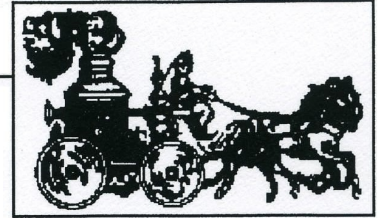


BROOME COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

Public Safety Facility / 153 Lt. VanWinkle Drive / Binghamton, New York 13905-1559
Phone: (607) 778-2170 Fax: (607) 778-1204



MINUTES - FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING - MARCH 13, 2025

Call to order at 7:00 pm by Chairperson Tom Giblin who thanked everyone for the good attendance.

The minutes were e-mailed out to all members. Motion by Rob Brady, second by Mike Redding to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2024 meeting. Carried.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT: Fire Coordinator Jeff Buckler reported:

OES Staff

- **Director position-** Neal Haight has been hired as the Director of Emergency Services and Mike Bender has been chosen for Deputy Director; he starts next pay period.
- **Communications Supervisor:** Mike Ballard is retiring in April. We have interviewed five candidates and are awaiting Neal's final decision. Mike Ballard will be staying part time after his retirement for transition purposes.

Radio Project

- **Programming Updates:** All have been completed except for Superior Ambulance, DPW's will be next and then law enforcement.

Fire Investigation

- **New FI-1:** This is coming along, our biggest holdup is warning equipment installation and it's Jeff's understanding that this has gone out to bid.
- **Peace Officer Academy:** We had three recently complete the Peace Officer Academy: Jack Ellis, Jason Mc Gonnigal and Tia Tennant.

Misc.

- **Dispatch timeline:** It was recently brought up in a Chiefs' meeting that there were concerns that 3 minutes is not sufficient time. It was decided to change the timeline to 5 and 7 minutes, however we will be changing it to 5 and 8 minutes to match EMS. At the 8-minute time-line, mutual aid will be sent instead of just placing them on standby which is currently done at 7 minutes then sent at 10 minutes.
- **Firefighter physicals:** We have an increasing concern with Guthrie-Lourdes as they have transitioned to doing NFPA physicals for firefighters rather than OSHA physicals which is a much more difficult process and many are being denied or sent to their family physician for additional testing. The current county contract specified that OSHA physicals will be conducted. Neal and Jeff have scheduled a meeting with the physician from Guthrie-Lourdes to address their concerns.

Several fire departments have had problems with the physicals as well. One problem is that Lourdes-Guthrie may require follow up with the person's personal physician, but some of these people do not have health insurance so who pays?

It was noted that the Broome County Health Department used to do these physicals for new volunteers, not sure why this was discontinued. Suggested that we could check with the Health Department to see if this is something they could do. The County could also put out an RFP for the physicals.

MINUTES - FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING - MARCH13, 2025

Noted that UHS continues to do OSHA physicals for the career fire departments, the problem being that there are no appointments, you just go and wait. This is okay for people who are doing it as part of their job and are being paid for wait time, but not convenient for volunteers who may be taking time off from work.

BYLAWS: No report.

PREVENTION/EDUCATION: Rob Brady reported that the fire safety trailer will be in use soon. Thank you to Port Crane for allowing us to store it at their fire station all winter.

LEGISLATURE: Thanks to legislators for attending. There was a question about allowing county employees to leave work for fire calls and getting paid. Currently such leave has to be okayed by the department head and the person has to use vacation time to cover their hours.

HAZ MAT: They have replaced recalled equipment.

LINK FIELD: Construction continues.

BROOME COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOC: Next meeting is April 3 at Prospect Terrace Fire station. This was supposed to be at Chenango Fire but had to be switched due to construction at their station.

BROOME COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOC: At the March meeting, Firefighter of the Year Award was given to Endwell Asst. Chief Matt Grafton who saved a person from choking. They are selling challenge coins for \$10 and also selling Save Around books. Looking for ideas for fundraising. Legislators suggested that the organization look into the Small Community Fund Grants being offered by the county.

NYS AFC: No report.

SOUTH CENTRAL FIRE POLICE: They are meeting tonight at Apalachin st #1.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Election of Officers for 2025:

Fire Coordinator Jeff Buckler took over chairing the meeting for election of Chairperson.

CHAIRPERSON: Tom Giblin was nominated by John Paffie, second by Scott Baker. Rob Brady motioned that the polls be closed and the Secretary cast one vote for Tom Giblin for Chairman. Carried.

Tom Giblin took back chairing of the meeting.

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VICE CHAIR: Bill Gorman was nominated by Mike Redding, second by Jason Delanoy. Rob Brady motioned that the polls be closed and the Secretary cast one vote for Bill Gorman for Vice Chair. Carried.

SECRETARY: Alice Fiacco was nominated by Rob Brady, second by Nick Griswold. Rob Brady motioned that the polls be closed and the Chairman cast one ballot for Alice Fiacco for Secretary. Carried.

Next meeting is May 8, at 7 pm. Motion by Wayne Sherwood, second by Rob Brady to adjourn at 7:40 pm. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice J. Fiacco

Alice J. Fiacco

Secretary

3/13/2025

<u>Name</u>	<u>Org.</u>
ROD BRADY	BCFFA
JASON DELANOY	BCFCA
JOE GRISWOLD	BCFCA
JERRY LAUT	OES
JOHN PAFFIE	BCFCA
WAYNE SHUND	BCFFA
MIKE REDDING	BCFFA
SCOTT BAKER	BC Legislature
TOM GIBLIN	BCFCA
ALICE FIACCO	BCFA
GREG BALDWIN	Leg
MATTHEW LEONARD	PCVFD
JEFF BOEVER	OES
BILL GARMAN	BCFCA
NICK GRISWOLD	BCFFA