

Kings County Firefighters Association

D R A F T Minutes of Meeting
November 9, 2010

Welcome: Chief Rick Weisner welcomed attendees to Canning Fire Department, meeting host.

Presentation: Canadian Red Cross member Mark Pound presented the services available to victims of man-made and natural disasters. The Red Cross can attend any disaster scene in Kings County to provide short-term housing if needed, clothing and personal care items to assist with immediate needs. Provided contact information to all fire departments. The fire services in Hants County now have local members to provide Red Cross services during emergency operations.

Minutes: Minutes of September 7, 2010 were read and approved as presented.

FSANS; Fire Services Association of Nova Scotia, attended by Chief Philip Porter.
Report:

- Semi annual meeting of FSANS to be held in Truro April 16th and 17th, 2011
- Request for Proposals for the new Trunked Mobile Radio system was issued August 2010.
- CIS have developed a protocol for Line of Duty Deaths in the fire service. They have a DVD available on line.
- CAFC, Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs developed a website called Give Firefighters Credit @ www.givefirefighterscredit.ca. The purpose of this site is to present a petition to the Federal Government of Canada in support of the CAFC's movement to introduce a \$3,000 non-refundable tax credit for volunteer firefighters who perform more than 200 hours of service per year. The petition is available on-line for members to sign.
- MFCA, Maritime Fire Chiefs Association annual conference will be held in early July of 2011. The conference will be held at the Fredericton Inn, Fredericton NB.
- Beyond Hoses and Helmets: this is a program of study over two (2) days sponsored by the International Association of Fire Chiefs. It is a national leadership program for chief officers. The session will be held in Moncton NB, November 13th and 14th, 2010.
- The annual meeting of FSANS was held at the Fire School in Waverly, NS October 17th, 2010. Topics included:
 - Request by the Office of the Fire Marshal to report all alarms. Needs this information for fire statistics that form the basis for trends in emergency calls and for issuing defective appliance and equipment recalls.
 - CAFC, Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs annual conference was held in St. John NB. The CAFC have posted a website, www.safeathome.ca for use in fire prevention activities.
 - FSANS approved a resolution to exempt fire departments from taxes applied to fire fighting equipment. Will send to the provincial Government.

- Election of Officers for the new year: Andy Yarrow, Pugwash Fire Department, President, Dave Burnett, HRM Fire, 1st Vice President, and Rod Neilson, Brookfield Fire Department, 2nd Vice President.

Firefighters

School: No report

Training:

Kings County Training Coordinator Brian Desloges presented the following:

- Firefighter Level 1 began September 15, 2010. Completion date will be end of March 2011. 35 students have registered.
- Fire Officer Level 1 began October 15, 2010. Completion will be December 4, 2010. 19 students have registered.
- Fire Officer Level 2 – The Association has asked that this program become part of the regular courses offered through the KCFFA. This course will be offered for the first time starting January 2011. Registration information will be issued before the Christmas holidays advising departments of this new course.
- Firefighter Level 2. This is an annual course and will begin mid March of 2011

Recruitment: No report

Valley

Dispatch:

Valley Communications presented as follows:

- Currently have several new dispatchers on staff. They are currently in training and look forward to serving the fire departments in our Association.
- With new elections of chief officers occurring within the next several months, Valley has requested all fire departments to submit names of elected chief officers along with contact information.
- Incident report information gathered by Valley Dispatch is available by fax or e-mail. If any fire department wishes a copy of incident information, contact Valley Communications at 678-4962.
- EMO, Emergency Measures Organization has installed mapping software that is integrated with municipal GIS property mapping. Benefits the fire service by more accurately locating callers providing information by mobile phones. The current software provides more accurate information from a Blackberry than the current I-Phone configuration. They can now pin-point a caller within 6 feet of their actual location on the ground.
- Tours of the dispatch centre can be accommodated. Valley asks that appointments be made with a maximum of 4 or 5 people at any one time. Call Joan Garden for a tour.

DNR:

The provincial Department of Natural Resources are currently reviewing their budgets. This review is government mandated to save money with a projected 10% budget cut under review.

EMO:

Emergency Measures Organizations Kings Country representative Gary Smith is off on sick leave. No report.

KCFFA

Executive President Kevin Thomson presented as follows:

- Currently plan to review all of the by-laws since several items are old and in need of updating.
- The secretary has e-mailed copies of the By-Laws to all member department asking for any input into changes, additions, or deletions.

- All minutes are posted on the KCFFA website for member and non-member access. See www.kcffa.ca
- The Executive wishes to ensure that there is a program for each meeting as is the tradition of the Association. The host fire department is requested to provide a 15 to 20 minute presenter on a current issue or topic of interest to the local fire service. If a host department is having a problem providing a presenter, please contact President Kevin Thomson for suggestions or arrangements.

Fire Reports:	Fire Department	# of Alarms Sept. 9 to Nov. 10, 2010
	Port Williams	10
	Canning	25
	Halls Harbour	3
	Kentville	77
	Waterville	12
	Aylesford	24
	No other reports by members given.	

New Business: The following new business was presented:

- FF Mark Pound of the Kentville Fire Department is looking into a fire apparatus parade Apple Blossom Sunday, 2011. Looking for ideas and support for this event. Mark will provide further details of his proposal to the Association.
- Retired Fire Chief Harold Conrad of the Hebbville Fire Department was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award. FF Hugh Stronach, representing the KCFFA, presented a letter of congratulations.
- Reg Macdonald has set up a new repeater.
- The Kingston Fire Department has installed new lighting as part of the NSP utilities program to install higher efficiency lamps and bulbs to conserve power. Since the installation, they have experienced significant interference with their base station private channel and FM radios. The new T5 light electronic ballasts may be the problem. They have contacted Industry Canada for a review of their problem. KCFFA President will also review this issue with the provider of many fire department radio systems, Reg Macdonald of Reg MacDonald Communications.
- Safety Source and its local distributor John Dunbar have donated a firefighters helmet to benefit a local area 4-year-old girl who is suffering from Cancer. The helmet will be used as a fundraiser.
- MOTION: B. Desloges / W. Johnstone: The KCFFA donate \$100 to this cancer fund.

Meeting Adjourned at 20:50 – NEXT MEETING January 11, 2011, New Minas Fire station

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Prepared:

President: Captain Kevin Thomson

Secretary: Safety Officer Brian Desloges