

COLUMBIA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

85 Industrial Tract, Hudson, New York 12534

****Unapproved Minutes ****

The November 18, 2009 Columbia County Fire Advisory Board meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Ron Rifenburg at 7:00pm with the following people answering roll call:

Ron Rifenburg, CCFCA, Vice-Chairman
James Briscoe, CCFCA
Joseph H. Loeffler, CCVFA
Gary Mazzacano, CCFCA
Ted Beck, Instructor
Janet Shumsky, Secretary

John Blaauw, CCVFA
Matthew Larabee, CCFCA
Rich Lindmark, 911 Center
James VanDeusen, Fire Coordinator
Gary Tuthill, Emergency Mgmt.

A motion was made by Matt Larabee and 2nd by James Briscoe to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Columbia County Board of Supervisors Resolution 333-2009 Appointing Members to the Fire Advisory Board.

Fire Coordinator's Report:

James VanDeusen reported on the following items:

- New smoke machine is still out of service and in Albany.
- The 5000kw generator for the C&O bus that was gotten from Williams Lumber will be installed soon.
- The fire schools have been going good:
 - Firefighter 1 in Copake expected to graduate 21 people
 - Incident Safety Officer course was held in Churchtown
 - Scene Support course graduated 19 people
 - The following courses are full: Truck Company Operations, Ladder Company Operations, Fire Officer 1, Introduction to Fire Officer and Structural Collapse course

Instructor's Report:

- Jim Van Deusen reported that Mike Stelling is feeling better and should be back from his medical leave in a couple weeks.
- Ted Beck said the tower is being used quite a bit. Another class on how to use the tower will be given in May or June of next year. The people needing to attend this class are the ones that will be putting in the request to use the tower. The tower cannot be scheduled unless the person has been to this training.

EMS Coordinator's Report:

No report.

Emergency Management Report:

Gary Tuthill gave the following report:

- The county health department is planning an H1N1 vaccination clinic in Hudson for first responder fire companies. There was a clinic held in Chatham that vaccinated quite a few people already.
- The office applied for and received a LEPC grant for the HazMat team.

911 Center:

No report.

HazMat Team:

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

- A successful pesticides and poisons class was held at New Lebanon station.
- A successful decontamination drill was held at New Lebanon station.
- The team responded to a gasoline spill on 11/15/09 around 11am. Gasoline went into the storm drains and the team was on scene for approximately 4 hours while members helped remediate the situation. There was a good turnout of team members.
- Fit testing is an on-going process with most companies asking for help.
- The team would like to advise the County Fire Chiefs that the HazMat team is using individual department PPE for response with HazMat team vests and helmets. The team is not using department PPE in hazardous situations. The departments will be reimbursed for any damage by the County.

Cause and Origin Team:

Bill Hunt reported:

- 5 members of the team went to the Arson Seminar in Montour Falls the beginning of November.
- Most of the ride-along people have almost gotten their hours to get their Level 1 certification.
- Team has responded to 19 calls to date

Supervisor's report:

No report.

Old / Unfinished Business:

Jim VanDeusen reported on the following items:

- There has been a Chief change in West Ghent. Jim Cesternino is now Car 1.
- Mellenville Fire Company is only responding to ECHO level calls in their district. They are no longer considered a First Responder agency.
- Ted Beck has taken over as the new President of the Fire Chiefs Association. Dave Goold is no longer the President.

New Business:

Joe Loeffler brought up a letter written by George Hoover from Red Rock and addressed to PJ Keeler, EMS Coordinator. The letter discussed Red Rock's position on the Emergency Medical Dispatch policy set forth by Columbia County. A list of questions from Red Rock pertaining to this EMS policy was presented to this board. A motion was made by Gary Mazzacano and 2nd by Matt Larabee to have the Secretary send a cover letter along with the list of questions to the EMS Advisory Board asking them to address the questions that Red Rock has on the EMS policies. Motion carried. A copy will be forwarded to Red Rock, 911 Administrator and the County Attorney.

Jim Van Deusen advised that Brooke Chastin and Tara Golden were given awards by the Chiefs Association for their assistance at the trailer fire in West Ghent where they woke up the tenant and put the fire out under the home.

Matt Larabee advised that Wally Engel was elected by the Chiefs Association as a new director.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20th, 2010 at 7:00pm at the Paul J. Proper 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 Joe Loeffler and 2nd by John Blaauw. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Shumsky, Secretary