

ERIE COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD – MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE:		July 31, 2025	
LOCATION:		South Line Fire	
CALL TO ORDER:		18:16	
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:			
ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:	PRESENT:	Jennifer Andres, Ronald Endle, Jim Guy, Kevin Herzog, Doug Lahnen, Tom Morris, Dan Nash, Scott Plecha, Bob Rackl, Peter Spilsbury, Chris Couell, Alex Doll, Joleen Schlossin	
	ABSENT:	Andrew Beehler, Roger Brennan, Jack Chiappone, Matthew Coons, Jim Gajewski, Paul Gorczyca, Mike Griffin, Kevin Jewett, William Renaldo, Garrett Wynn, Mike Zekas	
	EXCUSED:	Shad Garner, Eric Karcher, Scott Kuhlmei	
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:			
APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING:	DATE OF LAST MEETING:	05/29/25	
	MOTION BY:	Scott Plecha	
	SECOND BY:	Dan Nash	
	APPROVED:	Approved by all	
REPORT OF OFFICERS:			
CHAIRMAN:	Resignation letters were submitted by Bob Zacher, Tom Patridge and Don Roth. Motion to accept from Kevin Herzog, seconded by Doug Lahnen, approved by all. William Renaldo also reached out to let the board know that he will try and make an effort to attend meetings.		
CO-CHAIR:	No Report		
SECRETARY:	No Report		
TREASURER:	- \$72 for the picnic, + \$22 from meeting, \$96.92- total		
REPORT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES:			
COMMISSIONER:	No Report		
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER:	<p>-Training trailers are going out to the fair again. Mostly set with the instructor schedule, but we need firefighters to be demonstrators. We've been posting on social media but still need more. Please put the word out to your fire districts. Volunteers will get a free pass to get into the fair, plus an additional couple for family. Ordered banners for the fireman's building with QR codes that will take people right to the form to fill out to be a volunteer FF. The form goes to EC Fire Safety and then will be distributed to the appropriate fire department.</p> <p>-Still working on the study for the old tower. Even if it's fixable, the county may not fix it. There's still talk of moving training to another location and combining with EMS, law enforcement, etc.</p> <p>-Got the drawings back for the drager building for the increased pier size a couple of days ago. They were sent to DPW and we are waiting for a response.</p> <p>-Need to get the message to the fire departments that they're not always going to get BEFO/IFO classes at their departments. Their members may need to drive to a close by station for a class. We try to spread them out throughout the county.</p> <p>-Bootcamp 2 started this week. Going well so far, we've only lost a couple of students. People aren't showing up physically able to do the job.</p>		
DEPUTY FIRE COORDINATOR:	<p>-Jon Torre's been doing well in his new position.</p> <p>-8 FF1's this year, which is in line with the previous year.</p> <p>-Problem in Erie County seems to be more with retention, than recruitment. Need to dig more into the whys. The Fire Safety office can help with retention by providing the education to keep the firefighters engaged.</p> <p>-Hazmat training/call volume going well. There were 3 lithium-ion battery emergencies in the month of July.</p> <p>-BOCES BEFO class went well this year. Next year there's a full roster. If they are part of a fire department, they will be eligible for the stipend from the state.</p> <p>-Live Fire Instructor and Live Fire Instructor in Charge coming up at the ECTOC in September.</p> <p>-Smoke Divers is coming up in September and will be posted next week. Also working on the Women's and Junior classes.</p>		
OTHER:			
REPORT OF COMMITTEES:			
CANCER SCREENING:	No Report		
DRILL TOWER:	No Report		

FIRE PREVENTION:	No Report
LINE OF DUTY DEATH:	Ron – talked with the 100 club. There is an offer from them to come out and do a presentation during the Wednesday night seminar series.
BUDGET PLANNING & WALL OF HONOR:	Jim – There are 7 approved Wall of Honor inductees (2 are LODD). There are two nominations from Kenilworth that are still pending.
REPORT OF BOARDS:	
ERIE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS MUTUAL AID ORG.:	Doug – Next meeting is the 3 rd Monday in September at Brighton.
ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION:	Tom – 100 club was at the last meeting. Next meeting is October 19 th . Starting to get ready for the fair. Going to have some newer trucks this year. Looking for volunteers to sit at the table/maze for a couple of hours. If interested, reach out to Tom.
ERIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION:	Dan – Next meeting is in September.
ERIE COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION:	No Report
DISASTER ADVISORY BOARD:	No Report
EMS ADVISORY BOARD:	No Report
BUFFALO FIRE DEPT:	No Report
LACKAWANNA FIRE DEPT:	No Report
ERIE COUNTY HAZMAT:	See Deputy Fire Coordinator's Report
OLD BUSINESS:	No Report
NEW BUSINESS:	No Report
GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION:	No Report
NEXT MEETING DATE:	09/25/25
NEXT WORKSHOP DATE:	-
ADJOURNMENT:	18:59, Motion by Scott Plecha, seconded by Ron Endle
MINUTES RECORDED BY:	J. Schlossin
MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:	J. Schlossin

