



Saratoga County Firematic Officer's Association

Stan J. De Long
President

Russell De Ridder
Vice-President

Donald Baldwin
Recording Secretary

John C. Cooper, Jr
Treasurer

www.SaratogaCofire.org

Monday, April 16, 2018
Meeting Minutes – Galway Fire Department

Meeting called to order by President De Long at 1930 hours.

Pledge to the flag led by Vice-President Russ DeRidder

Moment of Silence Observed

Prayer led by Chaplain (Chief) Mahar.

Mention in prayer were Past Chief Gordon Derby – Victory Mills Fire Department, passed away; Fire Investigator Tim Brown – loss of his mother; Chief Keith Butler – Hillcrest Fire Department, loss of his father and Fire-Policeman Joe Bovee – South Glens Falls, recovering from a fall.

Officer's in attendance:

Stan De Long, President	<u>X</u>
Russ DeRidder, Vice-President	<u>X</u>
Don Baldwin, Secretary	<u>Excused</u>
John Cooper, Treasurer	<u>X</u>

Roll Call: 14 departments present, 32 in attendance (not counting above Officers).

Reading of the past months minutes: February meeting minutes read. Discussion as allowed, Motion by Greenfield to accept as read; 2nd by Galway. Carried

Correspondence:

- Letter from the fair received regarding discounted admission tickets for the fire service. Letter attached to the minutes.
- President sent a sympathy card to the family of past department Chief Robert Creifelds, Ballston Spa Fire Department
- E-Mail correspondence from Warren County Fire Coordinator mention regarding the Adirondack Volunteer Firefighter's Benevolent Association.
- Letter of resignation received by Association Treasurer John Cooper, Jr.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report provided by the treasurer, Account was reviewed by Directors Brousseau and Bonesteel prior to the meeting. Discussion allowed.

Motion by Rock City Falls to accept the treasurer's report as read, 2nd by Ballston Spa. No opposition, motion carried.



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County Fire Advisory Board: Chairman Joe Plewinski present.

- There is open discussion regarding the burn building. Some necessary repairs found, working with Office of Emergency Services to resolve the issues. It is stressed that agencies using the burn building **USE EXTREME CAUTION.**
- Working to generate "Box Alarm" information / data wish list. Once this information is collected, it will be presented to OES in hopes it will be implemented at a later date.
- Any company / department that has an issue, topic, complaint to be brought before the FAB, each town has an appointed representative, reach out to your representative to have your matter brought forth. (note: you can find a list of representatives at www.saratogacofire.org – look under Fire Advisory Board).

County Fire Coordinator Report / Training:

- Several classes that are being offered, tonight begins the Survival, Apparatus Operator and Rescue Tech.
- Principle of Instruction starts on Monday, May 7th, 18 currently registered.
- NYS Fire-Police course starts Monday, May 14th, currently 24 registered.

The County is redoing the hazard mitigation plans, a contractor has been awarded the project, there will be a hazard analysis. Departments may receive a call or e-mail from the contractor soliciting information, such as high hazard areas.

- Fire Training Center – the broken top step has been repaired.
- Ed has met with a welding company located in Ballston Lake regarding needed repairs, Ed is awaiting for a quote and proceed with repairs. Ed hopes the welder can be retained for future repairs.

Ed spoke about information received at the recent NYS Fire Coordinators Association meeting,

(a) Fire Officer 1 has been rewritten, currently moving forward to Instructor modifications. As of January 1, 2019, will be a module design, broken down into five (5) modules for Fire Officer 1 – the longest module will be 15 classroom hours and the shortest module will be 9 classroom hours. (b) Survival class is done, the State will be doing the regional authorizations soon.

Ed working on addressing options for an EAP (Employees Assistance Program), the County had put a bid out years back, some departments took advantage, some did not, researching to possibly have a grant pick up the cost of an EAP, especially in the light of recent calls around the County.

There will be a communication from Ed / OES to all fire chiefs regarding 1-Echo responses. The inquiry will be if your agency will respond automatically to ALL Echo calls in your jurisdiction



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You choose not too. This is to have the information updated and on hand to be implemented in the new CAD system once that part of the module is completed. This will not effect those agencies that currently participate in the EMS program.

NYS OFPC – Shawn Brimhall.

The State has created a NEW Training Authorization letter with a copy of the policy to better explain the change. Copies made available. (You can find this on the OFPC web site and the Association website www.saratogacofire.org) Ed has sent the information out as well.

Two new questions have been added. **This form is required for ALL State run fire courses.** This form must be signed by the Chief, this form **MUST BE BROUGHT with the firefighter the FIRST NIGHT of class.**

This is to verify that the students have authorization to be in the class. Especially important in the event a firefighter student becomes injured. Shawn made mention of a firefighter who died his first night at class in Western New York couple years ago at class, caused a problem in proving he was “on duty” – training.

Also noted that firefighters have been suspended by their departments for taking classes out of county without the knowledge of the Fire Chief. No one under the age of 16 allowed to the enroll in any class.

Progress moving forward at the academy for new upgrades, fire building, etc. and swift water facility is hope to be up and running by July as long as it does not get back into frigid weather and hopes to have it available all year round (weather permitting).

Ed made mention he had the opportunity to use the Tactical Fire ground Simulations. Instructors are able to run various scenarios for the students using avatars.

EMS Council: No Report

Sheriff's Office: No Representation, No report

Special Committees:

- Fair booth – will have a follow up meeting in the coming weeks. Committee will view Greenfield Fire District Fire Prevention Trailer – it would be easier to deliver it than OFPC bringing theirs from Albany.
- December Dinner Meeting – December 7th was not available at Panza's. Possibly have it on December 14th. Discussion on the floor.



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The December dinner meeting will be at Panza's, Route 9-P, Saratoga Lake on Friday, December 14th. (more details will follow as the day nears & mark your calendar !)

The more the merrier, had about 60 present last year, can hold more !!

- Bill Meehan Report - Bill not present, Jeri Meehan reported Hudson-Mohawk meets at Chatham Fire Department this Thursday.
- **Rehab Committee:** No new developments, still in the writing stage.

Old Business:

No new business from the floor.

Stan reiterated that the Association web site is up and running www.saratogacofire.org still working on added features. Any agency that wishes to post a fundraising event, sponsoring a course, death of a member, etc, contact Stan at scfoa.ny@gmail.com or at oesfive@gmail.com and it will be posted.

New Business:

Stan made reference to the Board of Directors authorizing the purchase of certificates to be presented to four firefighters who saved human life at a fatal fire on November 2017 in the Village of Corinth. Presentations and recognition was done last Saturday at Corinth Fire Departments Old Timer's Banquet. Director (Chief) Brousseau represented the Association. The Uniform ribbon awards have not arrived to be presented, they will be presented to the firefighters once they arrive.

John Cooper stepped down, floor opened for nominations for the position of Treasurer.

After two announcements asking for nominations, no nominations moved. The matter will be brought up again at the June Meeting at the Waterford Tourist Center, Tug Boat Lane.

Chief Lewis commented that Phil (Brousseau) did an excellent job presenting the awards in Corinth. Chief Ellsworth also acknowledge the presentation, it was well thought out, a lot of good comments afterwards and "I thank the Association for recognizing the four gentlemen, we appreciate it".



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Association Director and Deputy Fire Coordinator Les Bonesteel had made mention at the last FAB meeting that when calling for the rehab vehicle (Maple Avenue or Jonesville), call for it early if warranted at the scene, remember the unit is under the mutual aid response and that the vehicles are stocked by the Company that runs the them (Maple Avenue and Jonesville). Keep in mind that it is not fair for the two companies to restock with their monies all the time, Les suggests that agencies that call for the bus consider making a donation back to help restock the food, beverages on board, etc. The crews do a great job !! It is there to be used.

Agency Report

- Arvin Hart – Chief Zendron thanked everybody who responded to yesterday's fire.
- Ballston Spa – Chief Lewis reports the department is still working though its PESH audit.
- Burnt Hills – Chief Crawford announce that B.H. F.D. is celebrating their 100th anniversary. June's Flag Day parade in Burnt Hills will also be the Fire Depts. Anniversary parade. Anyone agency wishing to enter trucks and marchers, fill out the document and send in by June 1st. (this can be found on the association web site as well www.saratogacofire.com TAB "News around the County" Also on September 15th, Burnt Hills will have a celebration at the Elmms Family Farm on Charlton Road. Agencies wishing to place an add in the Ad Journal, document can be found on the Association web site or reach out to Chief Crawford. On hand at the September celebration is the New England Veteran's Association. They do hand pumper competitions, as some may have observed at Eagle-Matt Lee's 200th celebration.
- Galway – Chief thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Anyone wants a tour, see Russ or Kevin Sr.
- Greenfield Center – Chief Ellsworth reiterated there is a "safe house" in Greenfield, still researching this and finally arranged for a walk thru tour to have a better idea of the construction, etc. Chief will report back in the future.
- Malta Ridge – "Progress"
- Providence – Nothing to Report
- Rexford – Taking delivery of a new ETA in about 25 days, being stripped and equipment mounted. If anyone is interested in a 1984 Standford, Commissioners are accepting bids for the truck. See Rexfords website and or Facebook page for details. Could make a good lawn ornament. This Friday, Rexford is having Giffy's BBQ 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Drive-Thru.
- Rock City Falls – Placed an order for a new ETA. Unknown delivery. Rock City Falls also dropped out of the EMS First Response program. RCF will respond on request.



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- Round Lake – Began construction of the new station starting today (demolition) FD is responding out of the old Stewarts building on Round Lake Rd.
- Stillwater – No Report
- Victory Mills – Assistant Chief thanked the Association for recognizing the passing of Past Chief Gordon Derby.
- Vischer Ferry – Looking to replace the rescue truck with an Engine Rescue truck and the FAST team is back on line. Vischer Ferry in process of developing a Day Time Mutual Aid response plan, day time man power shortage is being felt.
- West Crescent – on April 28th, Giffy's will be doing a BBQ at the fire station as part of the recruit NY theme in hopes to get people in and inquire within. Took delivery of a new chief's vehicle, purchased a Chevrolet.

Coordinator Trembley sent out an e-mail regarding Government Affairs day, May 15th, anyone wishing to attend, let Ed know. Several items to be brought up. One of many items on the agenda is Meth Lab / Drug production labs, if they are a cause of a fire, they will be charged with a Class 1 felony opposed to the current "cooking mishap".

Chief Mahar also announced that Stillwater will have their annual car show on May 5th, "snow date" is May 6th. Car show will be at the High School on Hudson Avenue, \$10 entry fee.

President thanked Galway Fire for hosting this evenings meeting and a thank you for the great turnout. No other business brought on the floor, this evenings guest topic speaker is Tom Rinaldi, NYS Cancer Bill.

Motion to adjourn by Round Lake, 2nd Burnt Hills, Carried
Meeting adjourned at 20:18 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Stan De Long, President