

COLUMBIA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

85 Industrial Tract, Hudson, New York 12534

****Unapproved Minutes ****

The September 16, 2009 Columbia County Fire Advisory Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Henry Swartz at 7:00pm with the following people answering roll call:

Henry Swartz, CCVFA, Chairman
James Briscoe, CCFCA
Joseph H. Loeffler, CCVFA
Steven Montie, CCVFA
William Hunt, 1st Deputy Fire Coordinator
Robert Lopez, 911 Administrator

Ron Rifenburg, CCFCA, Vice-Chairman
Matthew Larabee, CCFCA
Wally Engel, CCFCA
Bart Delaney, CC Board of Supervisors
P.J. Keeler, EMS Coordinator
Janet Shumsky, Secretary

A motion was made by Matt Larabee and 2nd by James Briscoe to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Columbia County Board of Supervisors Resolution 263-2009 Authorization to discontinue bi-monthly meetings of the Fire Advisory Board and provide for quarterly meetings.
- Letter from James VanDeusen with terms of battalion members on the Fire Advisory Board.
- Columbia County Volunteer Firefighters Association letter of Terms of Officers.
- Columbia County Fire Chiefs Association letter of endorsement for Jim VanDeusen as Columbia County Fire Coordinator.
- Columbia County Volunteer Firefighters Association letter of appointments to the Fire Advisory Board.

Fire Coordinator's Report:

Bill Hunt gave the following report:

- Fire schools are filling up. At this time it doesn't look like any schools will be cancelled.
- As a reminder, HazMat Ops is required to take the Fire Police school.
- Sheriff Deputies Dave Proper and Mike Stelling teach the Fire Police schools. In order to teach you must have 5 years of law enforcement experience.
- Jim VanDeusen will be out of town from September 25th until October 8th.

Instructor's Report:

No report.

EMS Coordinator's Report:

P.J. Keeler reported that Mark Costello put on a talk at the Battalion meeting of what happens when everyone gets sick. We need to be prepared.

Rob Lopez added that influenza cards have been included on the dispatchers cards. There are 3 levels of response. If a pandemic outbreak happens in Columbia County we are looking at increased EMS call volumes, decreased hospital beds and EMS workers unable to go to work due to sickness.

Emergency Management Report:

No report.

911 Center:

Rob Lopez reported that the microwave order was placed in August. Installation of the microwave should begin in mid-October. We are currently still in phase 1 of installations.

HazMat Team:

Matt Larabee read the report submitted by Team Captain Bud Godfroy:

- Team marched in the Columbia County Agricultural Fair parade in September. There were 19 people that helped at the fair booth.
- The October 14th drill will be decontamination held in New Lebanon.
- Pesticides and Poisons will be held in New Lebanon for the September drills. Anyone from fire departments in the county is welcome as the information is on the firefighter level. Registration can be done through the Fire Coordinators website same as other course registrations.
- TJ Lyons will be doing a presentation on confined space harnesses and rigging. The team does respond but with limited capabilities.
- Reminder that all personnel interested in Fire Police must have HazMat Ops as pre-requisite, which can be taken during the Firefighter 1 course. Ten slots are made available during the Firefighter 1 class but you must sign up the same as other course registrations.

Cause and Origin Team:

Bill Hunt reported:

- The team has responded to a couple calls since last meeting.
- Looking to set up a class on drug labs.
- Several ride-a-long persons are near completion for their Fire Investigator Level 1 certification.
- Generator is needed for the bus. If anyone knows of anyone who has one, please contact Bill.

Supervisor's report:

Bart Delaney reported that the Board of Supervisors approved the request to change the meetings to quarterly instead of every other month.

A discussion was brought up on who from the Board of Supervisors is appointed to the Fire Advisory Board. In the past, but not correctly listed on the rules of the Fire Advisory Board, a member from the Public Safety Committee has been appointed to the board. The rules currently say Legal Committee. A motion was made by Matt Larabee and 2nd by Steve Montie to change the rules of the Fire Advisory Board to say "One member from the Board of Supervisor's Public Safety Committee", which replaces the Legal Committee. With no opposition, the motion was carried and the rules will be changed.

Old / Unfinished Business:

- Henry Swartz asked if a decision was made as who from the Fire Advisory Board will have access to the Public Safety Building. Keys were distributed to Henry Swartz, Ron Rifenburg and Janet Shumsky.

New Business:

- The board decided the meeting schedule should change the beginning of the year. Meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00pm at the Public Safety Building in the months of January, April, July and October. The schedule will be sent to all members.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 7:00pm at the Public Safety Building on 85 Industrial Tract, Hudson. Access to the meeting room will be through the 2nd outside front door from the fenced in area.

Adjournment:

With no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was made by Wally Engel and 2nd by Ron Rifenburg. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Shumsky, Secretary