

CUMBERLAND COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION

Cumberland County, North Carolina
P.O. Box 2592
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28302-2592

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

December 21, 1998

The meeting was called to order by President James E. Hall at 19:40 hrs. The meeting was held at the Fayetteville Light Infantry museum and hosted by the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department. President Hall thanked Sheriff Moose Butler and his staff for the fine meal.

Roll was called: 19 departments were represented and 5 associate members were present.

Secretary's Minutes for the November 23, 1998, meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurers Report will be presented at the Quarterly Board Meeting scheduled for January 25, 1999, at the Old Court House.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Ronnie Marley advised that after some research, it was his opinion that it is not cost effective to purchase a copy of the NFPA Standards for the server in the Fire Marshal's Office at this time.

President Hall stated that he had contacted County Attorney Chuck Granger regarding mutual aid agreements for responding outside the county. It was in Mr. Granger's opinion that all stations were protected under the provisions of the North Carolina General Statutes. Fire Marshal Rickey Strickland distributed a copy of the general statute and stated that previous county to county mutual aid agreements are still in effect. Chief Lee Sudia stated that he was unsure that this covered municipalities and would check on this.

President Hall stated that Fred Dunning with Angus Foam would be retesting the foam from the unit housed at the Vander Fire Department next week. Chief Freddy Johnson said that when the foam was purchased it was to have had a ten year shelf life. President Hall stated that it could possibly be after the holidays before we have the test results. Some discussion followed.

Chief Ronnie Marley raised his concerns with the 911 addresses which are to be posted on all residences and businesses. He stated that we should do some type of promotional advertising through the media to explain the importance of numbering businesses and residences. Chief Johnson stated that he had spoke with Mr. Mike Osborne, Cumberland County Joint Planning Board, who thought that using the media at this point would only confuse the public and create more problems. After further discussion, it was decided to request Mr. Osborne to attend the next meeting to explain an avenue to promote house and business numbering.

Chief John House stated that Senator Tony Rand was taking the 401k retirement to legislation in January. All interested departments should relay their support of this bill to Senator Rands office as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Mike Middleton questioned the status of the county air units, he stated that his unit is responding as a primary air unit now and not as a second response unit as originally agreed upon. Fire Marshal Rickey Strickland stated that currently LaFayette Village and Fayetteville were the only units in service. Chief Johnson stated that his new unit should be in service in March. There was some discussion as to the condition of the existing county units. President Hall recommended that the association look into purchasing an air unit.

President Hall turned this over to the Standards and Mutual Aid Committee. Chief Marley, Chairman of the Standards Committee, requested assistance to look into the feasibility of rebuilding the existing unit or replacing it. The following individuals were appointed to the committee: Chief Mike Middleton, Chief Benny Nichols, Chief Lee Sudia, Chief Freddy Johnson, Chief Kevin Herndon, Chief Roddy Bullard.

Chief Benny Nichols requested that all departments having mutual aid agreements with the City of Fayetteville contact Battalion Chief Charles Williams prior to January 15, 1999, to insure that alarm cards were properly filled out with the city. Chief Williams may be reached at 433-1739 or 433-1150.

Fire Marshal Rickey Strickland stated that the County has signed a contract with Spring Lake to provide fire protection to the Manchester Fire District and the contract will become affective January 1, 1999.

Chief Freddy Johnson thanked those departments who assisted with the recent drowning at the Cape Fear River. He advised that several departments had offered assistance but were denied; he stated that due to OSHA regulations he has to be very specific about who he allows to work with his teams. He stated that interested persons could contact him for training schedules if they wished to work with the team.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Wally Ainsworth, Director of EMS, stated that although there were some minor technicalities to be worked out, the recent drill held at the Fayetteville Regional Airport was a success. He stated that are participants are to be commended for their hard work and dedication.

Henry Swartout announced that at the request of the association, he is working on a Web Page and requested assistance from members of the association. Anyone interested in assisting may contact Henry at 426-1974.

Chief Larry Wilson thanked the association and all departments for their cards, flowers and prayers during the recent loss of his child.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 21:00 hours. The next meeting will be on January 25, 1999, in the old Courthouse at 19:00 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Wilson
Secretary