

# **Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**January 15, 2009**

**Martini's**

**The meeting was called to order at 1835 by Asst. Chief Tom Steele with the following members present;**

**Mike Fitchet Vince Gildone James Heath John Jyurovat Ed Kozial Tom Lachey  
Dave Lemponen Bim Orrenmaa Ron Pristera Tina Ray Douglas Starkey  
Tom Steele Ron Valitsky John Wayman Sr. Bill Wilms Neal Stewart**

**The body approved the minutes from the November meeting as presented.**

**Asst. Chief Steele reported to the body that Chief Henry would like to be replaced as V.P. Chief Bill Wilms will serve in his place. Vote was unanimous.**

**There was no treasurer's report presented at this meeting.**

## **Committee Reports:**

***Apparatus Testing:* Chief Turk will continue to serve as chair on this committee of one.**

***Christmas Party:* Asst Chief Steele reported that we took in \$ 367.00 at the Christmas Party. The committee will be disbanded as it will no longer be needed. 2009 Christmas Party will be a Pasta Bar @ APMC**

***Water Rescue Committee:* Call to rescue a dog was reviewed with the body; all went well. Chief Jyurovat and Kozial attended the TacII meeting. Overview of responses for 2008 was presented to the body. Work to update equipment lists and SOGs continue. Also needed is an updated roster.**

***Website:* The website is to be moved and revamped by FF Workmen. Cost of \$300.00 was voted on and passed. Asst. Chief Steele will send Chip a letter regarding the change.**

***CISM:* Committee needs to meet and will attempt to get this done before the next meeting of the Association.**

## **Unfinished Business & General Orders**

**Chief Fitchet will serve as the alternate rep on the DPAC / CTAT Committee.**

**Chief Starkey has "Need Volunteer" signs. If anyone needs them, contact him.**

**Chief Pristera reported to the body that the instructors class in rolling along.**

**The MVFD HazMat response bill was sent and no response as of yet. B.C. Gildone will talk to Chief Tuttle.**

**Incident Management Teams for Regions 2 & 5 are working together to get this up and staffed.**

**New Business**

**2009 Dues forms are ready. Those not picked up tonight will be sent out by mail.**

**Chief Pristera opened discussion on the 2009 EMA agreement; reporting that it has problems and suggested that making a MOU could replace the contract now being used.**

**Good of the Order**

**Chief Kozial reported that the Windsor Dog Team will be at RFD February 5<sup>th</sup> at 1900 for a demo.**

**Clandestine Lab Awareness course info was passed out to the body.**

**All attendees were reminded about the Winter Symposium; February 24 & 25. See Tom Steele for more info if needed.**

**The next meeting is to be held at Edgewood Diner. The 2009 meeting locations were distributed to the body.**

**The meeting was adjourned by consensus @ 1905.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Vincent T. Gildone**

# Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association Minutes of Monthly Meeting

February 19, 2009 Edgewood Diner

The meeting was called to order at 1905 by Asst. Chief Tom Steele with the following members present;

Vincent Gildone Laverne Goodge Angie Maki-Cliff Jim Heath Ed Kozial  
David Lamponen Tom Lachey John Wayman Sr. Dave Kray Alan Kohta  
Neal Stewart Jim Bartlett Bill Strubbe Brian Lehtonen Michael Sullivan  
Dave Turk Kevin Krieg Jim Calco Ron Valitsky John Jyurovat Ron Pristera  
Mike Fitchet

The body approved the minutes as presented.

## Committee Reports:

*Communications:* The Monroe VFD letter, re: HazMat Response and the payment, was discussed. The MVFD Chief has sent dues for this year and the HazMat dues for last year.

Frank Bernardo needs help at the Home and Flower Show. Let him know if you can help.

*Winter Symposium:* 4 chiefs from our group to attend. Anyone else with interest let Assistant Chief Steele know.

*Treasurers Report:* The report was presented by Chief Strubbe to the body and it was excepted as presented. A vote was taken to have Chief Strubbe renew the corporation papers and pay the necessary fees; which were estimated at \$25.00.

Assistant Chief Steele discussed with the body the websites (new & old) and the letter that was sent to Chip. The new site is up and running.

[www.Countyfirechiefs.com](http://www.Countyfirechiefs.com)

Assistant Chief Steele requested photos from the body to post on the site.

*HazMat:* Cost recovery was discussed and all were reminded that a resolution needs to be passed and fees preset in order to recover funds. Chiefs Pristera and Fitchet are willing to help and have recommended a meeting be held at EMA so anyone needing help can attend.

Jim Calco reported on the final firefighter recerts for Ohio, 300 @ 36hr / 61 @ FF1 / 219 @ FF II, for a total of 555 in our county; 41,011 FFs in Ohio. All were reminded to keep their email up to date with the state.

**A short discussion on the future of fire training hours and con-ed was held.**

**Chief Lemponen Ret. Expressed some discontent with the direction the state is going with fire training.**

**New Business:**

**Chief Strubbe reported that a 36 hr fire class will soon be set up.**

**Assistant Chief Steele passed on information on a new software system called CodeRed, an emergency notification system, that he thinks looks good. The EMA is reviewing it as a replacement of the current system, more to come.**

**Committee assignments were discussed and will be posted on the website.**

**Chief Kozial requested funds for pool time for the water rescue team. Motion to spend \$100 was passed by the body.**

**Chief Turk presented a training opportunity; Ground Search & Rescue, Awareness level. Chief Turk also requested possible sites to hold class in the North.**

**Certificates were passed out in recognition at work done on the Conneaut Crime Scene.**

**Chief Kozial will have the MCI Units at RFD on display. Emails have been sent out to the chiefs list.**

**The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 1945.**

**The next meeting will be held at Grand River Manor on March 19, 2009.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Vincent T. Gildone**

# **Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**March 19, 2009      Grand River Manor**

**The meeting was called to order at 1847 by Asst. Chief Tom Steele with the following members present;**

**Joe Albergo Jerry Burke Nicholas Colby Todd Dutton Mike Fitchet Warren Gibson Vince Gildone Laverne Goodge James Heath Everett Henry Alan Kohta Ed Kozial Dave Kray Tom Lachey Dave Lemponen Angi Maki Tim Mills George Sabo Douglas Starkey Tom Steele William Strubbe David Turk Ron Valitsky John Wayman Jr. John Wayman Sr. Bill Wilms Ted Wilms Neal Stewart**

**The body approved the minutes as presented.**

**Chief Strubbe presented a treasurer's report and dues report. It was passed by the body as presented.**

**Chief Starkey reported there would not be any major repairs on the fire safety trailer.**

## **Committee Reports:**

***EMA:* Director Sabo reported that the EMA office will be conducting an inventory of items purchased by CTAT. He reminded the body to please report NIMS training to personnel.**

***HazMat:* The team reported one response last month in Trumbull County. Any HazMat issues should be reported to ACOD Tom Steele at ATFD; (440) 997-4641. Ashtabula team members will observe Trumbull County typing in April.**

**Chief Starkey passed out an Ohio resource typing for engines. If you need help, contact Chief Starkey.**

**Chief Starkey also reported that there is a push to reinstate PERS for Volunteer FF.**

***Training:* Training opportunity "Storm Chaser" – Herb Stein – Presented by Geneva FD and RaeAnn - 4-17-09. Flyers passed out and to be posted on our website.**

**Chief Kozial reported on the water rescue team's activities for the past month. The team has pool time at the Y. The swift water class went well with people from our county going through the class. 6 departments to take part in the polar bear plunge; a total of 35 people.**

**Rome FD's training program on the county's trailers went very well; approx. 55 people attended. Chief Kozial thanked all the presenters.**

**Chief Strubbe covered the upcoming opportunity to test out if you did not recertify for fire on time. Contact him or the Vo-Ed. Also a 36 hr basic fire class will start with orientation on the 25<sup>th</sup> at the Vo-Ed.**

**Instructor class is winding down.**

**Present committees to remain the same. If you want to change or drop off of a committee, contact Tom Steele.**

**Chief Fitchet reported the communication committee has met with Vern and is hoping for a 10 year agreement. This is Vern's last agreement as he is no longer holding the position.**

***New Business:***

**Conneaut Chief Bim Orrenmaa to retire May 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Retired Chief William Kaiser to receive an award from the NE Ohio Fire Chiefs Association.**

**Chief Turk reminded everyone about the upcoming Search and Rescue class to be held May 16<sup>th</sup>. Call Chief Turk for information.**

**The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 1914.**

**Next meeting to be held in Conneaut at the Sugar Bowl Restaurant.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Vincent T. Gildone**

# **Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**April 16, 2009      Conneaut Sugarbowl**

The meeting was called to order at 1836 by Asst. Chief Tom Steele with the following members present;

Dennis Arcaro Jon Arcaro Warren Gibson Vince Gildone  
Laverne Goodge James Heath Carl Highlander Alan Kohta Ed Kozial  
Dave Kray Kevin Krieg Brian Lehtonen Dave Lemponen  
Debbie Newcomb Ron Pristera Tina Ray Bill Seckler Tom Steele  
William Strubbe Ron Valitsky John Wayman Sr.

The minutes of the March meeting were passed by the body as presented.

Chief Strubbe gave the treasurer's report and it was passed as presented.

Chief Strubbe also reported on 2 – 36 hour fire classes. Anyone in need of a Hazmat Ops class should contact Chief Strubbe ASAP.

The instructor's class is complete.

Tina Ray discussed with the body the upcoming reinstatement test for your fire cards at the Vo-Ed on the 27<sup>th</sup>. \$25 is the price.

Chief Pristera went over the EMS Instructors / Special Topic Instructor changes. 8-hr training for special topic instructor to become asst. instructors will be held some time this summer. Your old certs will go away when your card expires. Call Tina Ray for more info and to sign up.

Chief Kozial gave water rescue report. He reported on training. This is completed and the next training will be held at RFD on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

## New Business

The 911 money issues were discussed and the next 911 meeting will be May 7<sup>th</sup>. A legal opinion will be presented at that time to the 911 board. The body was not favorable to giving up the money.

Some discussion was held on the RFD dispatch contract with the SO. Chief Kozial and the SO are happy with the contract.

Interim Fire Chief Jon Arcaro was introduced to the body. He is serving as Conneaut's Safety Director, Police Chief and Fire Chief.

Also present at the meeting was State Rep. Debbie Newcomb.

Chief Turk talked about the upcoming apparatus testing. We will stay with last year's company. We may have John Borland attend a future meeting to explore his pump test system.

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 1903 hours.

Next Meeting is May 21<sup>st</sup> at Circle Creek in Hartsgrove.



# **Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**May 21, 2009      Circle Creek**

The meeting was called to order at 1838 by Asst. Chief Tom Steele with the following members present;

Gary Baird James Bartlett William Beals Jr. Vince Gildone Laverne Goodge  
James Heath Carl Highlander Ed Kozial Tom Lachey Dave Lemponen  
Michael Semai Douglas Starkey Tom Steele Neal Stewart David Turk  
Ron Valitsky John Wayman Sr.

The minutes of the prior meeting were approved as presented.

### *Correspondence:*

Issues with the National Disaster Response Team were discussed with the body.  
Asst. Chief Steele reported on the outcome of his meeting with Mr. Perry.

Motion was made and passed by the body to send a letter to Mr. Perry to make our position clear. The body also requested a copy be sent to EMA and the SO as well as those not present at this meeting.

### *Treasurer's Report:*

No report presented.

### *Committee Reports:*

*Water Rescue* – Review of training held May 16 at Rome FD and next training is on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June in Conneaut.

*Membership & Retirement* – Chief Wayman expressed his feelings on the retirement awards and noted the last 3 chiefs to retire have not attended meetings to receive their awards. It was decided that we will present future awards at the Christmas party only. Motion was made to make the necessary changes to the bylaws and to present at the annual Christmas party was passed.

*Unfinished Business:*

911 – A brief discussion on the efforts of the County commissioners to take 911 money and use it to assist dispatch centers with wages was not successful.

911 committee will recommend that software loan be paid off approximately at \$190,000. This will save \$14,000 in interest.

*New Business:*

Golf outing work is moving forward. The annual Bayshores picnic has been planned for June 18<sup>th</sup> at 1830.

Chief Starkey reported on GFD's new boat and its efforts in water rescue. The new boat will most likely be made available to other departments.

*Good of the Order:*

The deaths of Chief Andrus and Ed Sergeff were discussed. Donations and cards have been sent on behalf of the Chief's association.

Chief Starkey reported on the upcoming LEPC drill to be held in Geneva. EOC, GFD, NAD, UHGMC, and the HazMat team are all players in this drill.

Next meeting is June 18 @ BayShores.

Adjourned @ 1900 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent T. Gildone

# **Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**June 18, 2009 Bayshores**

The meeting was called to order at 1916 by Asst. Chief Tom Steele with the following members present;

Vince Gildone Angie Maki Cliff Neal Stewart Ed Koziol Doug Starkey  
Jim Heath Bill Wilms Laverne Goodge George Sabo Bill Strubbe Jerry Burk  
Alan Kohta Todd Dutton Tom Lachey John Wayman Sr. Dave Lemponen

The minutes of the prior meeting were approved as presented.

### *Correspondence:*

None presented to the body

### *Treasurer's Report:*

Chief Strubbe presented a treasurer's report and recap of bills paid. Both were accepted as presented by the body.

### *Committee Reports:*

*Water Rescue:* Chief Koziol reported on the car recovery from a pond in Conneaut. Also, if you need the team, call Ashtabula Township dispatch to get the call out moving.

*Training & Education:* Chief Strubbe reported on upcoming fire training and EMT classes.

*Golf Outing:* BC Gildone reported on the reservation for the pavilion and golf course on August 20th 11AM to 430 PM, then to go to the pavilion for the cookout and the meeting. UHCMC and UHGMC will be this year's sponsor. More information will presented at the next meeting.

*EMA:* George Sabo requested the chief's association help place additional Fire and EMS Coordinators for work in the EOC. Mr. Sabo would like that key position to be at least 4 deep.

### *Old Business:*

No old business at this time.

*New Business:*

Chief Starkey motioned to have the association pick up the cost of this meeting's food and beverage. The motion passed.

A donation was sent to the Goodwill in honor of Jay Sartini of \$50.00.

James Calco reported on the upcoming card changes that may reflect exp. dates of all certifications. Also discussed were some online training opportunities.

The next meeting will be at Paradise Bay on July 16, 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 1945.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent T. Gildone.

**Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**July 16, 2009 Paradise Bay**

The meeting was called to order at 1840 by Chief Kozial with the following members present;

Vince Gildone Carl Highlander Bill Seckler Todd Dutton Jim Heath  
Laverne Goodge Jerry Burke Ed Hopes Dave Turk Kevin Krieg Jim Bartlett Ed Kozial Jim  
Calco John Jyurovat John Wayman Sr. John Wayman Jr.

*Introduction of Guests:*

John Zukoski representing Ericson Co., an industrial and commercial electrical power distributor  
for products and lighting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

*Treasurer's Report:*

There is no report at this time.

*Correspondence:*

None at this time

*Committee Reports:*

*EMS:* BC Vincent Gildone reported on the County EMS Council as to time and place for its  
meetings.

*Water Rescue Team:* The next training will be at Walnut Beach at 8AM.

*Fire Safety Trailer:* The trailer will be in use on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

*Equipment Testing:* It will be the same basic setup as last year as well as the same company and  
location (Kinder Morgan). The price will be the same as last year and it will be done in October.

*Golf Outing:* Work is progressing nicely.

*911:* No report at this time.

*DPAC:* No report at this time.

*Old Business:*

No report on the 501C3

*New Business:*

The moving wall in Saybrook was discussed. SFD still needs people to help with EMS.

*Good of the Order:*

The next meeting is August 20<sup>th</sup> at the Golf Outing in North Kingville.

Meeting adjourned at 1900 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent T. Gildone

**Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**September 10, 2009 Josephine's**

The meeting was called to order at 1834 by Asst. Chief Steele with the following members present;

Jim Calco Vincent T. Gildone Laverne Goodge Ed Kozial Kevin Krieg Lawrence Morse  
Debbie Newcomb Ron Pristera Christina Ray Doug Starkey Neal Stewart Bill Strubbe  
David Turk John Wayman Bill Wilms Ron Valitsky

Minutes of the prior meeting were approved as presented.

*Correspondence:*

Chief Steele has information from the new Horton Rep.

*Treasurers Report:*

Chief Strubbe presented the treasurer's report and it was approved as presented. Chief Steele reviewed with the body. Only 3 departments have not paid annual dues; Andover, GOTL, and Wayne.

*Training / Education:*

Chief Strubbe reported on the progress of fire classes now and in the future with a 36 and a 120 now and FF II class in the future.

*911:*

BC Gildone reported the current state of affairs with the 911 money and on the positive progress being made on the map project and further discussion was held about the loss funds. It was decided to put up funds from the AFCA to cover the cost of an attorney. A meeting has been set for 9-21-09 to meet with an attorney; BC Gildone, Asst. Chief Steele, and Chief Fichet to review our current position. That meeting now has both support and funding from the Chief's association. Voted on and passed.

*Water Rescue:*

Report was presented by Chief Kozial, BC Gildone and Asst. Chief Steele; A meeting was held with Chief Lehtonen. Issues were discussed and as a result of that meeting Chief Lehtonen has submitted a letter in which he is stepping down as team leader and his team will no longer be part of the county team; however they will respond if called on to do so.

Next water rescue drill will be at Rome FD Sunday September 27 at 8:30AM.

*Apparatus Testing:*

Chief Turk reported on the upcoming apparatus testing. Testing will be the 5<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup> of October.

*New Business:*

Additional discussion was held on the current 911 situation. The possible use of ORC 209.11 was considered and after the discussion we elected to move on with the review by our own attorney and we will fund that effort. Chief Steele asked the body to stick together on this issue.

ACMC will provide flu shots to EMS. State Representative Debbie Newcomb talked to the body about grants that have been awarded. Some other issues were also discussed with her in side bar conversations. If we need help, please contact her. She is supportive of our group. Please complete her survey in the back of her newsletter.

*Good of the Order:*

Chief Lawrence Morse from Trumbull talked about a possible light plant project on a trailer that could be made available when it is completed.

Jim Calco talked about use of ProBoard for certifications and also pointed out possible additional training needed for fire instructors. He also told the body there is an effort to make the 36 hr class the same everywhere.

Next meeting is October 15<sup>th</sup> 2009 at Casa Cappelli.

Meeting adjourned at 1914.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent T. Gildone

**Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**October 15, 2009 Casa Cappelli's**

Meeting called to order by Chief Wilms at 1830 with the following members present:

Vince Gildone George Sabo Laverne Goodge Doug Starkey Jim Baehr Rich Mongell  
Bill Wilms Dr. Malinowski Bill Seckler Jim Heath Neal Stewart Ron Valitsky Dave Turk  
Kevin Krieg Ron Pristera Christina Ray

Minutes of the prior meeting were approved as presented.

*Correspondence:*

None at this time

*Treasurer's Report:*

None at this time

*Water Rescue:*

Report from Chief Koziol presented by Bat. Chief Gildone – Training review: Pond rescue was held Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> including search patterns. It was held at Rome FD and 13 personnel from 5 departments attended. A class about Water Rescue Scene Management was held at Orwell FD with 15 personnel from 6 departments attended.

The next team training is at Orwell on Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup> @ 0800 hrs.

*911:*

Open discussion on the state of the map and misuse of 911 funds by the Ashtabula County Commissioners. No money has changed hands as of yet. Discussion was also held on the visit to the State 911 Coordinator's office in Columbus. Those who made the trip were Vince Gildone, Mike Fitchet, Tom Steele, and Jon Arcaro. More details to be passed on after we meet with the Attorney for the Chief's association.

Christina Ray from the ACJVS presented vo-eds levy and passed out materials as well as answered questions. The Chief's association is supportive.

Ashtabula County Coroner's attended to update the chiefs of their situation and projections to the end of the year. Attending were Dr. Malinowski, Jim Baehr, and Rich Mongell. Q & A went very well.

The next meeting will be at Mar-G's on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned @ 1910.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent T. Gildone



**Ashtabula County Fire Chiefs Association  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**November 19, 2009    Mar-G's Family Restaurant**

The meeting was called to order at 1847 by Asst. Chief Tom Steele with the following members present;

Vince Gildone   Ed Kozial   Jeff Thompson   Lawrence Morse   Laverne Goodge   Mike Fitchet  
Jim Heath   Dave Lemponen   Bill Strubbe   Tom Lachey   John Wayman Sr.   Doug Starkey  
Ron Valitsky   Neal Stewart

Minutes of the prior meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

*Committee Reports:*

*Training and education:* Chief Strubbe reported that the 36 hour FF1 is ongoing, January or February 2010. Chief Strubbe reported issues with the pass rate for the 36 hours Basic Class currently using the old objectives and this may be part of the problem.

*LEPC:* HazMat Tech Class is needed – Contact Doug Starkey

NIMS Class 400 – December 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> in Jefferson

ACJVS 240 students used the burn training center in Geneva and all went well.

*Water Rescue:* Training was held October 18<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be no training in December.

*911:* Battalion Chief Gildone reported that approximately \$180,000 was taken from 911 funds by the County Commissioners. Map project was reviewed; Also discussed was NG-9/11

*Good of the Order:*

In 2010, we will review Non-Dues Paying Departments and will not allow them to have a vote.

2010 dues will remain the same.

Jeff Thompson was introduced to the body as the new Wayne Fire Chief.

The next meeting will be held at APMC on December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Christmas Party. You may bring 1 guest.

Meeting adjourned @ 1912.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent T. Gildone

