

PIEDMONT NORTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2015
ALBEMARLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Call to Order

President Brian Cox called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Prayer Chris Lantham offered the opening prayer and gave thanks for the meal.

Opening Comments: President Cox thanked Chief Shawn Oke and Albemarle Fire Department for hosting our meeting. He thanked American Blazemasters for sponsoring the meal.

Introduction of the Board: President Cox welcomed everyone and asked that they sign the sheet going around. He introduced the Piedmont Association Board of Directors:

Brian Cox – President
Steve Neal – 1st VP
Chris Langham – 2nd VP
Ed Brinson – Treasurer
A.C. Rich – South Director
Chris Davis – North Director
Ron Fowler – Past President
Kathy Weatherspoon – Executive Secretary

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous association meeting were provided for review and approval. Motion made to accept by Steven Roberson and seconded by James Griffin. Passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented for the period of October – December 2014. Motion to accept made by Len Needham and seconded by Tommy Cole. Passes unanimously.

Agency Reports

- 1. NCSFA** – Ed Brinson reported for the NCSFA. He introduced NCSFA board members that were presented. Several different legislature bills are being worked on at this time. One is the definition of a firefighter. A bill to authorize utility vehicles on roadways, arson charges for firefighters who commit arson. On the Federal level, a law that officially exempts volunteer fire departments from Obama Care. Mid-Winter conference will be held next week. A summit with Board members from all of the Associations will be meeting on Tuesday. Reminders will be going out for dues that have not been paid. Ed updated several programs that are on-going. Scholarship program is open and now accepting applications. Dates to remember – May 6 is NC Legislature Day. Reception for legislatures will be held on May 5. SAFRE Conference plans are being worked on at this time. Conference is in August.

2. **NCAFC** – Steve Neal reported. Mid-Winter Conference is next week. We will be providing Chief 101 and new Chief 101 update classes, along with several more. IMAS update was given. Significant changes made to their website.
3. **NCFFF** – Robert Templeton reported that six will be honored in May this year – 4 for 2014 and 2 for prior years. We had two LODDs in the past quarter. Ed Brinson was reelected as President. We need to work harder at keeping LODD deaths down. He thanked everyone for their support.
4. **Department of Community Colleges** – Chris Raynor reported they have some new personnel. Training calendar is now available on their website. If you have any questions or need help, contact him or any of the coordinators.
5. **Emergency Management** – Update given on training courses available. Several conference being held. Statewide exercises also coming up. Check out their website for more details.
6. **NC Volunteer Safety Workers Comp Fund** – Mike Hill gave update. Any questions, please let him know.
7. **OSFM** – Jan Parker reported on the number of fire deaths in NC last year. A lot of work still needs to be done. Not too late to apply for the Smoke Alarm grant program. They also have alarms available for deaf people. Contact them if you need one. Jan gave an update on conference and classes they have scheduled. Chet Hill reported on ISO training and inspections. Website is now up to date with important information.

Old Business

No old business came before the association

New Business

1. The PNCFA will accept nominations for Chief and Officer/Firefighter of the Year. The Chief nomination will be submitted to the NCAFC and the Officer/Firefighter nominee will be submitted to the NCSFA. Nominations will be accepted and selection will be announced at October meeting. Check the website for details.
2. Sponsorship and Scholarships information is now on our website. This year we will award 4 scholarships. We have also increased the Brooks-Ward sponsorship to two and they will be \$750 each. Deadline will be June 1.
3. New officers will be elected at the October meeting. Not too early to start thinking about getting involved more with the PNCFA.

No Further Business Came Before the Association

Program: Division Chief Brian Causer, Guil-Rand Fire Department presented “It’s Okay: Changing the Character of the Fire Service Before, During and After the Response for Better Mental Health”. We need to learn how to deal with things that happen.

Next meeting will be April 22 at the Cross Creek Country Club in Surry County. Program will be about May Day calls and procedures.

Adjournment – Motion made by Jerry Brooks. The association meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.