

## **Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County & Vicinity**

The Meeting of the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County & Vicinity was hosted by the Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Department on December 14, 2017 with President Joseph D. Burns II presiding.

Members in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

A prayer was given by the Chaplin for the meal that was prepared by the membership of the Jackson Township Fire Department. A short recess was call for by President Burns for the meal to be served.

President Burns reconvened the meeting at 7:30 pm with asking for the previous meeting minutes be read. *With no errors or corrections a motion from the floor to accept the last meeting minutes by Mark Coleman of Beaverdale and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Verbosky of Colver. Motion was carried.*

Communications: None for this meeting.

Reading of the Monthly Bills:

### **General Fund**

Precision Business Solutions	\$ 26.50	Web updates, etc.
1 <sup>st</sup> Summit Bank	\$ 31.75	Annual Box Rental
Greater Johnstown / Cambria County Chamber	\$ 185.00	Annual Membership
Western Pa Firefighters Assn.	\$ 12.00	Annual Dues

### **Fire School**

Penelec	\$ 272.42	Site Electric – November
Steve Verbosky	\$ 150.00	Sewage permits reimbursement
Pallone Insurance Agency	\$ 903.00	A&H Premium
Bricks R Us	\$2,116.00	1 <sup>st</sup> order for brick wall
Lowes Charge	\$ 315.68	misc. charges
Hugill Sanitation	\$ 30.00	Garbage pickup

### **Death Fund**

Vernon Fulton	\$ 275.00	Benefit for Diane Fulton (Station 3)
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**Total Expenses:** **\$4,317.35**

*Motion by Nick Wuckovich of Conemaugh to pay the bills 2<sup>nd</sup> By Richard Brown Jr. of NantyGlo Motion Carried.*

### **Treasures Report:**

Treasurer Paul Kundrod read and submitted the Treasurer's report, a copy is on file with the Secretary. *Motion by Joe Adams of Cresson to accept the Treasurer Report 2<sup>nd</sup> by William Cornell of West Hills Regional. Motion Carried.*

### **Committee Reports:**

Law & Legislative: Steve Unger of Conemaugh Reports that the Senate and House of Rep will only be meeting three more days before the end of the year which will be December 18,19 & 20<sup>th</sup>. Steve brought to our attention that House Bill 411 which would raise the payouts of bingo games are within reach on both the Senate and House floor and then will be sent to the Governor to sign the bill. Steve is

encouraging fire departments to contact their local Senators to push for swift passage of this bill. Steve also touch on House Bill 558 which amends Title 35 (Health and Safety) in volunteer firefighters' relief association. Allows relief association funds to be used to defray the cost of obtaining a commercial driver's license for a volunteer firefighter who is a resident of Pennsylvania to operate a fire or emergency vehicle registered to the fire department or municipality. Finally Steve spoke on House Bill 271 Gaming Expansion, and pointed out that the Attorney General has taken some interest in enforcement of the gaming laws. He suggested that clubs purchase an accounting program for tracking Small Games of Chance proceeds and expenses. This will help avoid audits and make audits easier when they do happen. Also recommended any club who is using the skill games to get a written letter from their vendor that the machines have been deemed legal before allowing them.

Fire School: Joe Adams of Cresson reported on next Spring's fire school dates have been set and the weekends of April 6,7,&8<sup>th</sup>, April 20,21,&22nd, and April 28&29<sup>th</sup>. The committee's has gotten Spring fire school brochure out in the mail. There will be five (5) essential programs taking place after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the New Year. They will be hosted in Dauntless, Cresson, West Hills, Hastings and Clymer. Also Joe would like to thank any department that offered their stations and equipment to help make this easier on the Instructors and the Committee. Joe mentioned that the Flashover Simulator class filled up very quickly with in two (2) days. He has asked if you have members thinking of taking classes please get the registration forms back quickly in case of situations such as this happen so we can let them know that the class has been filled. Jeff Gromley of Clymer reported that any credits that are received from this point on will go towards the following year's fire school training. The committee felt it would be a lot easier for him the fire school secretary to keep track.

Fire School Site: John Hawksworth of Dauntless reported that the fire school site is closed for the winter. The holding tank has passed Steve Verbosky of Colver is just in need of a copy of the bond from the insurance company for them to sign off on it, Steve has ask the Secretary Gromley to get this for him so he can get to the inspectors to sign off on it. The site has nozzles that fire companies can borrow if they wish to clean their nozzles on their rigs, just contact him to make arrangements for pickup. Lastly reported the committee has purchased a fourteen (14) pound dummy that association companies can use for children efficiency courses. Once again see John or any other site director for pickup.

Certification: William Cornell of West Hills and Eric Miller of Johnstown reported that the Instructors and Evaluators meeting will take place in Lewistown on November 16<sup>th</sup>. They have learned that Pike and Center Counties are looking to become Certification Sites. They have also learned that there will be a Tiller Certification added to the certification list, and to become a Pumper Driver Operator you do not have to meet the Fire Fighter 1 equivalent now.

Historical: Nick Wuckovich of Conemaugh reported that there have been around eight (8) departments that have not responded. John Bem of Hastings has been working very hard to put together the minutes of this part of the history book since it was left off in 1996. Nick mentioned that they have nothing for any ladies auxiliary groups. The group is looking for old pictures from past convention and fire school site times. They are going to start looking at printers and prices per page to proceed with this part of the history book. At this time *Richard Brown Jr. of NantyGlo made a motion to give the history committee permission to move forward on getting bids for the Historical Book 2nd by Joe Adams of Cresson.*  
*Motion was carried*

Web Site: Everything is posted and up to date on the site.

911 EMA: Allen Kline of EMA and Hastings reported that he and Robyn meet with the Commissioners

and the Commissioners have re-appointed the fire advisory board committee. They have ask that we start a new and a fresh with this committee in the first quarter of this year. Commissioner Chernisky has ask that the members of the fire advisory board please R.S.V.P back if they will be attending so they know that there is a need for a meeting that quarter.

Fire Advisory Board: Steve Verbosky of Colver added he and the committee will be excited to start working with Robyn and the Commissioners this upcoming year.

County Convention: Nothing till after the holidays.

Delegates Report: Nothing to report at this meeting.

Resolutions: Chaplin Drew Walther read the name of decease member Diane Fulton of Richland Station "3". All members in attendance stood in one minute of silence for our passed member.

Roll Call of Officers: President Joseph D. Burns II, 1stVice President Christopher Cox, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Darrin Smith, Treasure Paul Kundrod, Secretary John Gromley, Assistant Treasurer Eric Miller and Assistant Secretary Jeff Gromley were all present.

Roll Call of Companies: 19 Total Company Present, Beaverdale, City of Johnstown, Clymer, Colver, Conemaugh, Cover Hill, Cresson, Dauntless, Gallitzin, Hastings, Jackson Township, Lilly, Loretto, Nanty Glo, Richland Township, St. Michael, Summerhill, Upper Yoder Township, West Hills Regional.

Old Business: John Hawksworth of Dauntless made his pitch for members to go back to fire stations to purchase bricks and try to have members buy bricks for family members for Christmas presents to support the fire school. So far they have had a total of ten company's purchase a brick since the committee has been selling them. Nick Wuckovich has ask about companies that have not complied last year or for years with their dues to the association and believes we as members need to look into what can be done to get these companies up to date with their membership or let them go if they wish not to comply. Richard Brown Jr. has ask Commissioner Chernisky on how long it will take the radio study. Commissioner Chernisky has told the members it could be a year or two before they get back, but he can assure the membership it is definitely on top of the Commissioners list of things to get accomplished as soon as possible.

*New Business: Nick Wuckovich has made a motion to purchase a fire proof safe that will be big enough to store all the past association minutes and records in it, and that it be stored at the county fire school site with at two (2) digital copies of the minutes and one must always remain in the safe at all times. 2nd Chris Cox of Gallitzin. Motion was carried. Nick Wuckovich has made a motion to move forward with getting all the minutes digitized as soon as possible so we have access to more copies of the past minutes and records of the association 2nd by Chris Cox of Gallitzin. Motion was carried.*

Good of the Order: President J.D. Burns ask for a rising vote of thanks for the Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Company for providing a meal and hosting the association meeting this month.

Next Meeting to be held at the Richland Volunteer Fire Company at the Solomon Run hall on Thursday January 22, 2018

50/50 was award at \$26.00

*Motion by Darrin Smith of St. Michael to Adjourn at 8:48 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> By Eric Miller of The City of Johnstown, Motion Carried.*

*Respectfully Submitted*

*John C. Gromley  
Assn. Secretary*