS personnel. This is to be held September 26th and 27th, 2009, and will be sponsored by LCCC's Public Safety Training Institute, and the Luzerne Co. Fire Police Assoc. He was told we would not release names, and addresses, but he could put the information in the newspaper. Many county members also took some of the pamphlets.

Past Chaplain Harold Kadel requested to know where his reverse logo was, and why it was not being used. This logo has the Malteeze Cross on it. This will be looked into.

Dennis Loux from Bucks Co. made a motion that the Pennsylvania Fire Police Assoc. would purchase its own PA system. It was stated the PA system was already covered in the contracts for the Bi Monthly and Convention meetings. The motion was then amended to appoint a fact finding committee to get costs, and information. Through a vote by delegates, and officers, this was voted down by a vote of 12 yes, and 18 no votes.

Bunky Froman invited all to Warren Co. for their activities on 9-11. This will honor firemen, and veterans.

Irvin Martenas gave his report for \$57.35 worth of supplies sold, and this amount was remitted to the Treasurer. He noted that e-mail orders were coming from N.Y, N.J., and even bad checks. He noted the supplies will be taken off the website, and no supplies will be mailed/sold without the money, and your fire police #. His report was accepted as read.

Treasurer Margaret Stare gave the Treasurers report, and it was accepted as read.

Assistant Treasurer Ruth Hoffman noted there were extra newspapers for anyone wishing one. She also noted that memberships would be accepted until July 30, at which time the records will be purged. Ruth noted there were 3,959 insured members, 595 un-insured members, for a total of 4,518. Her reports were accepted as read.

Commissioner Dave Maze gave his report of 3,288 calls, 8 false alarms, 4,956 fire police on duty for 10, 632 hours. There were 785 special duty hours, with 0 prosecutions and warnings, and there were 8 counties reporting.

For The Good of the Assoc. Jim Ploumis noted that there were 80 fire companies in Lancaster County, and only about 10 were sending their reports in. He would like the fire chiefs to help increase this number. Dennis Loux felt this reporting was unnecessary, and that their county had stopped reporting. Jack Urling, and John Bronson explained how important these hours were in helping with legislation for fire police, and obtaining grants. The fire company reports all calls, but not always fire police hours pacifically. Dennis felt his county would again start reporting.

For the Good of the Order, Irvin Martenas expressed his concerns about nighttime driving, and fire police on the scene. He came up on a scene while driving tractor-trailer. As he came over a knoll in the haze, all he could see were the flashing lights of the fire truck, and did not get stopped until right beside the fire police, and flares as he could not see them for the flare haze. He asked that fire police stand away from the flares, wear proper gear, have a good flashlight, and escape route. He said Be Seen-Be Careful as you are Number One. It was noted the flashing flashlights were not considered good, as they were the hardest to recognize. Ha also mentioned to have all responders turn off their headlights as this also makes visibility of fire police poor.

First Vice President Ralph Robison, thanked the Host fire company of Wormleysburg, and the Host County of Cumberland for Hosting our meeting. He was glad it was such a

nice day, and there was no flooding like there was the last meeting we had here. He wished all a safe trip home.

Assist. Chaplain Charles Hull held a Moment of Silence for the departed, and gave the Benediction.

Through a motion, and a second the meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Recording Secretary

Helen J Thomas