

**Cambria County Regional Firefighters' Association
August 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes
Convention at Hope Fire Company
August 4, 2023**

- **Call Meeting to Order** – President Mike Petrisko called the 102nd Convention Morning Session meeting to order at 11:09 hours.
- **Pledge of Allegiance** – All members present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Petrisko.
- **Reading of Last Meeting's Minutes** – Minutes of the June 22, 2023 meeting at Cresson were read.
 - Additions or corrections – None
 - President Petrisko declared the minutes should stand as read.
- **Communications** – None
- **Reading of Bills** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod read the bills for the month in the amount of \$17,105.09
 - **Motion to pay bills:** Steve Verbosky - Colver
 - **2nd:** Ben Huether – Hope
 - **Question:** _____
 - **Vote:** Passed with 0 No Votes
- **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod:

Total Funds in Certificates:	\$131,914.52
Total Funds in Checking Accounts:	\$89,832.08
TOTAL FUND BALANCES as of: 07/29/2023:	\$221,746.60

 - **Motion to approve report:** Charles Woodley - Hope
 - **2nd:** Frank Hribar – St. Michael
 - **Question:** _____
 - **Vote:** Passed
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **Law & Legislative** – No Report
 - **Fire School** – Jim McCann

- Will schedule 1st meeting of committee
 - Needs help with all aspects to committee work
- **Fire School Site** – Tony Sestrich – Richland
 - Report is in the packet – will be attached to minutes
 - Proposals being put together to fix the tower
 - Much more needs to be done than just paint
 - Looking to pave instructors' parking area
 - Site needs a new burn car, the present one is pretty well destroyed. Some discussion of who may have sources.
 - Sold Reade & Riverside engines for scrap.
 - Next site meeting Wednesday, Sept 6, 7:00 pm
- **Certification** – Eric Miller – Johnstown
 - Report is in packet
 - Bill Cornell – West Hills –
 - 5 cert tests in Fall
 - Retest August 16 at Dauntless – HMA, HMO
- **Other Committee Reports:**
 - **Application Review** – No Report
 - **By-Laws** – No report
 - **Fire Prevention** – No Report
 - **Recruitment & Retention** – No Report
 - **Tuition Assistance** – No report
 - **Website** – Bill Cornell – West Hills Reg
 - Minutes for June and corrected May minutes posted.
 - **9-1-1 EMA** –
 - Jim McCann reported on Box 11
 - Set up along Convention road
 - Veterans Ambulance will be the 3rd unit established, fundraising starting for that unit.
 - **Fire Advisory** – No Report

- **County Convention - Jim McCann**
 - Reported convention has been incident-free so far
 - Parade tomorrow 6:00 PM – units follow signs
 - Logan Twp United has Prevention trailer set up

- **Other Associations – Paul Sklodowski**
 - Will be attending Western PA FF in Somerset & Central District in Nanty Glo.
 - Will be attending Central PA Association in Lewistown

- **Fundraising**
 - Liana Weir – Fall t-shirt sale will be coming up. Sweats, long sleeve t's, etc to be available.
 - John Hawksworth – Dauntless reported the Hurst tickets are for sale. Should raise \$1000.00 for Fire School.

- **Resolutions – Chaplain Geno Bartoletti read the name of Michael Faight – Conemaugh.**
 - All members stood in silence for one minute in remembrance of their departed brother.

- **Historical –**
 - Nick Wuckovich – Conemaugh – All awards going into the book. Tom Bracken has book with 1 add'l copy going into the safe at Fire School
 - John Hawksworth reported that Jonathan Heffelfinger in North Carolina found a set of convention pins, ribbons, and nametags. Donated to the Association.
 - Motion by John Hawksworth to place ½ brick on the wall for Mr. Heffelfinger.
 - 2nd Frank Hribar, Jr
 - Question: _____
 - Vote: Passed 0 No Votes

- **Awards – Later**

- **Credentials – No Report**

- **Insurance – No Report**

- **Rules Contests & Parades –**

- **Roll Call of Officers** – All present
- **Roll Call of Companies** –
- **Old and Unfinished Business** –
- **New Business** – Nick Wuckovich – Conemaugh
 - I would respectfully request that the Rules Committee reconsider to place the attendance for fire training that is sponsored by the Cambria County Regional Firefighters' Association back into the points for Convention Competition.
 - I would like to request that the five points be placed back into the points system to include not only the three weekends of the annual school but also to include any training which is sponsored by the Association such as Essentials of Firefighting, Leadership program, and any seminar that the Association sponsors.
 - The rules should state that a person attending and successfully completing a class shall be awarded one point for each class attended. The point total shall not exceed five points (5) for any one fire company/department. So for example, a student attending an Essentials could accumulate five points because there are several classes which comprises the Essentials program.
 - In addition, I would ask that the Rules committee consider giving points to any participant in the Chernisky Run belonging to an Association Fire Company Department that walks or runs in the race who does not wear gear for one point per person not to exceed five points. If three fire company members dons gear and walks or runs in the race will still get ten points but no other points will be awarded for other individuals that walk or run in the race which belong to an Association Fire Company/Department. In other words, you can only accumulate 10 points in gear regardless how many members over three that participate.
 - I would like to further add that the reason the various points were awarded throughout the year was to encourage participation in Association events. These events included attendance at meetings submitting Fire Prevention Books,

participating in the Chernisky Run. Fire training had been included but was removed this past year.

- **50/50:** \$64 to winner

President Petrisko then called for a recess at 12:16 hours

President Petrisko then called the afternoon session back to order at 14:08 hours

- **Awards & Presentations –**

- **Line Of Duty Death** – Christopher Cox family presented the memento from the Association, presented by Eric Miller.
- **Unit Award** – presented to Nanty Glo Truck 43 and Nanty Glo FD members nominated by Chief Joe Lamantia of Nanty Glo FD.
 - Members of T-43: Bernie Shedlock, Captain Thomas Williamson, FF Robert Cook, FF Dave Shedlock, JFF Ben George.
 - Nanty Glo Direct response members: Chief Joe Lamantia, Ronald Brown II, Tom Kolar, Ass't Ch Brandon Younkin
- **Valor Award** – presented to Travis & Charlene Schillings of Patton, nominated by Chief Tom Davis of Patton FD.
- **Steve Unger Award** – presented to John Bem, nominated by Hastings Volunteer Fire Co.
 - Mr. Bem remarked that his experience is an example that people add value to the Fire Service without being firefighters. Departments should strive to reach out and get anyone willing to help in any way.
- **Fire Prevention** –
 - 2nd Place – East Taylor
 - 1st Place – Gallitzin
- **Commissioners' Check** - \$11,120.75 to Fire School
- **Scholarship** – 4 year award – Deanna Warner - Hastings
- **Ladies Auxiliary** – presented \$3000.00 check to Fire School site
- **President's Award** – President Petrisko presented Nick Wuckovich with the President's Award for 2023.
- **Attendance** - \$50 Harbor Freight gift card – George Zedack, Lowe's Grill – Bill Cornell
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- **Election Results – Reported by**
 - Proposed amendments to the By-Laws: Article 1, Section 4
 - Yes: 64 No: 1
 - Passed
 - Proposed amendments to the By-Laws: Article IV, Section 11; Article XIV, Section 4
 - Yes: 63 No: 1
 - Passed
 - Proposed amendments to the By-Laws: Article IV, Section 6 & 8; Article XII, Section 4 & 15
 - Yes: 62 No: 3
 - Passed
 - 2nd Vice President – Josh Petrisko
 - Secretary – Bill Lehmann
 - Assistant Secretary – Jeff Gromley
 - Treasurer – Paul Kundrod
 - Assistant Treasurer – Daryl Bodenschatz
 - Site Directors –
 - Roger Bock
 - Frank Hribar, Jr.
 - Joe Bock
 - Fire Advisory – Jeff Weir
 - Alternate Delegate to the State – Paul Sklodowski
 - Central District Delegate – Paul Sklodowski
 - Western PA Firemen’s Delegate – Charles Woodley
 - Convention Host 2025 – Nanty Glo
 - **Motion** to accept report and destroy ballots – Ed Hudak - Beaverdale
 - 2nd – Rich Brown – Nanty Glo
 - **Question** –
 - **Vote** – Passed

- **Swearing in – conducted by Tom Bracken – Past President**
 - All officers stood and were sworn in

- **Presentation of Gold Card to outgoing President Mike Petrisko – by President John Gromley**

- **Presentation to host Company Hope FC by President Gromley**

- **Good of the Association** –
- **Next Meeting** – Southmont – September 28, 2023
- **Committee Assignments** – Made by President John Gromley
 - Attached for reference
- **Adjournment** –
 - **Motion:** Jim Nagle - Gallitzin
 - **2nd:** Eric Miller - Johnstown
 - **Vote:** Passes
 - Time: 15:02 PM

Respectfully submitted,

William K Lehmann, Secretary