

## **Cumberland County Fire Chief's Association**

### **Minutes of May 24, 2010 Monthly Meeting**

The meeting was hosted by the Beaver Dam Fire Department Station #26. We thank Chief Bullard and his staff for their hospitality.

**Opening Prayer:** Chief J.F. Hall provided the opening prayer.

**Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted with 19 departments and 7 associate members present.

**Members Absent:** Eastover, EMS, Hope Mills, Westarea #15

**Associate Members Absent:** HazMat, Sheriff's Office, NC Forestry, Life Link, Hope Mills Police

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the April 26, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.

**Guests:** None

**Vendors Present:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report.

#### **Meeting Point of interests:**

**Next Chief's Meeting** will be held June 28, 2010 at Fayetteville FD Station # 17 on Bailey's Lake Rd.. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

- President Johnson updated the members on some valve repairs made on the foam trailers. The trailers have new Alcohol Resistant foam on board. The trailers have a battery conditioner on same now to keep the batteries charged and ready. President Johnson stated that we may need to purchase a few appliances for several of the trailers to enhance their performance capabilities.
- The ID program is under way. Departments are being scheduled for their pictures and ID updates. Please turn in your personnel information sheets so that you can be scheduled for your pictures.
- President Johnson reminded everyone to please get your paperwork completed regarding your workers compensation program which is due on or before June 30, 2010

- President Johnson advised the members that Mike Roye was no longer with the EMS service for Cape Fear Valley Hospital. Mark McLaurin is the Interim Chief for the EMS division, while James Bullard serves as the Interim Chief of Life Link.
- President Johnson handed out packets which contained; a fundraiser for Archie Cox, Legal Briefs, Legislative Day in Raleigh and several training classes.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- President Johnson gave an up-date on the budget issues. He informed the members that the Public Safety Task Force (PSTF) met with the County Finance Committee to discuss our on-going budget woes. The finance committee will recommend to the entire board to support a  $\frac{3}{4}$  cent increase within the Special Fire District Tax Fund in order to increase low wealth funding up to \$ 250,000 and to provide additional funding for critical county-wide fire service needs such as the P-25 Digital Radio upgrade for 525 radios, Firehouse upgrade to accommodate future automation for our services. Fire Commissioner Ed Melvin echoed and stated that County Manager Martin will present the county budget to the commissioner's tomorrow night (Tuesday May 25, 2010) with the stated increase.
- President Johnson announced that the radio re-programming was almost completed. Michael Horne is working on several additional templates to assist with other county mutual aid channels

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- President Johnson is working with Deputy Chief Harris in regards to a defect and recall on issues with the new fire safety trailer. Surrey Fire Safety House has been notified and we are awaiting an answer concerning the issue.
- President Johnson had all of the committees to meet and discuss any issues related to their particular areas.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **ID CARD COMMITTEE Lt. Tara Whitman (Stoney Point) Chairperson**

- **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 [tara@stoneypointfire.com](mailto:tara@stoneypointfire.com)

#### **FIRE PREVENTION/EDUCATION COMMITTEE Chief J. F. Hall (Bethany) Chairperson**

- The Fire Prevention Committee is looking at several ways to advertise fire safety messages. The use of the Time Warner Cable Community channel, billboards as well as written literature is being considered. The committee also wants to ensure that our Hispanic population is being targeted with these new programs. The Committee will also look at future ISO requirements dealing with Fire Prevention and Education Programs slated to go into effect around 2013. Chief Hall requested that President Johnson provide additional information concerning the new requirements.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** Chief B. Bullard (Stedman) Chairperson

- The Communications Committee discussed issues related to the texting program for fire dispatching. Director Currie stated that this was a Verizon issue along with some local IT issues. A request was made to include the subdivision names in the dispatch information when applicable. The committee will be updating the communications SOG. Communications supervisor Susan Gillis stated that work on the texting issue is on-going and it was consuming a large portion of her daily work. However work was on-going between her office and various cell phone providers and OSSI.

#### **STANDARDS & POLICY COMMITTEE** Chief K. Hall (Cumberland Road) Chairperson

- Chief K. Hall will be working to bring forth some operational SOG's in the future. President Johnson stated we should present about 5 SOG's every-month for review and action. SOG's is another area of interest in future ISO rating requirements.

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

- No report.

#### **AUTOMATIC AID/MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE** Chief Ake (Beaver Dam) Chairperson

- Chief Ake requested that we re-iterate the level 1 and level 2 staging aspects as required by NIMS and our local SOG. Chiefs were reminded to please not send all rookie firefighters to your automatic aid calls.

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

- President Johnson discussed upcoming issues related to the Fire House Computer programs. We will need to upgrade in the next 18-24 months. We will be inviting the FH representative to our meeting to discuss all of our options. The Finance Committee will need to begin addressing spending priorities as soon as our budget is approved. We will in the interim re-new our basic Fire House Software maintenance contract. We WEB technology we will look at the feasibility of going to a consolidated server that would handle all departments in the county. We will discuss this option with the Fire House representatives and inquire about security issues surrounding such a system.

**RESCUE COMMITTEE** Deputy Chief Freddy Johnson Jr. (Stoney Point) Chairperson

- No report

**BULK PURCHASE COMMITTEE** Chief Roye (EMS) Chairperson

- Chief Allen discussed how bulk purchasing could benefit all of the departments during these lean economical times. Chiefs were informed to discuss any major purchasing issues with Chief K. Hall who handles purchases for the FFD.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REPORT**

**EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR/ ECC-911** Kenny Currie, Director

- Director Currie advised that the use of the Viper system was delayed due to a permitting issue and will let us know of a new startup date.

**EMS DIRECTOR:** Vacant, Director

- No report.

**HAZMAT** BC Hieu Sifford, FFD - POC telephone for HAZMAT is 433-1729

- No report

**FORESTRY DISTRICT** Andrew Synder, County Ranger

- No report.

**FTCC** Ernest Ward, Director

- A firefighter academy will begin June 1, 2010 at the training center.

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE** Sheriff Butler

- No report

**HIGHWAY PATROL**

- First Sgt. F. Johnson advised the members that firefighters did not need medical cards for their Class A and B operator's license as long as they were being used for the operation of fire apparatus. If a firefighter is doing "work for hire", then a medical card would be required.

**CHRISTIAN FIREFIGHTERS** Chaplain Casanova

- No report.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** Fire Commissioner Ed Melvin

- Commissioner Melvin advised the members that he will keep us abreast of the upcoming budget talks.
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**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

1. SBI agent Newcomb announced that Chad Royal will be an additional agent in the county for Arson investigations.
2. Chief Herndon introduced Phillip Riddle as a new Assistant Chief for Station 18.
3. President Johnson stated that his department is sponsoring a National Fire Academy Incident Safety Officer course at Station 19 on Friday night June 18, 2010 from 7 until 10 PM and again on Saturday June 19, 2010 from 8 AM until complete. The NC OSFM is providing the instructor. Anyone wanting a spot is to call Station 13 or e-mail Chief Johnson.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made to adjourn by Chief Steven Blackburn, seconded by Chief J.F. Hall. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2100 hours.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Freddy L. Johnson

Freddy L. Johnson Sr. CFO  
Fire Chief / President

Mark A. Melvin

Mark Melvin, CFO  
Deputy Fire Chief / Secretary