



Cumberland County Fire Chief's Association

"Preservation of Life and Property through Organization"

Minutes of the April 26, 2021 Monthly Meeting



The Chiefs' meeting was hosted by Stedman Fire Department. The meeting format was relaxed in accordance with the newly issued CDC COVID 19 guidelines pertaining to fully vaccinated members, with others participating by teleconference. Dinner was served. We thank Chief Nobles and his staff for their hospitality.

- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Johnson at 7:00 pm.
- Opening Prayer:** Deacon Ernie Freeman conducted the opening prayer.
- Pledge of Allegiance:** President Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted with 18 departments and 7 associate members present.

Members Absent:

- Fire/EMS Departments: **Spring Lake FD - Excused**
- Associate Members: **County Managers Office - Excused, Retired Fire Chiefs and Sheriff's Office.**

Approval of Minutes: The March 22, 2021 minutes were approved as presented.

Guests: Dr. Larry Keen of FTCC gave a brief update on the new fire training center being built to support Fire and Rescue training in Cumberland County.

Members of the former Lafayette Village FD to include Mrs. Middleton were on hand to present the CCFCA with a check for \$43,757.18 to be used in the new Memorial Plaza being constructed at the new FTCC Training Facility. President Johnson accepted the check on behalf of CCFCA and told Dr. Keen that the money would be transferred to FTCC for use on the Memorial Plaza.

Vendors Present: Mr. Seth Newton, Newton's Fire and Safety and Mr. Scott Graham, MSA representative provided a brief display and update on the new LUNAR Thermal Camera

Treasurer's Report: Not Applicable (Quarterly - next report May 2021)

Meeting Points of Interests:

*Next Chiefs' Meeting is scheduled for **Pearce's Mill Fire Department** on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7 pm. Snacks will be served. (Due to COVID only **two** Agency Chief Officers per department, all others call in at 1930 hours)*

- ***Fort Bragg Air 1*** assumes air truck rotation during the month of May 2021 followed by ***Stoney Point Air 19*** in June 2021.

Items of Interest Handouts

- ✓ Assorted handouts in your packets.
 - Training Committee minutes
 - Legislative Day May 5th in Raleigh
 - Smoke Alarm Statewide campaign June 5th

OLD BUSINESS:

1. President Johnson updated the membership on the radio programming project and informed the Chiefs that there were several more programming issues that need completing before the system can go live.
2. President Johnson informed the Chiefs that the Emergency Reporting Records System has begun migration of our current data and station account set up. Chief Hanzal briefed the group on several areas of upcoming training as well as templates that must be completed to ensure a proper migration of data. It is the intent to go live with ER on July 1, 2021
3. President Johnson updated the Chiefs about the 2021 Fire Protection Service District Grant Program and our number 1 portable radio group purchase priority. President Johnson advised the members that the grant reviewers had completed their work. They also provided constructive feedback on the grant reviewing process. All the information had been passed over to Director Booth for presentation to county finance and management.
4. President Johnson briefed that he wants to bring back the Arnold J. Koonce award which will be awarded annually to a Fire Officer and a Firefighter. This award was given for several years in the late 80's and early 90's as a tribute to Chief/Fire Marshal Arnold Koonce after his retirement. Arnold was Cumberland County's first Fire Marshal and helped steer our early rural countywide fire issues and programs. The process will be automated, and President Johnson has already talked with our webmasters to coordinate the process. Additional guidance and award protocols will be forthcoming. To recognize past recipients as well as all our future recipients on a plaque conspicuously posted President Johnson stated that we know of four (4) recipients – 1990 1st Asst. Chief J. Wallace Smith, 1991 Chief Mark Melvin, 1992 Chief Steve Parrish, 1994 Asst. Chief Bryan Marley we are missing the 1993 recipient.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Commissioner Keefe briefed the Chiefs about his plan to coordinate a Firefighter and Family appreciation event on Saturday October 2, 2021 at JP Riddle Stadium in conjunction with the 2021 annual October Fire Prevention Month. There will be firefighter games and competition, children's events, food and beverages and a band to complete the evening. He stated that he met with key Fire Chiefs and Dr. Keen President of FTCC, and they are all on board. He stated that he will provide more details and how to move forward with a planning and event committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ID CARD COMMITTEE

- **FYI.** Fire Chiefs are required to send a signed letter or memo with a firefighter requesting an ID Card. For any questions or an appointment contact 424-0694 or e-mail at cjohnson.spfd@gmail.com

President Johnson again asked the members to please continue to recycle or return the clips used for our ID Cards. These clips are extremely expensive, and we need to reuse them as much as possible in order to hold down costs. Please collect clips when your members leave a department and recycle the clips. He also reminded the membership that we do not print blue tags, which are considered temporary tags only.

LIFE SAFETY/EDUCATION COMMITTEE Kevin Lowther (Fire Marshal)

E-Mail: klowther@co.cumberland.nc.us

- Fire Marshal Lowther's mother passed away and President Johnson asked everyone to keep him in your prayers

STANDARDS & POLICY COMMITTEE D/C Tracy Smith (Pearce's Mill FD) Chairperson,

E-Mail: pmfd0302@nc.rr.com

- No report.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE Chief R. Marley (Pearce's Mill) Chairperson,

E-Mail: pmfd0301@nc.rr.com

- Chief Marley will be sending out a request to meet with the committee members soon.

TRAINING COMMITTEE Assistant Chief Kevin Murphy (Stoney Point) Chairperson

E-Mail kmurphy1903@gmail.com

- Chief Murphy provided a hand-out on upcoming classes both local and regional. Advised the Chiefs that he will meet with department training officers to discuss training needs over the next several weeks. He also reported that all training classes will be posted on the CCFCA web page.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Deputy Chief Freddy Johnson Jr. (Stoney Point) Chairperson,

E-Mail: spfd1302@nc.rr.com

- No report. (Provided quarterly during Chiefs only meeting)

RESCUE COMMITTEE Deputy Chief Hank Harris (Cotton FD) Chairperson,

E-Mail: cfd402@nc.rr.com

- No report.

COMMUNICATIONS /DISPATCH STEERING / AVL COMMITTEE Chief Chuck Hodges (Hope Mills FD), Chairperson, E-Mail: clhodges@townofhopemills.com

- No report

RECORDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Division Chief Brandon Hanzal (Stoney Point) Chairperson, E-Mail:

- No report.

HOSTILE RESPONSE / ACTIVE SHOOTER – Assistant Chief Kevin Morgan (FFD) Chairperson,
E-Mail: kmorgan@ci.fay.nc.us

- No report

RECRUITMENT / RETENTION COMMITTEE – Fire Chief Justin Nobles (SVFD # 23) Chairperson.
E-Mail: jnobles@stedmanfire.com

- No report.

JOINT INCIDENT / DISASTER RESPONSE COMMITTEE – Assistant Fire Chief Richard Bradshaw (VFD) Chairperson, E-Mail: rbradshaw1@nc.rr.com

- No report.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REPORT

COUNTY MANAGERS OFFICE – Assistant County Manager Tracy Jackson
E-Mail: tjackson@co.cumberland.nc.us

- No report.

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR/ ECC-911 (Gene Booth, Director),
E-Mail: gbooth@co.cumberland.nc.us

- **Director Booth** –. Director Booth introduced EM Director Crumpler and Planner Mark Baker. Director Booth also mentioned that he was moving forward with the Grant Program.
- **Emergency Management Director Crumpler** – Briefed information about the COVID vaccine clinics and that WEBEOC training was available. A new training prop was purchased with some grant money.
- **FM Lowther** – No report.
- **Adam Johnson** –No Report.

EMS DIRECTOR: Brian Pearce, Director E-Mail: bpearce@capefearvalley.com

- No report.

HAZMAT: AC Robert Brinson, FFD - POC telephone for HAZMAT is 910-584-9550,
E-Mail: rbrinson@ci.fay.nc.us

- No report.

FORESTRY DISTRICT Craig Gottfried, County Ranger, E-Mail: craig.gottfried@ncagr.gov

- No report.

FTCC Steve Drew, E-Mail: drews@faytechcc.edu

- Steve Drew gave an update on the nighttime fire academies and some upcoming TR and Aerial classes.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE Sheriff Wright ewright@ccsonc.org (Sr. Sgt. Steven Hodges) Email - shodges@ccsonc.org

- No report.

FAYETTEVILLE POLICE – Police Chief Gina Hawkins, Email ghawkins@ci.fay.nc.us
(Captain Jay Devane) jdevane@ci.fay.nc.us

- No report.

NC HIGHWAY PATROL – Colonel Freddy Johnson Jr. Commander NCSHP.

E-Mail: Freddy.johnson@ncshp.org or Sergeant S. Johnson SHP Raleigh Training Center

E-Mail sean.johnson@ncshp.org

- Colonel Johnson thanked everyone for their support on his selection as the Colonel for NCSHP.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

- No report.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

President Johnson briefly discussed the scheduled April 27, 2021 WEB-EOC exercise and reminded the chiefs that Hurricane Season is about a month away and that all our coordination efforts, resource requests and overall situational awareness is posted and coordinated through our County WEB-EOC. Please have someone from your department log in and participate.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn by Chief Brock and seconded by Chief Bradshaw. The meeting was adjourned at 2105 hours.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Freddy L. Johnson Sr.

Freddy L. Johnson Sr., CFO
Fire Chief / President

Mark A. Melvin

Mark A. Melvin, CFO
Fire Chief / Secretary

Enclosures – 1.

1 – April 26, 2021 attendance roster

