

Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County & Vicinity

The meeting of the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County and Vicinity was hosted by the Dauntless Volunteer Fire Company, February 28, 2019 with the President Christopher Cox presiding.

President Cox called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

President Cox extended on the behalf of the memberships a thank you for the meal that the members of Dauntless Fire Company served before the meeting.

Members in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

President Cox introduced visiting members of DCNR. District Forester Bob Wetzel gave a presentation regarding many things for fire companies to become prepared for with the upcoming fire season on the horizon. Mr. Wetzel spoke on the thoughts of local fire companies using the aircraft that will be supplied by the local forestry department. Also spoke on the upcoming classes that will be given to local fire companies on wildland firefighting including the S-130 class that will be given at our fire academy spring weekends. Another member had introduced herself and spoke on the issues regarding arson awareness on the forest fires we may run into. She had mentioned to the group if the chief officers believe it maybe arson to let the district forester know so that the arson team can start on everything immediately. Mr. Wetzel also reminded the local fire companies when the DCNR grant period would open and the amounts that fire companies could apply for now. He finished up with reminding the local wardens and fire chiefs know when the forestry banquet would be held and when it would be held.

At this time Ed Cochran of Clymer Volunteer Fire Company presented President Cox with a Gavel and Block that he had made for the association. President Cox accepted this gift and ask the membership to thank Mr. Cochran for this gift.

President Cox ask for the previous meeting minutes be read at this time. With no errors or corrections, President Cox ask for a motion to accept the previous meetings minutes. George Popson of Patton made a motion to accept the previous minutes with the correction, and with a proper 2nd by Jake Patterson of Clymer, the motion was carried.

Communications: No communications for this meeting.

Reading of the Monthly Bills by Treasurer Paul Kundrod:

General Fund

Precision Business Solutions	\$ 63.00 Web Site Updates
Western PA. Firemen's Assn.	\$ 10.00 Annual Dues
Firemen's Assn. of State of PA.	\$ 20.00 Annual Dues

Fire School

Penelec*	\$ 339.45 Feb Electric
Suburban Propane	\$10.00 Tank Rental
Al's Tire & Auto Service	\$870.00 Skid Loader tires/service
Conemaugh Hospital*	\$475.00 Clymer CPR
Conemaugh Hospital*	\$375.00 Hastings CPR
Conemaugh Hospital*	\$400.00 Cresson CPR

Art Martynuska the EMA coordinator mentioned that the Sharp team had conducted training last evening. The members of this team will be receiving all the updates that they need to move forward. They are looking to get the LACP building insulated and better equipped for the team. He reported that Region 13 has moved from its present location to the Pittsburgh Airport for better service and more room. He is asking for help from the county fire departments to help promote stickers to be placed on firefighter's helmets that would show the level of training everyone is updated to. This would help the team at incidents to be able to utilize the qualified personal in the field in which they would be qualified up to. Art has also offered to meet with any fire department that may want to meet one on one with him or he could possibly even attend fire department meetings if ask.

Fire Advisory Board: Steve Verbosky of Colver reported that the next advisory board meeting will be held on Tuesday March 26, 2019.

Resolutions: Chaplin Drew Walters read the resolutions of past Member Robert Rematt from Carrolltown Volunteer Fire Company, Station "51" all members in attendance stood in one minute of total silence for our departed members.

County Convention: Darrin Smith 1st Vice President mentioned that the convention will be held the week of July 27th through August 3, 2019. He also mention to fire companies that are interested in placing a bid on the grand champion trophy that the Chernisky 5k 10k race and walk will be held July 6th and fire companies that compete in turnout gear will be awarded points to this trophy, he also mention that there is now a fire prevention book that can be submitted to the secretary no later than the June meeting, and that fire companies that attended our springs fire school can be awarded points to the grand champion trophy as well.

Delegates Report: Paul Skoldowski report nothing new to report.

Roll Call of Officers: President Christopher Cox, 1st Vice President Darrin Smith, 2nd Vice President Jim McCann, Treasurer Paul Kundrod, Assistant Treasurer Eric Miller, Secretary John C. Gromley, Assistant Secretary Jeff Gromley, all were present.

Roll Call of Companies: 33 Total Companies Present, Ashville, Beaverdale, Cherry Tree, City of Johnstown, Clymer, Colver, Conemaugh, Cover Hill, Cresson, Dale, Dauntless, Franklin, Ferndale, Gallitzin, Hastings, Hope, Jackson Twp., Lilly, Loretto, Nanty Glo, Nicktown, Patton, Reade Twp., Revloc, Richland Twp., Riverside, Spangler, St. Michael, Summerhill Borough, Upper Yoder Twp., Vintondale, West Hills Regional and West Taylor Twp.

Old Business: Certificates from the Fire Simulator class were handed out to the companies that where in attendance. All others will be mailed out.

New Business: Eric Miller and a committee meet with the members of the American Red Cross before the meeting and they have set up a Blood Drive for Delegates day August 2nd from 1 to 6:30p.m. There will be a trophy presented to the fire company with the highest amount of participation in the blood drive. The hope of the committee to make this a revolving trophy that could be done once every year. Ed Hudak from Beaverdale made mention that he will buy each person that donates one pint of blood a pint of their favorite adult beverage. It was also made mention that Past President Bernie Blaszosky would donate the 84th pint if it had made it to that number.

Good of the Order: John Hawksworth of Dauntless presented a news letter that had been printed back in the year 1991 by our Association. He made mention that he and some other members would like to see something like this started back up to show case our Association.

A rising vote of thanks was called for by Richie Brown Jr. of Nanty Glo Fire Company for hosting and providing the members in attendance with a meal.

Next Meeting: Will be held at the Dauntless Volunteer Fire Company in Spangler on Thursday March 28,2019.

50/50 Amount awarded was \$59.00 and A Smoke Detector that was donated by The American Red Cross was given away to a lucky winner.

Motion to Adjourn at 8: 15 p.m. by Tom Callahan of Ashville and properly 2nd by Ed Cochran of Clymer.
Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

John C. Gromley

Assn. Secretary