

# Cambria County Regional Firefighters' Association

## Regular Monthly Meeting

January 22, 2022

**Meeting was Called to Order:** at 19:00 Hrs by President Nick Wuckovich

A prayer was given for the meal that was prepared by the members of Dauntless Fire Department. The meeting went into recess for the meal to be served.

The meeting was called back to order by President Wuckovich at 19:41 Hrs with all members in attendance standing for the Pledge of Allegiance that would be led by President Wuckovich.

President Wuckovich presented Art Martynuska as a speaker at the meeting. Art presented the members with a handout of Covid Points and Information on Cancer Presumption. Art also included a handout of 12 Points to Protect Yourself Against Occupational Cancer.

Art spoke on both topics and what each department should be doing to help secure safety inside their own fire station, and also how each department should be reporting and filing information inside their own stations and also to the State. He and Past President Christopher Cox stressed to all members of how important it is for fire departments to have their members get physicals.

Past President Christopher Cox talked in depth of everything he is going through with lawyers over his cancer presumption lawsuit.

President Wuckovich ask for the reading of the last meeting minutes to be read, with no errors or additions the President ask for them to be stand approved as read.

**Communications:** A letter was read to the membership from the Conemaugh Independence Volunteer Fire Co. in regard to naming the Bucket Brigade Trophy after Steve Unger. Steve was a Past President and longest ever serving officer to the association as Secretary. Conemaugh will be handling all expense of the trophy if the membership would vote to approve this action.

**Reading of the Bills:** Monthly Bills for January were read by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gromley with the Bills totaling \$9,532.42 a Motion to Pay the Bills by Lenny Whiteford of Patton and with a proper 2<sup>nd</sup> by Byron Bishop Sr. of Nanty Glo the Motion was Carried.

**Treasurer Report:** The Treasurer report was read by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President with a total fund balance being read as \$202,160.46 as of January 27, 2022 and a copy being on file with the Secretary a Motion by Art Martynuska of EMA to accept the Treasurers' report as given and with a proper 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jimmy Nagle of Gallitzin the Motion was Carried.

**Committee Reports: Law and Legislation;** Eric Miller gave a report on things that are going through the House and Senate in regard to the fire and EMS services. Eric also updated us on the number of days they would both be in session for the next couple of months.

**Fire School:** Jim McCann of Johnstown gave the membership an overview of all the five essential classes that are taking place and where each class is in their lectures. He mentioned that all the essential manuals that the association purchased have been sold except one. It was mentioned that if anyone signs up for a class and they do not show up to take that class they will be billed as being there. They may have someone take it in their place if they are unable to take the class. There have been 195 students signed up to take the leadership class. This will be done on a zoom platform. Randy Santone from Bucks County was in attendance and explained on how this platform would be done.

**Fire School Site:** John Hawksworth of Dauntless reported that the fire school was closed for the winter and would be opening back up as soon as the weather permits. He mentioned that the Altoona Fire Department is looking to use the fire school for an upcoming class for new hires. He as told the membership that St. Michael engine was sold for \$2,000.00.

**Certification:** Eric Miller reported on the upcoming certification open and closed test that will be given in the next few months, and also covered the evaluator workshop that will be taking place for the evaluators.

**Fire Prevention:** John Hawksworth mentioned that our Facebook page has been doing a lot with fire prevention and they would like to keep growing. John also mentioned that each department has the opportunity to submit a fire prevention book to the association by the June meeting for an awarded to be presented to the company with the best book.

**Centennial:** President Wuckvoich spoke about the upcoming summer picnic that will be taking place in St. Michael on June 11. There will be tickets on sale soon for this picnic, they will be \$15.00 a person. These tickets should be available by next meeting. John Hawksworth gave an overview of the time capsule and went over what size of the envelope each department will be given to put their effects in the capsule. Nick also mentioned the plaques that are being made for the years of county convention towns and the past presidents that will hang at the fire school.

**911/EMA:** Art Martynuska ask that each department in attendance makes sure they report their changes of officers and their contact information with 911 as soon as possible. Art spoke about the new radio system and how it's coming along and to expect it to be up and running late summer early fall of this year. He spoke on county mapping and how it can help each department in preplanning their area. The county is still on hold with how to dispose of the Foam they have in their station as soon as this information is available it will be passed along. Art has received eight replays from individuals interested in forming a county color guard, anyone that maybe still interested reach out to him.

**Resolutions:** Monthly resolutions were read by Past President Paul Sklodowski for past members, Past President Steve Unger of Conemaugh, Neale Fiasco of Carrolltown, Benjamin Little of Carrolltown, and the Three Baltimore Firefighters that lost their lives tragically in the Line of Duty. All members in attendance stood for one minute of silence in memory of these past members.

**County Convention:** Skip Grove gave an update on the upcoming convention. He mentioned that they have signed a couple contracts with nightly entertainment groups, and to start looking for the information coming to your station to help support Conemaugh by placing an add in their add booklet.

**Roll Call of Officers:** President Wuckovich and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gromley were present, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Petrisko, Secretary Lehman, Asst. Secretary Gromley, Treasurer Kundrod, and Asst. Treasurer Bodenschatz were all unable to attend.

**Roll Call of Companies:** 24 Departments Present, St. Michael, Carrolltown, Clymer, Conemaugh, Colver, Cover Hill, Creekside, Dauntless, East Taylor, Ferndale, Franklin, Gallitzin, Hope, Johnstown, Keystone Regional, Middle Taylor, Nanty Glo, Nicktown, Patton, Richland, Southmont, Summerhill Boro, Summerhill Twp., West Hills.

**Old and Unfinished Business:** Jim McCann addressed the membership as a member of The Northern Cambria Development Corporation in regard to asking for an updated letter that we as an association are still in favor of letting the walking trail group permission of pursuing their plans of going through the fire school property with the proposed trail that will connect Carrolltown and Patton. Motion by Richie Brown Jr. of Nanty Glo to move forward with the updated permission, with a proper 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Miller of Johnstown the Motion was Carried.

John Hawksworth report that the Chernisky classic 5K 10K race and walk will be taking place on July 9, 2022. Flyers were passed out to the membership. He also announced that the 1<sup>st</sup> ever Couch Potato Race will also be held that day with information to come out soon.

President Wuckovich announced to the membership that Our Treasurer has received information from our accountant that we can start moving forward towards getting our 501C3.

**New Business:** President Wuchovich ask the membership their intentions on the letter that was received under correspondence. Robert Mctabish of Dauntless made a Motion to give Conemaugh Independence Fire Company permission to make a trophy for the Bucket Brigade that can be named after past officer Steve Unger, with a proper 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Coleman of Beaverdale the Motion was Carried.

Jim McCann spoke to the membership and ask if there was a possible interest in starting a canteen warming/cooling wagon with good discussion there was a Motion by Richie Brown Jr. of Nanty Glo to give McCann permission to start putting something together and have our association back this action with whatever we can do to help, with a proper 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lenny Whiteford of Patton the Motion was Carried

Good of the Association: Herb Nagle of Gallitzin donated \$100.00 toward the Scholarship fund. Skip Grove of Conemaugh thank everyone for their thoughtfulness, calls, and reaching out in the death of Steve Unger. There will be an Awards Meeting at the Nanty Glo Fire Company on Monday February 7<sup>th</sup>.

President Wuckovich wanted to make mention to all firefighters the need to inspect buildings before entering them do to the large number of structural collapses that have been happening within the last few weeks.

Jimmy Nagle of Gallitzin called for a Rising vote of Thanks for the Members of Dauntless Fire Company.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be on February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Johnstown. President Wuckovich mentioned that the meeting will be held at the Masonic Temple, 130 Valley Pike, Johnstown, PA.

**50/50:** \$74.00 was presented to one winner

**Motion to Adjourn** by Jimmy Nagle of Gallitzin 2<sup>nd</sup> By Robert Popson of Clymer

Respectfully Submitted

John C. Gromley

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President