

# Oneida County Firefighters Association

## Business Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2008

Meeting was held at the American Red Cross Office

Departments Represented: Little Rice, WPS, Newbold, Crescent, and Sugar Camp (O.C. Emergency Management)

Minutes from the last meeting: Minutes were read and a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read.

Financial Report: As of April 2008 beginning balance \$367.09. There was a service fee of \$12.00 No activity in May. June 2008 \$63.30 for Roberts Repair for the tow vehicle for a hose. Total balance as of July 2008 \$365.67 in the checking account. \$309.02 in the savings account. The only department that has not paid their dues for 2008 is Pelican Lake.

Communications: Received a letter from FM Global regarding the grant for the upgrade of the fire safety house. FM Global did not approve the request and denied us for the grant. They did ask that we re-apply next year.

Monty has not heard from Wal-Mart or Wausau papers regarding any grant money as of yet.

Monty received an e-mail from United Way saying we have been approved for funding for 2009.

Old Business: The tow vehicle was fixed. Fuel sending unit had some pin holes in it and Kevin Roberts let Bill Meyer from Pine Lake use whatever was needed to fix it for just the cost of the stuff used. They put JB weld on it for a temporary fix, as the sending unit will cost about \$450.00 to replace.

The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) was sent out to all department there has only been a few that have been returned so far. Any department that has not signed and returned a copy of the form will not have use of the fire safety house.

The reason for this has been the number of damage on or to the tow vehicle and safety house, and no departments have taken responsibility for the damage and it was costing the Association money to fix or repair the damage.

The striping and the finishing touches have been done to the tow vehicle. There were a lot of nice comments on how the tow vehicle looked in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

Monty is waiting on Terry Williams from Rhinelander Fire to get back to him on donating the smoke detectors to the Hospital. Monty is going to check with first alert to see if they are willing to donate anymore smoke detectors.

New Business: Ken K. from Emergency Management was at the meet to talk about the microwave switch over that will start next Monday. All the updates have been sent to all

departments chief's to let them know regarding the switch over. There will be an all page to let departments know that the switch over has been done.

A question was asked if the switch over affected the R.I.T. teams. Ken explained that the switch over will not cause issues with the R.I.T. team page. It will remain the same way the chief's and their departments have it set up.

Tom White brought up a question regarding trying to start something for severe weather. Tom has been talking to a SKYWARN team and brought up that maybe we should get something like this going in our county.

Ken K. thought it was a good idea that all departments should get involved in severe weather spotting and to work closely with the ham radio operators in our county. Ken would like to talk to Tom W. and Pat M. from Pine Lake as both Tom and Pat have been talking about this. And set up a time after the switch over of the radios have been done to see what can be kicked off maybe for next year.

Mike Clever from WPS (Wisconsin Public Service) was at the meeting and brought up that with the severe weather and downed power lines that WPS has a website with the location of outages. And once there is an outage, WPS dispatch can send out a truck, or a rep to that location, so that fire departments do not have to wait for a long time for WPS crews to come out.

This will shorten the time that fire departments are spending babysitting power lines. If any departments want a demonstration regarding downed power lines they are asked to contact Mike at WPS and he can set something up. The website is [www.wisconsinpublicservice.com](http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com)

Patches the fire safety dog is still not working right. Not sure if it is in the remote or inside of it but his head spins 360 and could damage it more. To send it back to have the company look at it will be \$400.00 for just shipping alone. If anyone knows anyone who is good on electronics please contact Monty. A few suggestions were to check with the High School or the collage.

Until Freckles is fixed, please do not use it.

A fire department member mistakenly gave the helmet away to a child. The department will be billed for the replacement for the helmet. A reminder that the stuff in the tow vehicle is not to be given away as there is stuff in there that also belongs to The American Red Cross.

There was a cabinet door in the fire safety house that was broken. Monty is gluing it back together, and will be putting it back on. A reminder that please let Rhinelander or Monty know that something is broke so it can get repaired.

We are looking at a budget plan for the Association. Now that we have been accepted for funding from the United Way, we need to have better record keeping, and Monty thought a proposed budget would be a good idea to better see where our money goes. If everyone agrees to it in October, we will implement it starting in January 2009.

There has been a request from The Oneida County Fair to have the fire safety out there for demonstrations. If any department or anyone would like to do this please contact Monty to let him know. You do not have to be out there all day. Like maybe do a few demonstrations a day.

Dan Kroll will be leaving his position as secretary so this leaves the position open for a new secretary. Bill Meyer and Tom White have requested to run for this position. An election was held to see which one of them will fill the position. After the ballots were counted there were 2 votes for Bill and 3 votes for Tom. Tom White is now the secretary for the Association.

A motion was made and second to destroy the ballots.

The question was posed if The Red Cross office is where everyone would like to keep the meetings as it is centrally located and easy for people to remember. There were no objections, so as of now the meeting location will remain at The Red Cross office until further noticed.

The next meeting will be at The Red Cross Office on October 28th, 2008 at 7:00pm

Motion was made and second to adjourn the meeting.

Secretary  
Tom White