

Bernie Deutsch
Chairman

Russell Turner
Vice Chairman

Mary Ann Drobysh
Secretary

Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Date: March 31, 2014

Meeting called to order at: 7:33pm

Pledge to the flag was held

Attendance: 11 out of 14 members present

Bethel: George Roosevelt	A
Callicoon: Jim Doughty	P
Cochecton: Gary Cochrane	A
Delaware: Paul Hendershot	P
Fallsburg: Bernard Deutsch	P
Forestburgh:	
Fremont: David Hirsch	P
Highland: Warren Wagner	P
Liberty: Don Sherwood	P
Lumberland: Charlie Fallon	P
Mamakating: Lou Tunno	P
Neversink: Russell Turner	P
Rockland: Michael Juron	P
Thompson: Brain Soller	P
Tusten: Craig Burkle	A

Elections:

Bernie was nominated and seconded, Lou nominated, no second, Bernie re-elected

Russell nominated and seconded and reelected

Mary Ann Drobysh reappointed as secretary

Minutes from previous unofficial meetings were not read.

Coordinators Report:

Alex is here, he will fill us in on the radio progress.

There are 35 to 40 classes scheduled at the training center, many are already filled.

Mark Smar is a PESH Trainer and Inspector. He has offered to do a training session on trench safety for the chiefs and commissioners.

The new DEC lieutenant will be attending the next Chief's meeting.

FF 1 is being reviewed in committee. Dick is on this committee. They are trying to make the content and class hours more manageable. It will be ready later this year.

The new textbook has been approved, they are \$70.00 per copy and the State is only buying copies for the instructors, not the students. Each department could probably make due with 4 copies. Electronic versions are on the horizon for use with PC's, laptops and tablets.

Fire Officer 1 will be reviewed and revamped.

There will be a formal announcement within the next few weeks regarding the 10 year rule for turnout gear used for training. There have been many complaints about this rule. The gear will have to meet OSHA requirements.

The detour plan for NYS Route 17 has been completed and will be sent to DPW, law enforcement agencies, and fire chiefs for their review. Changes can still be made if need be.

Plans are being made for the Mysteryland event at Bethel Woods. The concern is that local fire and ems be available for their own communities as well as the concert area. There will be strict rules regarding the onsite camping and leaving the grounds. Those with day passes will have more freedom of movement. There will be shuttle buses for the offsite concert goers to and from where they are staying.

There is a study being done regarding the feasibility of moving the State Fire Academy or updating the existing location at Montour.

There are no state to state mutual aid agreements in place but there can be local agreements.

When there are multiple companies involved in an incident there has to be an incident commander, each chief cannot act on their own.

Alex Rau gave some information on the Control Center. There are 2 new dispatchers, Matt Goldsmith and Josh Price who are both involved in the Fire Service.

There will be upgrades made to the 911 phone system in the next few months, the system will be a redundant one and will add functionality. There was a State grant for this.

Motorola will no longer be making low band pagers, you will need to find equipment and parts on the used market or from another manufacturer.

There is a lot going on with the new communications system. Existing towers are being upgraded and construction on the new towers can begin when the weather improves. Bids are set to go out next month. We are looking to be online late 2015 to early 2016. There was some concern expressed by board members about fire and ems being dispatched on the same frequencies. Alex explained that we only have a total of 6 frequencies available and the decision to dispatch was made to make the best possible use of them. Text paging was brought up but Motorola does not support it at this time and it is also not in the current budget. The digital route would be very expensive. The first concern is getting the infrastructure in place and the operational end will be worked on in committee. There are alternatives to additional frequencies that will be looked at. Education will be the key is getting the system running correctly and chiefs will have to enforce the rules within their own departments. Alex was not sure when the bids will go out for departmental equipment. There will be many meeting regarding the actual operation before it goes online and this board will be represented on the committees. Alex said if there are any questions or concerns to contact him. This system will be in place for fire, ems, law enforcement and DPW.

Committee Reports:

Arson Task Force: No numbers available for the year as of yet. There is an increase in personnel at fire scenes.

Recruit NY: Jack Halchak is working on the advertising. The 911 pullout is being prepared. There is a limited budget of \$2,300.00

Communications: None

Old Business: None

New Business: Each member of this Board will need to check with their respective Town Board to make sure that the Town's Emergency Management Plan is up to date. The plans should be forwarded onto Dick when complete and updated. Lou asked about when an evacuation and emergency has been declared what can be done about people who refuse to leave. Dick responded that there is a form that would need to be signed and will get him a copy.

Jack Halchak will need a list of every department's available resources to update the existing information.

We will need to appoint a committee to review and revise the County's Mutual Aid Plan as well as a committee to review this Board's By Laws.

Good and Welfare: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

Next meeting May 19 at 7:30 PM