

Tim Schadt  
Chairman

Bernie Deutsch  
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysh  
Secretary

## **Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board**

**Date:** January 31, 2011

**Dan Briggs was present and swore in all members present at the meeting**

**Meeting called to order at:** 7:30pm

**Pledge to the flag was held**

**Elections were held, Tim and Bernie were both reelected and Mary Ann Drobysh was reappointed as secretary.**

**Attendance:** 10 out of 15 members present

Bethel: Timothy Blais	P
Callicoon:	
Cochecton: Gary Cochrane	A
Delaware: Tim Hornicek	P
Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch	P
Forestburgh: Arthur Salomon	A
Fremont: Anthony Wayne	A
Highland: Tim Schadt	P
Liberty: Don Sherwood	P
Lumberland: Charlie Fallon	P
Mamakating: Joe Roe	P
Neversink: Russell Turner	P
Rockland: Michael Juron	P
Thompson: Gary Smith	A
Tusten: Craig Burkle	P

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

### **Coordinators Report:**

Dick congratulates Tim and Bernie on their reelection.

The last 10 days have been very busy in the county, several big fires that required a lot of man-hours as well as a murder suicide.

Our new Governor will be giving a speech tomorrow which will include the need to cut costs. The Department of Homeland Security was overhauled last summer so we should be okay.

Chief Madison will stay on as the head of the Fire Coordinators Office until a replacement has been appointed.

Personnel at the Fire Administration are not being replaced right now.

The Rope Law is being reworked to try to improve upon it. Public Safety will be checking departments for compliance, please make sure all of your paperwork is in order.

The Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Albany will automatically add names to the memorial if the loss of life was in the line of duty and the family receives any kind of financial aid relating to that loss, no matter how the loss occurred.

Dick will be sending out information on the Fire Service Council. They will be holding a major recruitment drive for both Fire and EMS. They also help with Legislative issues as well as health issues for members of Fire and EMS.

EMS wants to be included in the Blue Light Law.

The Sullivan County Fallen Firefighter Memorial will be dedicated on May 1, 2011 at 2:00pm. Families of local fallen firefighters will be invited to attend. Dick would love to see a good turnout of men in uniform. There will be a service held each year on the first Sunday in May. The total cost is around \$8,000.00 for the granite Maltese cross that will be put up. The County will take care of the installation. Letters were sent to all departments requesting \$100.00. \$4000.00 is being donated by the Fire Association. Most all departments have already responded.

The classrooms at the new facility are open and the old classrooms are closed. John did a great job in coordinating the move.

Our budget was approved.

Columbia gas did a presentation at the Training Center. We will also try to set up a drill. The Millennium Line is a huge line, to find leaks you need to check with a cold gun, a gas leak will freeze the ground. Broome County recently has a leak that was repaired. It will cost between \$3000.00 to \$5,000.00 for a gas well drilling presentation. That idea is on hold while we look for other options.

Orange and Rockland did a presentation in Mamakating on substation fires. Caution must be exercised in a substation fire, do not enter the area unless it has been de-energized or accompanied by someone from the utility company. NYSEG will be having a similar presentation.

DOT, State Police and Emergency Management have met on NYS Route 17 detours and closing procedures. The plan now in place needs to be worked on. Local road issues development when 17 is shut down and those need to be addressed, as well as possible food and shelter requirements for a longer term event.

Don asked about the Blue Light Law. It applies to both fire and police and there is a limit to one light. Violators can be ticketed; each chief should make sure his members comply.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Training Facility:** no additional report
- 2) **EMS:** no report
- 3) **Arson:** There were 47 investigations in 2010, down from 54 in 2009. The hours involved in the investigations were 344. There are 3 fully trained new investigators. January has had 3 investigations including the one at the Monticello winery which is a very difficult investigation. So far it appears to have been accidental. Bernie asked if the scene of a fire that needs to be investigated should be preserved. Charlie said it really depends on the situation and if criminal activity is suspected then the answer is yes.
- 4) **Radio:** Alex is on vacation so Dick gave the update. The contract for the additional frequencies has been negotiated and they are being transferred. Work is being done on existing tower sites and new tower sites are being looked into as well. There may be some work required by members at local planning board meetings. There are multiple steps that need to be done in order to obtain planning board approvals.

**Correspondence:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Our March meeting date needs to be changed to the 21<sup>st</sup> instead of the 28<sup>th</sup> due to the unavailability of our meeting room.

Dick needs to work on updating our bylaws.

**Good and Welfare:** none

**Adjournment:** Motion to Adjourn      **Time:** 8:26pm

**Next meeting March 21, 2011 at 7:30pm at the  
Sullivan County Government Center**