

ERIE COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD – MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE:	07/30/2020	
LOCATION:	Erie County Fire Training and Operations Center	
CALL TO ORDER:	19:00 – Chairman Spilsbury	
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:	Chairman Spilsbury	
ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:	PRESENT:	William Cleary, Paul Gorczyca, Michael Griffin, Kevin Herzog, Scott Kuhlmeier, Doug Lahnen, Robert Rackl, Peter Spilsbury, Christopher Couell, Brandon Peters, Joleen Schlossin
	ABSENT:	Jim Gajewski, Timothy Gibbons, James Judd, Scott Plecha, Andrew Zamrok
	EXCUSED:	Jeffrey Daege, Eric Karcher, Garrett Wynn
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:		
APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING:	DATE OF LAST MEETING:	01/30/2020
	MOTION BY:	William Cleary
	SECOND BY:	Paul Gorczyca
	APPROVED:	Unanimously approved by all
REPORT OF OFFICERS:		
CHAIRMAN:	No Report	
CO-CHAIR:	No Report	
SECRETARY:	No Report	
TREASURER:	\$8 added tonight – will get total for next meeting	
REPORT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES:		
COMMISSIONER:	No Report	
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER:	<p>Since mid- March, the Fire Safety Office staff has been the Logistics operational staff for the COVID 19 operations for the entire county. All training was put on the back burner and the academy was home to half of the MERS staff, the Sheriffs, and CPS for a couple of months. The Logistics staff was tasked with finding, establishing and setting up all the testing in Erie County and providing support to those sites, which is still going on and will probably continue for the next year or so. This includes the diagnostic and antibody testing. The county set up a hotel in Amherst, for those individuals who had to quarantine, but had nowhere to do so. A morgue and homeless shelters were set up, as well. In addition to the Fire Safety Staff, the county fire instructors have played a huge role, either at the testing sites or at the warehouse, helping with the receiving and supplying of essential PPE. In total, we have used about 2700 hours and about 15 instructors during this time. The 5 instructors with the most time are Chris Petrie – 319 hours, Mike Kluck – 311 hours, Don Trzepacz – 228 hours, Chris Colvin – 209 hours and Bob Zacher – 200 hours.</p>	
	<p>At the end of June, the state gave us the go ahead to resume training. First, we wanted to finish up the classes that had already started, but were postponed during the pandemic. We've also rescheduled a couple of courses that had been cancelled. There is a Sunday IFO class at the training academy that has started back up and the Grand Island / Tonawanda / Winchester IFO will be starting soon. There will be a meeting Monday with the state fire instructors to start getting some other classes scheduled for the remainder of the year. OFPC has given us a directive of the most needed classes for the rest of the year – FF1, BEFO/IFO, EVOC, Pump Ops and Fire Officer 1. Other courses will most likely not be happening this year. With the ever-changing COVID situation, they are not wanting to take any unnecessary risks, with people sitting in classrooms. No training hours will be taken away.</p>	
	<p>Buffalo Fire's recruit class that started back in February and was postponed, resumed in mid-July.</p>	
	<p>Bootcamp will be happening this year. Like last year, there are 2 classes, with a total of 37 people. Both bootcamps have already completed their skills weekend. Bootcamp 1 starts August 17 and then bootcamp 2 will immediately follow. We are planning for a graduation September 11th, with restricted attendance.</p>	
	<p>Updates to Building/Campus: -New camera/monitors (all buildings, entrances, parking lot); all have playback option so able to look back at pre-recorded time stamps if need be.</p>	

	<p>-New front gate. During lockdown, the gate was kept closed, but is now open again during the day. There is a receiver in both the fire safety and ems offices to allow entry when closed. The main entrance (near Buffalo Fire's office) is also hooked up to the same receiver. We added a secondary gate, on the side of the property near Cheektowaga Highway. It's a manual gate that slides open and is kept locked. It was built for the body collection point, in case ME's needed to come into the facility, they could enter through there.</p> <p>-The Cheektowaga tower project has been completed. The fire rooms have been completely rebuilt, with new sensors. There is possibly enough materials left over to do the Chestnut Ridge tower, but not sure if it'll be in the fall or next year. Amherst will be done in a couple of years.</p> <p>-New AV equipment in the rooms – projectors and touch screens. Information on a screen in one room can be simultaneously played in another room if needed. Touch screens are simple to use.</p> <p>-New ice machine, microwave, grill</p> <p>-Hot water tank was replaced</p> <p>-New flooring in rooms 133 and 135. Rooms painted as well.</p> <p>-Washer and Dryer for the instructors gear has been installed. It was a big job that the county couldn't do and bid out to a contractor. Monies being donated by the Erie County Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Organization for the detergents/soaps.</p> <p>-New props in the tower. Upstairs is a Mousetrap – a hinge with a mattress and foam on it, comes down and traps the firefighter, teaching them to stay calm, call their mayday, and try to get themselves out without panicking. The old door on the side of the tower was a forcible entry door, but had been badly beaten up, so the Erie County Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Organization gave us some money for materials and one of the instructors from Buffalo Fire is a welder, who is building a forcible entry prop door into the side of the building, similar to what's on the county trailer.</p> <p>-During downtime for instructors scheduled to be a "runner" for COVID operations, they would work on the forcible entry trailers, building additional props. Also, put together a firefighter survival trailer, out of the old hay trailer. This was mostly done by Bob Zacher and Travis Smith, and John Rothrock helped out some. Both of these trailers can be sent out to the different fire companies, with our instructors, for training. There were Train the Trainer nights held at the academy a couple of weeks ago, with about 20 of our instructors getting trained on how to pull the props out and set up, how to use, and how to put back in.</p> <p>-Erie County Regional Tech Rescue Team- picked up over this last year, with about 11 companies participating. Do a lot of advanced training. If on the team and going on calls, need to be at least Ropes Op or Tech 1 level to work. Josh Myers is the team leader (also a state instructor and county instructor) and has a call sign with the county of TR-1. Chris and Josh went out to Gowanda and Collins this week and met with the Sheriffs and their SWAT teams to work on dispatch ideas/problems to make things smoother.</p> <p>-Scott Kuhlmeier will be taking over the arson reports for the county.</p>
DEPUTY FIRE COORDINATOR:	<p>See Deputy Commissioner's Report</p> <p>Will be putting together a presentation on what the fire safety office is, what we're doing, and how we can help the fire departments. One of the goals is to get out to all the association meetings and go over with the chiefs. It won't be too long, maybe 30 minutes. Go over what we have, what we can help with, all the new trainings, the trailers, how to request training or the trailers, go over the website, answer any other questions they may have. Suggestion of demo days at the academy, inviting chiefs and the Fire Advisory Board.</p>
OTHER:	-
REPORT OF COMMITTEES:	
SCHOOL:	No Report
DRILL TOWER:	No Report
RADIO:	No Report
LEGISLATIVE & FIRE PREVENTION:	No Report
BUDGET PLANNING & WALL OF HONOR:	<p>Discussion on whether to hold Wall of Honor ceremony this year, due to COVID19 pandemic. There is currently one letter of nomination for Randy Rider and 2 are expected to be coming in from Depew. Decision was made to hold the ceremony this year, but possibly hold it a couple of nights so social distancing can be practiced. It has been determined, based on size, that the Aud can hold up to 80</p>

	people. As the ceremony is usually held during fire prevention week, more discussion on this should happen at the next workshop and the dates worked out.
RULES & MUTUAL AID:	No Report
REPORT OF BOARDS:	
ERIE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS MUTUAL AID ORG.:	No report
ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION:	No Report
ERIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION:	No Report
ERIE COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION:	No Report
DISASTER ADVISORY BOARD:	No report
EMS ADVISORY BOARD:	No Report
OLD BUSINESS:	Decontamination – R. Rackl came up with a “best practice” that was distributed to all members present at the meeting. It will also be attached to the minutes that will be emailed to all members. Everyone should read them over and plan to discuss at the workshop next month.
NEW BUSINESS:	Would like to go over the Erie County Fire Mutual Aid Plan. It was last revised and adopted in 2010. This should be done every 5 years. Once finalized, it will be sent to all fire departments with a signature page. In the plan, there is a small paragraph regarding D-units. It says they are radio coordinators that are assigned by the county. This is an old practice and there are only about 7 or so left in the county. After discussion with the commissioner, they would like to remove this from the mutual aid plan, as the county does not have any involvement in picking these individuals or setting up the rules they abide by. Discussion involving improved relationship between the Buffalo Fire Department and the volunteer companies.
GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION:	Using of the Fire Advisory Board collection to have a picnic during the September meeting. Will start cooking on the grill around 5, show up any time after that. Discussion on changing the start time of future meetings to 6pm, instead of 7pm. Motion by William Cleary, seconded by Kevin Herzog, approved by all.
NEXT MEETING DATE:	09/24/2020, 12/3/2020
NEXT WORKSHOP DATE:	08/27/2020, 10/29/2020
ADJOURNMENT:	20:02, motion by Michael Griffin, seconded by Paul Gorczyca
MINUTES RECORDED BY:	Joleen Schlossin
MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:	Joleen Schlossin



ERIE COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD
Gross Decontamination of PPE
Best Practices
Draft
Effective Date:

- 1.0) **Subject -** Gross Decontamination of PPE/SCBA
- 2.0) **Purpose -** To limit firefighting personnel exposure to products of combustion, post incident/training
- 3.0) **Scope -** This policy is a recommendation to all Erie County, New York Fire Departments and shall be performed at all Erie County Training Facilities

4.0) **Definitions -**
Products of Combustion - Smoke, particulates, chemicals, gases, carcinogens and any other by-products of combustion.

PPE - Personal Protective Envelope/Equipment

SCBA - Self-contained breathing apparatus

Firefighting Personnel - Firefighters, fire brigade members (paid, volunteer or combination paid/volunteer), Public Safety Officers or any person engaged in firefighting operations, who are exposed to an IDLH (Immediate Danger to Life and Health) environment



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- 5.0) **Guidelines** – It is highly recommended that any responder (Firefighter, Law Enforcement, EMS, etc.) who has exited an IDLH or HOT environment be Decontaminated (De-Con) as per the following guidelines
- 5.1) Personnel shall not doff PPE/SCBA and shall maintain breathing via SCBA during De-Con.
 - 5.2) Personnel should, when practical, doff PPE/SCBA post De-Con, prior to entering the Rehabilitation (Re-Hab) Area/Sector.
 - 5.3) De-Con shall be performed in accordance to NYS DHS/OFPC Best Practices and in compliance with NFPA standards.
 - 5.4) Weather permitting, De-Con should be performed by;
 - a) Rinsing the PPE/SCBA, then applying a soap/water mixture, as per PPE manufacturer recommendations.
 - b) Brushing the PPE/SCBA with a soft brush.
 - c) Final rinse.
 - d) Cleaning of exposed areas of the skin and SCBA facepiece shall be performed post final rinse by utilizing sanitized wipes manufactured for the intended use. Used wipes shall be disposed of properly.
 - e) Post Incident bagging of PPE/SCBA and cleaning in accordance to NFPA guidelines, NYS Best Practices, Department policies and PPE/SCBA manufacturers' specifications, post incident, is highly recommended.
 - 5.5) Inclement weather OR if personnel will be re-entering the IDLH/HOT environment post Re-Hab, De-Con should be performed by;
 - a) Dry brushing the PPE/SCBA with a soft brush.
 - b) Cleaning of exposed areas of the skin and SCBA facepiece shall be performed post dry brushing by utilizing sanitized wipes manufactured for the intended use. Used wipes shall be disposed of properly.



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- 5.6) When performing De-Con in accordance to 5.5, De-Con shall be performed as in 5.4, when practical, or bagged and cleaned in accordance to NFPA guidelines, NYS Best Practices, Department policies and PPE/SCBA manufacturers' specifications, post incident.
- 5.7) Personnel performing De-Con shall have PPE/SCBA donned (OR particulate mask approved for gross decontamination of products of combustion) and utilizing SCBA.
- 6.0) **Training** - All applicable personnel shall be trained to a level of competency by NYS Certified, Erie County Fire Instructors
- 7.0) **Exceptions** - This Best Practices shall not violate Department policies and/or NYS DHS/OFPC Best Practices, NFPA standards (Appendix I) or PPE/SCBA manufacturer's recommendations.



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Appendix I

NFPA 1851 – Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting 2020 Excerpt

7.2* Preliminary Exposure Reduction.

7.2.1 General.

7.2.1.1* Organizations shall include preliminary exposure reduction as part of their overall program for the care and maintenance of structural fire-fighting ensembles and ensemble elements and proximity fire-fighting ensembles and ensemble elements.

7.2.1.2* Organizations shall be responsible for implementing preliminary exposure reduction procedures on scene for ensemble and ensemble elements.

7.2.2 Preliminary Exposure Reduction Procedures.

7.2.2.1 * End users shall carry out preliminary exposure reduction immediately after exiting the emergency scene at any incident where their protective ensemble or ensemble elements could have become soiled or contaminated.

7.2.2.2 * Upon exiting the emergency scene, the end user shall remain on self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) air.

7.2.2.3 If returning to the emergency scene after an air cylinder change, any dry debris shall be brushed off the helmet, facepiece, and SCBA prior to changing out the cylinder.

7.2.2.4* If the end user is completing their time on scene, dry or wet mitigation techniques shall be conducted prior to the removal of any ensemble or ensemble elements.

7.2.2.4.1* The dry mitigation techniques shall be performed by brushing debris from the exterior of ensembles and ensemble elements with a soft bristle brush prior to removal.

7.2.2.4.2* The wet mitigation techniques shall be performed by gently rinsing the exterior of ensembles and ensemble elements using low-pressure and low-volume flow water.

7.2.2.4.2.1 A mild detergent shall be permitted to be used to aid in the wet mitigation technique, followed by gentle rinsing.



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7.2.2.4.2.2 Heavy scrubbing or spraying with high-velocity water jets such as a power washer shall not be used.

7.2.2.4.3 If used in combination, dry mitigation shall precede wet mitigation.

7.2.2.5* Following dry or wet mitigation, ensemble or ensemble elements shall be isolated and bagged. Where possible, ensemble or ensemble elements, even when bagged, shall not be transported in the passenger areas of apparatus or personal vehicles.




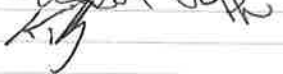



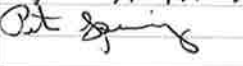

7.2.2.6 Following preliminary exposure reduction, the ensemble or ensemble element(s) shall be subjected to the appropriate cleaning procedures specified in Section 7.1.

7.2.3 Additional Requirements for Preliminary Exposure Reduction of Hood Interface Components. Following each structural fire or emergency service use, hood interface components shall be subjected to preliminary exposure reduction and advanced cleaning as specified in Section 7.3.

7.2.4* Additional Requirements for Preliminary Exposure Reduction of Eye and Face Protection Components. After each use, eye and face protection components that are provided as part of the helmet or as separate devices shall be subjected to preliminary exposure reduction and wiped off and cleaned.

7.2.5 Additional Requirements for Preliminary Exposure Reduction of Proximity Fire-Fighting Ensembles and Ensemble Elements. During preliminary exposure reduction, the use of a brush or any other abrasive cleaning devices on radiant reflective outer shells and other components of proximity fire-fighting protective ensembles and ensemble elements shall not be permitted.

ERIE COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD SIGN IN AND CONTACT SHEET

MEETING:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL	DATE: 7/30/2020		LOCATION:		FTA		ABSENT	EXCUSED
	Name	Board Appointments	# of Terms	Expiration Date	Phone #	Email	Signature			
1	Cleary, William		1st	12/31/2020	716-796-8069	wcleary53@verizon.net				
2	Daege, Jeffrey		1st	12/31/2020	716-440-2017	jeffreydaege@yahoo.com				
3	Gajewski, James		2nd	12/31/2021	716-440-4755	commjim10@yahoo.com				
4	Gibbons, Timothy		2nd	12/31/2021	716-725-3770	Gibbons105@yahoo.com				
5	Gorczyca, Paul		1st	12/31/2021	716-866-1634	gork315@gmail.com				
6	Griffin, Michael		1st	12/31/2020	716-714-9772	opie652@gmail.com				
7	Herzog, Kevin		1st	12/31/2020	716-725-2984	kevinherzog@roadrunner.com				
8	Judd, James	Treasurer	1st	12/31/2020	716-604-6874	LFD_Judd@yahoo.com				
9	Karcher, Eric		1st	12/31/2020	716-697-1395	ek7166971395@aol.com				
10	Kuhlmeiy, Scott		2nd	12/31/2021	716-861-7933	scott.kuhlmeiy@gmail.com				X
11	Lahnen, Douglas		1st	12/31/2020	716-864-2240	dlahnen1@roadrunner.com				
12	Plecha, Scott		1st	12/31/2021	716-909-4206	s.plecha@yahoo.com				
13	Rackl, Robert	Co-Chair	2nd	12/31/2021	716-583-1798	rwrackl@gmail.com				
14	Spilsbury, Jr., Peter	Chair	2nd	12/31/2021		Peter.Spilsbury@erie.gov				
15	Wynn, Garrett		1st	13/31/2021	716-570-2209	gwynn@ucrestfire.org				X
16	Zamrok, Andrew		2nd	12/31/2021	716-425-7907	azamrok@evanscentervfc.org				
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	Neaverth Jr., Dan	Commissioner			716-983-6080	daniel.neaverth@erie.gov				
	Couell, Chris	Deputy Commissioner			716-481-7970	christopher.couell@erie.gov				
	Peters, Brandon	Deputy Fire Coordinator			716-548-5907	brandon.peters@erie.gov				
	Schlossin, Joleen	Scribe				joleen.schlossin@erie.gov	