

**Cambria County Regional Firefighters' Association
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Oakland Fire Company
March 23, 2023**

- **Call Meeting to Order** – President Mike Petrisko called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours
- **Pledge of Allegiance** – All members present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Petrisko. Paul Sklodowski – Keystone Regional then gave the blessing.
- **Meeting recessed for the Meal** – 19:05
- **Call Meeting Back to Order** – 19:33
- **Guest Speaker** – Forrest Fordham – candidate for Cambria County Common Pleas Judge. Attorney Fordham gave a presentation on his qualifications for judge.
- **Reading of Last Meeting's Minutes** – Minutes of February 2023 meeting were read.
 - Additions or corrections – none. President Petrisko declared the minutes approved as read.
- **Communications** – Letter from Geeseytown Community Fire Company requesting membership in the Association. Their membership had a change of heart and wished to be members of the Association. They sent a check for \$100.00.
- **Reading of Bills** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod – St. Michael read the bills for the month in the amount of \$10,853.33
 - **Question:** _____
 - **Motion:** Nick Wuckovich – Conemaugh
 - **2nd:** Mark Coleman – Beaverdale
 - **Vote:** Passed with 0 No Votes

- **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod – St. Michael:

Total Funds in Certificates:

\$122,780.73

Total Funds in Checking Accounts:

\$79,197.71

TOTAL FUND BALANCES as of: ___/___/___:

\$201,978.44

- **Question:** _____
- **Motion to accept report:** Jeff Weir – Franklin
- **2nd:** Joe Sherry – Beaverdale
- **Vote:** Passed – 0 No Votes

- **Committee Reports:**

- **Law & Legislative** – No Report
- **Fire School** – Jim McCann – City of Johnstown reported:
 - Essentials trained 834 students
 - Leadership Academy – 765 students
 - Facebook training – 56 students
 - Media/Public Relations Class Monday March 27, 2023, Forest Hills HS, 19:00 hours. Close to 40 enrolled.
 - Spring Fire School – several classes cancelled due to low enrollment. Several others near full, full, or oversold. April 7 is last day to register so committee can get a meal count to caterer. Also, after April 7 if you cancel, you will be billed due to cost of meals.
 - Site will be opened after Fire School for use. Scheduling through Tony Sestrich. Use is free to member companies, but some props have a cost for materials like the roof sim.
- **Fire School Site** – Tony Sestrich – Richland
 - Received the engine from Alum Bank – unit was tested, worked well.
 - Need a decision on the Reade Township unit.
 - Vern Fulton – via Tony recommended disposing of the Riverside Engine. Also, Vern is working on the Colver engine.
 - Saturday April 1 – work session 08:00 – needs help. Site Directors needed that day at site.

- Recommended sending a note/card to Alum Bank for thanks for the engine donation.
 - Tony Sestrich – Richland FD recommended junking the Reade Twp engine and the Riverside engine. Will remove and store the tires.
 - Motion – Steve Verbosky
 - 2nd by Tony Sestrich
 - Motion passed.
- **Certification** – Bill Cornell – West Hills Regional
 - No report other than there will be some dates announced for Evaluator training. All Certification dates are on the website.
- **Application Review** – Geeseytown letter to rejoin the Association referred to the committee.
- **By-Laws** – Vote was held on the By-Law amendment proposed an amendment to the language of Article I Section 2 of the By-Laws of the Cambria County Regional Firefighters Association raising the annual dues for each Company from \$50.00 to \$100.00. The Section to read as follows:
 - Section 2. The Association shall be comprised of delegates duly elected each year by their respective fire organizations belonging to the Association. Each company must pay the sum of One hundred (\$100.00) Dollars each year and is entitled to delegates each year who will be entitled to vote provided the company he/she represents, meets the requirements set forth in Article 1 Section 11. Each Fire Company/Department shall also be entitled to elect a delegate for each member in good standing that had died during the past year. These additional replacement delegates shall pay the regular dues as set by the Association By-Laws.
 - Ballots cast 46. 35 Yes. 11 No. By-Law amendment passed.
- **Fire Prevention** – No Report
- **Historical** – No Report

- **Recruitment & Retention** – No Report
- **Tuition Assistance** – Paul Kundrod – Treasurer
 - Reported Centennial Funds were transferred to the Tuition Assistance Accounts
- **Website** – Bill Cornell – West Hills Regional
 - Minutes updated
 - Fire School registrations and tallies updated
- **9-1-1 EMA** – Jim McCann
 - Box 11 has made several calls as had the Nanty Glo unit
 - The former East Hills unit is still housed there
 - Donations have been received from many groups
 - ServPro has been donating a lot of goods
 - Any donations of monies should go through the Association, with a memo on the check for Box 11
- **Fire Advisory** – Steve Verbosky reported –
 - Meeting is Tuesday March 28
- **County Convention** – Ben Huether – Hope
 - Schedule is finalized. Will be distributed shortly.
- **Other Association** – No Report
- **Fundraising** – Lianna Weir –
 - T-Shirts – 150 to be made. 70 orders so far online.
 - Lottery Raffle – Bob Nies pulling the winner.
 - Lisa Lutz – winner of the Lottery Scratch Off board
- **Awards** – Tom Bracken – Nanty Glo
 - June 30 is the deadline for nominees
 - No applications so far
 - Reminded all of the Unit Citation Award – new this year
- **Credentials** – No Report
- **Insurance** – Paul Kundrod – Treasurer
 - Met with Joe Hassen at Site to review policies, Garage value was bumped up. Accident & Health policy for

Association members working at site was reviewed.
Policy looks strong. All other parts of insurance policy are satisfactory.

- Will remove Reade and Riverside engines and add Alum Bank.
- **Rules & Convention Contests & Parades** – Ricky Price – East Taylor
 - Finished diagrams. They will be posted on the website.
- **Tower Planning** – No Report
- **Resolutions** – Paul Sklodowski – Keystone Regional
 - Read the resolution for Byron Bishop – Nanty Glo. All members present stood in silence for one minute in memory of their departed brother.
- **Roll Call of Officers** – all present except for John Gromley, 1st VP, Brett Gromley, Ass't Secretary.
- **Roll Call of Companies** – 29 Companies
 - Beaverdale, City of Johnstown, Colver, Commodore, Conemaugh, Cover Hill, Dale, Dauntless, East Taylor, Franklin, Ferndale, Hope, Jackson Twp., Keystone Regional, Lower Yoder, Middle Taylor, Nanty Glo, Oakland, Patton, Portage, Richland Twp., Scalp Level Paint, South Fork, Spangler, St. Michael, Summerhill Borough, Upper Yoder Twp., West Hills Regional, West Taylor Twp.
- **Old and Unfinished Business** –
 - Richie Brown – Nanty Glo – questioned whether it was the job of committees to report back to the body before acting on proposals and rules. Exceptions are repairs/services not exceeding \$500. The body agreed with that interpretation that was already in effect.
- **New Business** –
 - Nick Wuckovich – Conemaugh
 - Motion to accept results of the By-Laws amendment and destroy the ballots.

- 2nd – Richie Brown
 - Motion passed.
 - Jeff Lees – Coroner
 - Several horrific incidents. Asking people to support the coroner's office as it conducts its business to ensure due diligence.
 - Also reported that anyone needing help due to stress of incidents reach out and get help. There are resources available.
 - Reported that he brought Ed Hudak home and he is doing better.
 - Suggestion made to send a card.
 - President Petrisko reported that nominations for the Fire School Site Director vacancy created by the death of Byron Bishop will open next month.
- **Good of the Association –**
- President Petrisko read some of the donations received:
 - For Brian Flora Birthday-\$ 20 from Jennifer Sunseri
 - For Brian Flora Birthday- \$ 100. from Lucinda Flora
 - In memory of Byron Bishop:
 - \$ 25.00 from Lisa Shoap
 - \$50.00 from Deborah Hill
 - \$ 50.00 from Don and Alva Hill
 - In Memory of Chief Hassen:
 - \$20.00 from Ben Huether
 - \$250.00 Swift & Kennedy Co Donation to Educational Assistance Fund
 - \$60.00 Proceeds from Trivia Night Hosted by Stadium Pub from Tom Chernisky
 - Bob Nies – reported there is some minor concrete work to be done to the burn building. Discussion of liability but it was determined that minor repairs are in the scope and abilities of the Site volunteers.
 - Tom Chernisky updated on the runs in July and October.
 - July – rolling starts with the time start at 9:05.
 - October's events raised \$13K for the School Site.

- **Standing Rise for Host Company** – President Petrisko called for a standing rise for host company Oakland for their hospitality.
- **Next Meeting** – Colver, April 27.
- **50/50 Drawing** – \$91.00
- **Adjournment** –
 - **Motion:** Frank Hribar – St. Michael
 - **2nd:** Tony Sestrich
 - **Vote:** Passed
 - **Time:** 20:46

Respectfully submitted,

William K Lehmann, Secretary