

**Cambria County Regional Firefighters' Association  
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Cambria Township (Colver) Fire Company  
April 27, 2023**

- **Call Meeting to Order** – President Mike Petrisko called the meeting to order at 19:01 hrs
- **Pledge of Allegiance** – All members present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Petrisko. President Petrisko then gave the blessing.
  
- **Meeting recessed for the Meal** – 19:02
  
- **Call Meeting Back to Order** – 19:29
  
- **Guest Speaker** – Elena Sheesley – Nanty Glo from the CCRFA ladies Auxilliary. Half of what they raise goes to cover their expenses and raise money for them, half goes to benefit the Fire School. Tickets for sale \$5.00. They would like to see if the CCRFA wants to participate with them in running a super bingo to benefit Fire School. Matter will be referred to the Fund Raising committee.
  
  
- **Reading of Last Meeting's Minutes** – Minutes of March 23, 2023 meeting at Oakland were read.
  - Additions or corrections – None. President Petrisko declared the minutes stand as read.
  
- **Communications** –
  - Altoona FD sent a letter from Lucille the Arson Dog requesting donations to fund a new vehicle to transport her. The current vehicle does not have the best safety features for safe transport. They need to raise between \$50,000 - \$75,000 for the purpose.
  - Recent donations received by the Association:
    - \$150.00 in memory of Byron Bishop by Carol Bishop
    - \$20.00 in memory of Byron Bishop from Ellen Vorhauer

- \$20.00 in memory of Chief David Hassen from Ben Huether
  - The Small Games of Chance License was received. Will be placed in the safe.
  
- **Reading of Bills** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod read the bills for the month in the amount of \$8,688.58
  - **Question:** \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Motion to pay bills:** Rich Brown, Jr – Nanty Glo
  - **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Jim Bloom – Dauntless
  - **Vote:** Passed – 0 No Votes
  
- **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod reported :
 

Total Funds in Certificates:	\$129,127.78
Total Funds in Checking Accounts:	\$66,533.83
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b> as of: 04/26/2023:	<b>\$195,661.61</b>

  - **Question:** \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Motion to accept report:** Mark Coleman – Beaverdale
  - **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Bob Nies – Cover Hill
  - **Vote:** Passed – 0 No Votes
  
- **Committee Reports:**
  - **Law & Legislative** – No Report
  
  - **Fire School** – Jim McCann – City of Johnstown
    - Essentials finishing up, burn of May 7. 1<sup>st</sup> 17 year olds in class.
    - Testing – HMO May 20, FFI May 21. Free to those who have taken the Essentials programs
    - Fire School weekends – 1<sup>st</sup> 2 weekends, 359 students. Departments represented:
      - Week 1 – 36/64 of Assoc Departments, 9 out-of- Assoc
      - Weeks 2 – 30/64, 11 out-of- Assoc
    - Engine Academy very successful.
      - Lots of interest in running it at other facilities
      - Will be used as model for Truck Ops & Quint Ops programs to be developed.

- No shows will be billed
- **Fire School Site** – Tony Sestrich – Richland Twp.
  - Since the last meeting where parking rules were read, there's to be no parking on grass.
  - Roof Sim was rebuilt by the Site staff
  - Forcible Entry trailer was redone
  - Got a quote from Slovikosky for \$1,000.00 to grind and spread the millings currently stored on site onto the west roadway leading to the burn building.
    - Motion to go with the quote: Sestrich – Richland Twp
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jim Bloom – Dauntless
    - Vote: Passed
- **Certification** – Bill Cornell report read by Sec't Lehmann:
  - Open FFI, FFII, HMO tests scheduled in June, dates on the website.
  - 2023 Evaluator Workshops were held by PASFA online in Teams in March and April
  - All certificates from Fire School weekends so far have been emailed to students.
  - Certification tests for the Essentials programs May 20 – HMO, May 21 – FFI. These are closed tests.
- **Application Review** – No Report
- **By-Laws** – several upcoming By-Laws changes to be read starting next meeting with voting to be held at the Convention.
- **Fire Prevention** – No Report
- **Historical** – No Report
- **Recruitment & Retention** – No Report
- **Tuition Assistance** – No applications received yet.
- **Website** – Bill Cornell – West Hills Regional report read by Sec't Lehmann
  - March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes posted

- Updated Convention Contest Rules & layouts posted under Convention page
  - Updated By-Laws posted on Home page
- **9-1-1 EMA** – Jim McCann
  - Rehab team Box 11 – many donations accepted
  - The “South Team” is up and running. Working on a “North Team” with Nanty Glo providing service right now.
  - The team worked the Engine Academy successfully
- **Fire Advisory** –
  - Rich Brown – Nanty Glo reported that Departments having RIC/MayDay training should contact Supervisors to have shifts participate and train from their end. Call June Kunia or Tom Davis to schedule
  - Steve Verbosky – Colver reported that the South Fork tower which has been a huge stumbling block for the radio system is now progressing.
- **County Convention** –
  - Posters with schedule are on the front table
- **Other Association** – No Report
- **Fundraising** – Liana Weir
  - Sold over 100 items from the t-shirt sale. Still more for sale.
  - Public Relations class was held 45 people – many requests for additional program areas
  - Mark Coleman reported that about \$300.00 was raised from the 50/50 1<sup>st</sup> 2 weekend of Fire School.
  - Owner of BiLo in Northern Cambria & Patton donating monies to Fire Companies. Suggested that he consider donating to the Association as well which he wants to do. Mike Petrisko suggests supplying a banner for use to help his efforts.
    - Motion: Mark Coleman – Beaverdale
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Charles Woodley – Hope
    - Vote: Motion passed
- **Awards** – No report

- **Credentials** – No report
- **Insurance** – No report
- **Rules & Convention Contests & Parades** –
  - Mike Petrisko – started a discussion for clarification if host can pick their own judges rather than using CamWest judges. John Gromley – 1<sup>st</sup> VP clarified that it already was an action by the body from 2015 to allow host to use their own judges, so no changes were necessary.
- **Tower Planning** – No Report
- **Resolutions** – Jeff Weir – Franklin
  - Read the name of Ken Paul – Richland Twp FD. All members stood for a minute of silence in memory of their departed brother.
- **Roll Call of Officers** – all present except Daryl Bodenschatz, Ass't Treasurer, Jeff Gromley, Ass't Secretary
- **Roll Call of Companies** – 27 Companies present:
  - Beaverdale, Carrolltown, City of Johnstown, Clymer, Colver, Conemaugh, Cover Hill, Dale, Dauntless, East Taylor, Franklin, Ferndale, Hastings, Hope, Jackson Twp., Middle Taylor, Nanty Glo, Nicktown, Patton, Portage, Reade Twp., Richland Twp., South Fork, Spangler, St. Michael, Upper Yoder Twp., West Taylor Twp.
- **Old and Unfinished Business** –
- **New Business** –
  - Jay Jacobson – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP suggested that Departments that go in arrears on dues like Geeseytown and are removed from the Association should pay back dues. There was discussion on the subject. President Petrisko referred the matter to be properly handled as a By-Law change and should be proposed as such.

- **Good of the Association** –
  - President Petrisko opened the nominations for the vacant Site Director position from the death of Byron Bishop.
    - Steve Verbosky nominated Jeff Weir – Franklin
  - President Petrisko then called for the nomination 3 more times.
  - With no other nominations, motion made by Allen Kline – Hastings for the President to cast a unanimous vote. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Illig – Patton.
    - Motion passed
    - President Petrisko cast the vote
    - Jeff Weir declared as the new Site Director to serve out Byron Bishop’s term.
  - Bob Nies – Cover Hill proposed having an open house in the fall to raise interest in getting people to help out at the Site.
    - Motion by Bob Nies – to refer to Fundraising.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liana Weir
    - Motion passed
  
- **Standing Rise for Host Company** – President Petrisko called for a standing rise for the host Company Colver for their hospitality and meal.
  
- **Next Meeting** – Jerome – May 25, 2023
  
- **50/50 Drawing** – split \$131.00
  
- **Adjournment** –
  - **Motion:** Garfield Fredo – Patton
  - **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tony Sestrich – Richland Twp.
  - **Vote:** Passed
  - **Time:** 20:34 hours

Respectfully submitted,

William K Lehmann, Secretary