

Cambria County Regional Firefighters Association

Cambria County Regional Firefighters Association monthly meeting was held through a teleconference provided through the Cambria County EMA on Thursday December 10, 2020.

President McCann called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

President McCann called for members on the conference to join him and stand for The Pledge of Allegiance.

President McCann ask for the minutes of the previous meeting be read. Motion to accept the last meeting minutes by Bill Lehmann of Richland and with a proper 2nd by Frank Hribar of St. Michael the motion was carried.

Communications: None for this meeting

Reading of the Monthly Bills: Treasurer Paul Kundrod read the monthly Bills and with the Total Expenses of \$9,352.53 and a copy of the Bills on file with the Secretary a motion to pay the Bills by Bill Cornell of West Hills and a proper 2nd by Bill Lehmann the Motion was Carried.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Paul Kundrod read the Treasurer's Report. A copy is on file with the Secretary. Motion by Bill Lehmann of Richland to accept the Treasurer's report as read, and with a proper 2nd by Frank Hribar of St. Michael, motion was carried.

Committee Reports:

Law & Legislative: Secretary Gromley read a report provided by John Bem of Hastings. (See attachment)

Fire School: President McCann reported on the upcoming Essential classes and their locations, he also talked about the Haz-Mat and First Aid and CPR that will be given along with each class.

Fire School Site: John Hawksworth of Dauntless reported that the Fire School Site is locked down at this time. If you do go to the site, try to use every precaution because there are individuals such as Vern Fulton there each day working on equipment.

Certification: Bill Cornell of West Hills reported that he had sat through a webinar for the Certification Committee and gave a report regarding this webinar.

Web Site: William Cornell of West Hills reported that he needs the September meeting minutes to post on the web site, also there was a discussion about the application for new Fire Company Application to join the Association. Mr. Cornell mentioned he had never received a membership application from the Secretary to post on the site, Secretary Gromley made mention he would contact Mr. Cornell about this issue.

Centennial: Nick Wuckovich of Conemaugh reported that the last call for challenge coins is December 31st, 2020.

911 / EMA: President McCann mentioned that the new Cade system is up and running, if your department has any issues you are to call Robyn at the 911 center to discuss your issues. They are asking each department to double check their run cards and contact Robyn was those issues as well.

Fire Advisory Board: President McCann mentioned there was a meeting and the topic of Par was discussed and he wanted to make note that he will be making the associations feelings known throughout talks of the Par system.

Resolutions: Secretary Gromley read the name of member Francis Adams of Keystone Regional (Station 70). All members on the conference were asked to stand for one minute of silence for this passed member.

County Convention: No Report Given

Delegates Report: No Report Given

Roll Call of Officers: President Jim McCann, 1st Vice President Nick Wuckovich, 2nd Vice President Mike Petrisko, Treasurer Paul Kundrod, Assistant Treasurer Eric Miller, Secretary John C. Gromley, Assistant Secretary Brett Gromley all were present on the Teleconference call.

Roll Call of Companies: 14 Total Companies reporting; Carrolltown, City of Johnstown, Clymer, Commodore, Conemaugh, Dauntless, Ferndale, Hope, Keystone Regional, Revloc, Richland Twp., Nanty Glo, St. Michael, West Hills.

Old Business: Nothing for this meeting.

New Business: Commissioner Tom Chernisky made mention that the last Commissioner's meeting for 2020 will be held on December 17th.

Good of the Order: President McCann brought up to those delegates on the conference call about purchasing a zoom package for the Association. Eric Miller, Paul Kundrod, Bill Cornell, and President McCann are all working together to make all this happen. There was a discussion on this and after the discussion Bill Lehmann of Richland Twp. made a motion to move forward with the purchase of a zoom package for a period of one year for \$300.00. With a proper 2nd by Bill Cornell the motion was carried.

Next Meeting: President McCann mentioned with pandemic numbers rising that the next meeting scheduled for Southmont will be a Zoom meeting on Thursday January 28, 2021 at 7 p.m. instead of in person for everyone's safety.

50/50: No 50/50 for this meeting.

With a motion to adjourn at 7:50 P.M. by Mike Krug

President McCann deemed the meeting closed.

Respectfully Submitted,

John C. Gromley

Assn. Secretary

Cambria County Regional Firefighter's Association Law & Legislative Committee Report December 10,2020

The bills have been introduced and are assigned to committees are alive and must be acted upon by both House and the Senate by December 31,2020.,the end of current 2019-2020 session. If no action is taken they become dead and must be reintroduced in the new session.

Act 91HB 1673 Printers # 4573 Signed by Governor on 10/29/2020

1. Changed the Name of the Volunteer Loan Assistance Program to the Fire and Emergency Services Loan Fund. Loans will be administered by the State Fire Commissioner. The Loan Amounts were increased app. 10% and repayment period increased. A ballot referendum scheduled next spring to allow loans to career fire and EMS companies.

Also loan amounts are review every 2 years and based upon CPI Inflation Index

2. Office of State Fire Commissioner moved out of PEMA and reports directly to the Governor. The person will chair the State Fire Advisory Board; administer the State Fire Academy; administer Grant and Loan Programs; Develop curriculum certification; and other programs for the Fire Service and General Public.

3. Reorganize the Fire Advisory Board in its makeup and responsibilities.

4. Added Combination Relief Association Career and Volunteer ; Moves certification and distribution of Relief Funds from Auditor General's Office to Fire Commissioner; Auditing still done by Auditor General's Office; Expanded use of Relief Funds to include recruitment and retention ; Length of Service Program; Stipends to Volunteer Firefighters not to exceed \$1500 annually.

5. Extended Grant Program for 4 years until June 30,2024; ,Establishes Construction Savings Account for construction for up to five years on new structures

6. Expanded First Responders Tax Credit to all Municipalities regardless of size. Tax Credit on Income tax and real property tax not to exceed 100%

Act 108 SB 94 Printers # 2101 Signed by Governor November 3,2020

1. Amends Worksmans Compensation Act to expand coverage to First Responders Old Law only covered firefighters injured in actual firefighting duties. Special (Fire) Police are Fully covered. Officers and members doing any activity in order to provide necessary operational support. This means: maintaining station or fire equipment; fund raisers providing IT support; Assitsting in recruitment; fire prevention programs and any administrating tasks.

NOTE: ACTIVITES ARE TO BE DONE ON A REGULAR BASIS AND APPROVED BY THE MUNICIPALITY THAT PURCHASES THE WORKSMAN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE.

Act 118 HB777 Printers # 4342 Signed by Governor November 25,2020

Permits Club Licenses to utilize the 60% Amount originally to be sent to a non-profit to Cover operating expenses during the Pandemic Period beginning with the 2020 calendar Year through the period of one year after the termination of the proclamation of disaster Emergency issued March 6,2020