

Kings County Firefighters Association

D R A F T Minutes of Meeting
January 11, 2011

Welcome: Lt. Andrew Mitton welcomed attendees to New Minas Fire Department, meeting host.

Remembrance: The Kings County Firefighters Association observed a minute of silence for two members, the late Captain Richard Walsh and Deputy Chief Cecil LaVerne Gould.

LaVerne Gould was born in 1936, Kingston NS, passing away January 10, 2011 at the age of 74 years. He was a member of the Aylesford and District Fire Department for over 30 years achieving the rank of Deputy Fire Chief. He was active with the department until his death January 10, 2011

Richard Arthur Walsh was born in 1946, Hantsport NS, passing away December 16, 2010. He was an active member of the Kentville Fire Department at the time of his passing, having served 29 years shared between Kentville and the Hantsport Fire Departments where he achieved the rank of Captain. Richard received many awards that distinguished him as a firefighter throughout his career.

Both Richard and LaVerne will be missed but never forgotten. Our condolences to both families and friends.

Presentation: Scott Hawks of Nova Scotia Communications presented the methods and techniques of accessing the Trunk Main Radio System. The benefits of the Talk Groups were demonstrated with emphasis on interoperability of all radios between all emergency agencies across the entire province.

Business Arising: RGM Communications investigated and resolved the Kingston Fire Departments FM radio interference thought to be caused by the installation of new electronic ballast for lighting upgrades at the station.

Minutes: Minutes of November 9, 2010 were read and approved as presented.

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

Report:

- The Association is updating its electronic mailing list. All member departments are requested to forward their email contact information to the Association through their web site.

Firefighters

School: No report

Training: Kings County Training Coordinator Brian Desloges presented the following;

- Fire Officer Level 2 – The Association has made this an annual course offered through the KCFFA. This course will start January 19, 2011. Registration

information was issued before the Christmas holidays advising departments of this course.

- Firefighter Level 2. This is an annual course and will begin mid March of 2011

Recruitment: April 15, 16, and 17, 2011 are the dates for the Home and Garden Show held at the Kentville Centennial Arena on Webster Street. As in the past, FF Hugh Stronach of the Kentville Fire Department is looking for help all three days. The booth is provided through Kings County Fire Protection Services manager Gary Smith.

Valley Dispatch: No report

DNR: The provincial Department of Natural Resources is reviewing their budget. This review is government mandated to save money with a projected 10% budget cut under review. Along with budgets, management changes are also in progress.

EMO: Emergency Measures Organizations, Kings Country representative Gary Smith reported:

- At the beginning of the year, many members started work to plan joint emergency agency exercises for the upcoming year.
- Thanked Lt. Andrew Mitton and Captain Ken White for their efforts in providing the new Kings County Haz Mat teams decontamination tent and wash area.
- Thanked Kentville's Mark Philips and Scott Quinn for their work at the EMO Centre during recent hurricanes.
- Work is continuing on "Operation Handshake", a monthly radio exercise coordinated by Cumberland County EMO. The exercise is designed to maintain skills and communication links between EMO offices across the province as well as the links that exist between local amateur radio operators and the EMO.
- Next exercise "Handshake" will be January 25, 2011 starting at 7:00 PM.
- To find out more, log in with Shubie Radio for routing to the designated TMR Talk Group.

KCFFA Executive President Kevin Thomson presented as follows:

- Currently, the Association, through Captain Kevin Thomson and Lt. Scott Callaghan are investing time in the design of a new crest to contain a distinctive Kings County Firefighters Association logo. Several versions were passed around to during the meeting. The members selected the preferred logo. Captain Thomson will finalize the artwork for the preparation of the final crest.
- The annual meeting will be held during the March 2011 meeting. At that time executive officers will be elected.

Fire Reports:	Fire Department	# of Alarms Nov. 10, 2010 to January 11, 2011
	Port Williams	5
	New Minas	42
	Halls Harbour	3
	Kentville	90
	Waterville	42
	No other reports by members given.	

New Business: The following new business was presented:

- MOTION: B. Desloges / W. Johnstone: The KCFFA prepare a certificate of appreciation to be given to NSCC Kingstec Campus for the use of classroom space for firefighting [programs at no cost to the Association. MOTION PASSED.
- Chief Philip Porter gave a Notice of Motion of his intent to bring forward a change in the terms of KCFFA executive members from one year to two years.
- FF Hugh Stronach indicated that all Anne Longley Memorial Medals prepared by the Municipality of the County of Kings were issued for 2010. Anyone who did not receive their medal contact FF Stronach and file your application on-line with the County.
- Federal medals. If anyone wishes to have his or her Federal Fire Service medals framed contact FF Stronach.
- Appreciation expressed for those who attended the funeral of the late firefighter Richard Walsh.
- The Valley Cardiac rehabilitation society are looking for help to continue the 15th annual Hearts on Ice, February 13, 2011 starting at 2:00 PM Acadia University arena.
- The Nominating Committee is looking for two (2) members to serve on the Nominating Committee. Tony Young volunteered leaving one position still open.
- The Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs has a survey they are circulating to pressure the Federal government to approve a \$3,000 firefighter Tax Credit.

Meeting Adjourned at 20:50

NEXT MEETING March 8, 2011, Wolfville Fire Station

Future Meeting Dates May 10, 2011 at the Windsor Fire Station

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Prepared:

President: Captain Kevin Thomson

Secretary: Safety Officer Brian Desloges