

*The Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 1463*

*Ranunkoma, NY 11779*

*Organized 1886*



***Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association  
January 23, 2024 – West Babylon Fire Department***

Prior to the start of the meeting, we had a presentation by Island Elevators. They offer lectures and hands on about elevator safety to area fire departments free of charge. You can contact Cody Kacetow at 631-491-3392 or [Cody@islandelevator.com](mailto:Cody@islandelevator.com).

Meeting Called to order by President Vincent Ammirati  
Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms William Mullane  
Moment of Silence for departed members.

Chief Manzi of the West Babylon Fire Department welcomed SCVFA to West Babylon.

First Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli thanked Chief Manzi for hosting our meeting this evening and for the wonderful meal. At this time Chief Manzi was presented with a Certificate of thanks from the Association.

Motion by Russell Crowley seconded by Gary Stecker to accept the minutes of the November meeting, Motion Carried.

**Introduction of Guests & Past Association Presidents:**

**Past Presidents** in attendance were William Murray, Eugene Perry, Jerry Owenburg, Frank Guarino and Robert Sutton.

Guests in attendance were:

Peter Colli, Past President Town of Babylon VFA  
Ken DuFreitas, Vice President Town of Babylon VFA  
Juan Batta, President Southern NY  
Rudy Sunderman, FRES Deputy Commissioner  
Don Holupka President Long Island Benevolent  
Kevin McElynn, President Nassau County VFA  
Ken Noon, Ex-Chief/PIO, Bellmore FD  
John Manzi, Director AFANY  
Gary Schaum, VEEB President  
Joel Holbraun, President Town of Babylon  
Marybeth Asbell, Past President Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary  
Mary Catherine Dolan, Vice President of the Educators

**Treasurer's report.** Bob McConville was absent as Virigina fell and had to have surgery. Giovanni Chiarelli read Bob's report and the Treasurer's reports will be attached to the minutes. Motion by Frank Guarino to accept the report as read seconded by Jack Blaum, All in favor.

**Bills/Correspondence**

- Received minutes from SNY.
- Dues notice for Brookhaven Museum - \$25.00.
- Email From Dianne Daly advising of the passing of her husband Bruce of the Islip Fire Department
- Thank you from Past Home Trustee Jerry Owenburg for his Testimonial Dinner
- Confirmation from West Babylon FD for tonight's dinner.

Motion by Gene Perry to pay the Museum dues seconded by Peter DePinto, motion carried.

**Report of Presidents:**

**President Vincent Ammirati**

Happy New Year to All

- SCVFA meeting at the West Islip FD November 29, 2023
- FASNY Home Trustee meeting and Holiday Party Albany December 1-3, 2023
- Long Island Leg meeting at the Selden FD December 6, 2023
- SCVFA Ladies meeting and Holiday party December 13, 2023
- Wake service for Mastic FD Chaplain Ed Brooks December 19, 2023
- Past President Jerry Owenburg and I went up to the home to bring up Christmas presents from the Suffolk and East Islip Ladies and to visit Past President Peter Cincotta and Past LAFASNY President Ann La Fountain, December 22, 2023
- Selden FD monthly meeting gave out 50 years of service certificate for Ex Chief Jeff Bailes. January 2, 2024
- Wake service for Islip FD chaplain and 56-year member P. Bruce Daly Islip NY January 5, 2024
- Medford FD monthly meeting to give out three 50 years of service certificates including our own Ex Chief John Masem January 5, 2024
- Bay Shore FD 50 years of service certificate for FF Raymond Boucher January 6, 2024
- Southern NY meeting at the West Babylon FD January 6, 2024
- SCVFA Ladies meeting Lindenhurst FD January 10, 2024
- Suffolk County Chief council meeting Kings Park FD January 12, 2024
- Nassau County Volunteer Fireman's Association meeting Bethpage OEM Headquarters January 17, 2024
- Suffolk County Drill Team meeting at the North Lindenhurst FD January 19, 2024
- Southern NY Legislator conference at the Albertson FD January 20, 2024
- SCVFA Books Audit at the Selden FD January 21, 2024
- Had a meeting with the districts and the Chiefs with legislative Domanick Thorne this morning in Patchogue. January 23, 2024
- Looking forward to this Thursday night and getting together with the junior advisors and forming a Suffolk County junior firefighters Association which had been long overdue. Jerry Presta the chairman from Nassau County juniors has been helping us to move forward and we thank Jerry for all his work.
- Any department celebrating a special event like a 50-year member or 100 anniversary for the department itself reach out to our secretary and we will send someone to either a meeting or your Dinner to present a certificate.

## **Report of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Giovanni Chiareeli**

- Reminder of Suffolk Juniors Assoc meeting scheduled for Jan 25 @ Smithtown FD @ 1930
- Save the date for our Seminar and Live Demonstration on Lithium-Ion Batteries at Selden FD on May 18, please see flyer for details
- Please pick up shirts previously ordered before you leave tonight!
- Vice President badge we ordered came in
- Working with vendors for both SCVFA window stickers and sew-on patch

### **December 2023**

- 10 Yaphank Pancake breakfast
- 13 SCV Ladies Aux
- 14 FRES Christmas Tree burn
- 14 Smithtown Chiefs
- 15 Emerald Society

### **January 2024**

- 3 Legislative mtg
- 4 Smithtown Chiefs
- 6 Southern NY
- 10 Huntington/Smithtown Fire Police
- 11 Fire Seminar
- 12 Suffolk Chiefs
- 17 Nassau County FF Assoc
- 19 LODD wake Kings Park
- 21 SCVFA Audit
- 23 Legislative mtg
- 23 SCVFA

### **Report of 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Dan Brooks –**

- December 1st – Brookhaven Town Fire Chief's Council
- December 13th – Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary Holiday Party
- January 3rd – Long Island Legislation Meeting
- January 12th – Suffolk County Fire Chief's Council
- January 20th – Southern New York Legislative Caucus

**Annual Dinner** – Robert Sutton reported it will be on October 19<sup>th</sup> in Coram. \$70 per person. Applications will be on line by the end of the week along with the journal ad. Please remember that our journal provides the money we give out for the Scholarships.

**Audit** – Jerry Owenburg – Audited the books on Sunday – all are in order.

**By-Laws** – No report

### **Candidate Campaign** – Eugene Perry –

- Eugene Perry is running for FASNY President in August.
- Steering committee to go over application for FASNY and make recommendations.

**Credentials** – Tom Prendergast – sent out 304 invoices and to date have 59% back. Collected \$4555 to date.

### **FASNY** – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Eugene Perry

- On behalf of the FASNY Presidents and the Board of Directors a very Happy “Fire Safe” New Year.
- FASNY’s Volunteer Firefighter Magazine is a Gold Award winner in the MarCom Awards which honors excellence in Marketing and Communications while recognizing the creativity, hard work generosity of industry professionals.
- The Governor’s Executive Budget was released on Tuesday, and it contains 3 of FASNY’s Scorecard issues. Lithium-ion Battery Safety Standards, First Responder Peer Support Program Act and EMS as an Essential Service. FASNY will be testifying at the Joint Budget Hearing on Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> on Lithium-ion Safety Standards.
- RecruitNY weekend is April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. FASNY will be holding a kickoff press conference that will be held February 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 am at the Nassau County Firefighters Museum ahead of the NYS Chiefs Fire/EMS Metro Show at the Nassau Coliseum. Any fire service members wishing to attend please wear your Class A uniform. Press conferences will be held across the State the week prior to the event. FASNY is asking all firefighters and fire departments to display red lights on their firehouses and their homes beginning on March 15<sup>th</sup> through the RecruitNY weekend. The event dubbed “Light the State Red” in support of the Volunteer Fire Service and RecruitNY. This is also being promoted to the Governor to light up State landmarks red.
- OFPC has published its Rule and Regulations for the rollout of the Firefighter Training stipend that was approved in the Governor’s 2023-24 State budget. Our legislative team has read through it and will be making comments before the comment period ends 1/28/24. The rules as of this point will provide a stipend to any firefighter in good standing who successfully completes Interior Firefighter Operations (FF1) , Basic Exterior Firefighter Operations and Fire Officer 1 on or after August 31, 2023. There’s also paperwork that the Fire Department must complete annually for their members to be eligible for the stipend.
- NIOSH is proposing though a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to issue a new safety and health standard titled Emergency Response to replace the existing Fire Brigades Standard, 29 CFR 1910.156. The new standard would address a broader scope of emergency responders from a variety of occupational hazards. FASNY, State Chiefs, State Districts and State Coordinators have been meeting weekly to stay ahead of this.
- The annual FASNY EMS Seminar will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at the Selden FD. You can register on the FASNY website.
- FASNY will be at the Long Island Fire/EMS Metro show February 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> at the Nassau Coliseum. FASNY Committee Members are asked to reach out to Director Frank Guarino if you are available to work at the FASNY booth.
- FASNY Convention August 7-10, 2024, at the Niagara Falls Convention Center. Registration forms will be available shortly.

### **Home Trustees** –Bob Sutton reported the following:

- We are taking care of 88 brothers/sisters.
- One application was accepted.
- Five applications are completed and waiting for a bed.
- 7 more applications in various stages.
- Next meeting is in March.

**Father Halpin Memorial Service** – Bob Sutton reported it is May 5<sup>th</sup> in North Babylon. Please get names to Secretary Jean or to Bob Sutton.

**Firefighter Cancer Support Network** – Jerry Owenburg –  
Be sure to get your tests done, don't put them off. They donated wash bed to county for the K-9 Dog.

**Firefighter of the Year** – John Manzi/John Masem  
Application is on line and closes out March 1<sup>st</sup>. Please ask your Chiefs to submit.

**Fire Prevention** – Don Bracciodieta

- Next meeting to be announced. Last week was cancelled due to the weather.
- Fire & Life Safety Topics
  - Home heating safety
  - Carbon dioxide detectors
  - New York State Office of Fire Prevention & Control. Firefighter Health and Wellness Bulletin: Building a Resilient Firefighter.
- January 2024
  - January Cancer Awareness Month
  - Fitness & Cancer Risk
  - DetecTogether Resources
  - Considerations for your next physical
  - Fire & Emergency Services Health, Wellness & Safety Symposium
- Please come visit our booth at the Metro show this year.
- Please like us on Facebook and you will get daily updates on fire prevention reports daily.
- In Closing “Let's all remember there is no honor in fighting a fire that could've been prevented through education”

**Headquarters** –Don Bracciodieta

Sending out letters for hospitality room at the FASNY Convention in August, asking for donations. No gift is too small.

**Legislative** – Jerry Owenburg/Dan Brooks

Jerry Owenburg reported on Suffolk Legislative – Introductory Resolutions:

- Accepting and appropriating 50% Federal pass-through grant funds from the NYS Division Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the Local Emergency Management Performance Grant, administered by the Suffolk County Department of Fire Rescue and Emergency Services.
- Establishing a Countywide Policy for Continuity of Operations Planning to enhance the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.
- Requiring Federal Emergency Management Agency training for certain elected county officials and department heads in Suffolk County.
- Requiring New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services training for certain elected county officials in Suffolk County.

Dan Brooks went over the FASNY Score card. Spoke on EMS – Lithium batteries and Peer to Peer.

February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm South Country Ambulance will discuss EMS cost recovery and more.

FASNY Credit Union offers loans to EMT

**Long Island Day at the Firemen's Home** – Jerry Owenburg reported:

Long Island Day is September 15<sup>th</sup> – if you have a band that is willing to attend, please let him know. The residents would love to have a band.

Ann LaFountain and Peter Cincotta live at the Home.

**Publicity** – Dan Brooks/Roger Putnam

Website and Facebook are up to date.

**REMSCO – Tom Prendergast** –

- Transfer of Authority - Setauket FD to District – approved
- FASNY EMS conference – Selden FD 1/26 Core and 1/27 non-core
- St. Catherine Hospital is closing maternity unit 2/1/24. Four hospitals in Suffolk County do not have maternity wards – Mather, Long Island Community, Eastern Long Island and now St. Catherines.
- North Amityville will be contracting out EMS alarms to GMR ambulance on 3/1/24. REMSCO requests to see the contract at the March meeting.
- MCI drill into planning phase – LI Community Hospital and Southampton Hospital
- 5<sup>th</sup> annual Thomas LaTeulere memorial REMSCO EMS Conference April 27, 2024 at Sayville Community Ambulance.
- Stats – BLS 12 Lead 68; CPAP 56; RSI 31; CFRR 33; EMT 5137; CC 141; Medic 925 for a total of 6236. RSI is Rapid Sequence Intubation.

**Resolutions** by Gene Perry

- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extend its sincere thanks to the West Babylon FD for hosting tonight's meeting. Motion to accept by Bob Sutton seconded by Tom Dodge, Motion carried.

**Sickness** – Jerry Owenburg spoke on how well Peter is doing at the home and that he gets PT daily.

**Steering** – Past President Gene Perry

Will meet before March meeting. Anyone interested in being on a committee for SNY, FASNY or SCVFA please submit a resume. Will have FASNY Endorsements for May meeting.

**SCVFA Parade & Drill** – John Masem

Parade Officials are needed. The County Drill and Parade is on July 13<sup>th</sup> in Farmingville.

**Training & Education** – Giovanni Chiarelli spoke about this under his President's report.

**William Reilly Journal** – Giovanni Chiarelli –

Please go back to your departments and ask that they take an ad. Try to send ads in PDF, it is easier for the printer. Thank you for your donations.

**Ways and Means** – William Mullane

Raffle tonight \$120 to winner

**Youth in the Fire Service** – Keith Vella

January 25<sup>th</sup>, Thursday at 7:30 in Smithtown Junior groups are going over by-laws. Nassau County Juniors provided theirs as a guideline. Looking to build and get Directors, hope to get this off the ground. If interested, please attend the meeting.

**Lithium Ion Battery** – Bob Sutton stated that Rudy Sunderman will speak on this.

**Suffolk County Fire Chief's Council**

- Next meeting is in March.

**Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts** – no report.

**Suffolk County FRES Deputy** Commissioner Rudy Sunderman reported:

- Meeting tomorrow night at FRES Commission.
- We have made some updates to the daily brief. We will be looking to make more enhancements to better serve our first responders.
- SCINs have been requested for two new fire marshals. Once filled it will give us 9 full-time and two part-time fire marshals.
- Our EOC activated 3 times this year so far for winter storms. During the last Coastal Storm, we activated the USAR team. We are awaiting the After-Action Report as required by the resolution creating the team.
- Met with Legislator Thorne on Lithium Battery – working on a public service announcement.
- The monument got 15,000 for two additional flagpoles.
- Four new dispatchers completed classroom training.
- If you need anything from FRES, please don't hesitate to call.
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Congratulations to Rudy on being appointed Deputy Commissioner of FRES!

Tom Kriklava said that they are still hearing of line of duty names for the monument at county. Please bring this back to your departments to be sure if you have any from your department that are on the monument.

**Suffolk County VEEB Board** by Gary Schaum

- Gary thanked Rudy for his work on the VEEB Board and wished him good luck in his new position.
- The field and classroom schedule for 2024 was sent out. Field starts up April 1<sup>st</sup> classroom will start up January 2<sup>n</sup>, 2024, as a reminder the field start time will be 7pm for all classes.
- IAFC & SCFA Mentoring program will be March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of 2024, please visit website for more information. 20 students maximum.
- New Fire Officer 1 program for 2024 is starting in January please any questions contact the SCFA.
- If you would like a Lithium-Ion class for 2024 please call the academy or if you would like to attend one locally in your area visit the website.
- Water Rescue – Ice Water/Cold Water classes will be available upon request as well as surface water rescue please contact the SCFA.
- The SCFA will have limited supplies of Firefighter I (7<sup>th</sup> Edition) books during 2024. The publisher (IFSTA) will be releasing the 8<sup>th</sup> edition during the year. We envision transitioning to the 8<sup>th</sup> edition in January 2025.
- We will be holding a Fire Officer `1 National Exam in August 2024 based on feedback from students and Departments more to follow.
- Look for our website to have online versions of web-based training for safety officers, lithium-ion and fire police in the near future. We will advise.

**Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary** – Past President Marybeth Asbell reported that we have our Jeffrey Wands fundraiser on January 27<sup>th</sup> in Holbrook. Our 100 club has started.

**Suffolk County Fire Police** – Frank Guarino reported there will be a zoom meeting in February – over 300 signed up so far. Go to Fire Academy website to register.

**Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center** – Mary Catherine Dolan reported

- They are trying to go out and about – went to Dix Hills for meeting.
- February 19th meeting is at the Stony Brook Hospital in the lobby conference room. April is in Bohemia and July is open so far.
- Working on a recognition day – Stony Brook is only allowing small gatherings.
- A two year old that was burned two years ago – his family now donates toys. They will be recognized as well.

**Suffolk County Safety Officer's - Don Bracciolieta** -No Report

**NYS Chiefs** by Tony LaFerrera

Quick Analysis of Proposed OSHA Rule – 29 CFR Part 1910 (Docket No. OSHA-2007-0073), RIN 1218-AC91, Emergency Response Standard.

This proposed OSHA is a sweeping change. It will substantially change the fire service and it may be the most impactful regulation that small fire departments have ever had to adapt to. This proposal is a mile wide and mile deep.

This is a quick look at the proposal. It is 604 pages long and I got it on Thursday and squeezed in a lot of late-night reading over the holiday weekend. There are a lot of details that I haven't spelled out. I wanted to give a fast 30,000-foot view of the proposal.

Many pages of the proposal consist of data outlining the need for the regulations. The data appears accurate and from reliable sources.

Impacted Departments:

This new regulation will apply to fire departments and firefighters in the 24 states that have OSHA Plans as follows:

- Alaska
- Arizona
- California
- Connecticut
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Nevada,
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- Oregon
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Utah
- US Virgin Islands



- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- Wyoming

There is going to be some variation on the extent that volunteers are covered in each state. Some state plans only cover volunteers in municipal fire departments. Others cover all volunteers. (Massachusetts only covers municipal fire departments, but that is 99% of the fire service in our state.). Some states may cover volunteer EMS providers and special rescue teams, but others may not. I lack the information to analyze this down to that level of detail. However, the volunteer fire & EMS service in the 24 states and territories listed above should anticipate some impact from this proposed regulation.

The primary reason for the state-by-state variation is that each state defines “employee” differently. Is a volunteer and employee for employee safety purposes – in Massachusetts, yes, they are. Other states answer this differently.

I would suggest, however, that any paid-on-call staff will be classified as an employee in all the states, and therefore they will be impacted by this proposed regulation.

OSHA suggests that volunteers in the following states are not employees: Kentucky, Maryland, New Mexico, North Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming.

#### Scope of the Proposed Regulation:

The proposed regulation would incorporate by reference (IBR) all or part of the following NFPA consensus standards (I include this in list form to make the point of how inclusive or exhaustive this regulation is):

- NFPA 1001, Standard for Structure Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 2019 Edition
- NFPA 1002, Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications, 2017 Edition
- NFPA 1005 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Marine Fire Fighting for Land-Based Fire Fighters, 2019 Edition
- NFPA 1006, Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 Edition
- NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications, 2020 Edition
- (NFPA 1081, Standard for Facility Fire Brigade Member Professional Qualifications, 2018 Edition)
- NFPA 1140, Standard for Wildland Fire Protection, 2022 Edition
- NFPA 1407, Standard for Training Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1582, Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, 2022 Edition
- NFPA 1910, Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Refurbishment, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Emergency Vehicles and Marine Firefighting Vessels, 2024 Edition
- NFPA 1951, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1952, Standard on Surface Water Operations Protective Clothing and Equipment, 2021 Edition
- NFPA 1953, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Contaminated Water Diving, 2021 Edition
- NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting, 2018 Edition
- NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting and Urban Interface Fire Fighting, 2022 Edition

- NFPA 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services, 2019 Edition
- NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety System (PASS), 2018 Edition
- 1984, Standards on Respirators for Wildland Fire-Fighting Operations and Wildland Urban Interface Operations, 2022 Edition
- NFPA 1986, Standard on Respiratory Protection Equipment for Tactical and Technical Operations, 2023 Edition
- NFPA 1987, Standard on Combination Unit Respirator for Tactical and Technical Operations, 2023 Edition
- NFPA 1990, Standard for Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials and CBRN Operations, 2022 Edition
- NFPA 1999, Standard on Protective Clothing and Ensembles for Emergency Medical Operations, 2018 Edition

And the following ANSI Standard:

- ANSI/SEA 207, American National Standard for High-Visibility Public Safety Vests, 2011 Edition

Additionally, the following NFPA Standards, while not incorporated by reference in whole or in part, were used for the creation of certain regulations, and the regulations were written to be consistent with these standards:

- NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, 2022 Edition
- NFPA 600, Standard on Faculty Fire Brigades, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1201, Standard for Providing Fire and Emergency Services to the Public, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1451, Standard for a Fire and Emergency Service Vehicle Operations Training Program, 2018 Edition
- NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety, Health, and Wellness Program, 2021 Edition
- NFPA 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer Professional Qualifications, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1561, Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System and Command Safety, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, 2022 Edition
- NFPA 1660, Standard for Emergency, Continuity, and Crisis Management: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, 2024 Edition
- NFPA 1700, Guide for Structural Fire Fighting, 2021 Edition
- NFPA 1710, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, EMS, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1720, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, EMS, and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Department, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Firefighting, 2020 Edition
- NFPA 2500, Standard for Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents and Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services, 2022 Edition

Why?

Besides and in addition to the obvious hazards to firefighters – fire and burns, falling through a floor, falling off a ladder, or smoke inhalation, OSHA has paid attention to all of our (the fire service in total) calls to do something about firefighter cancer, and firefighter mental health and

suicide.

And OSHA's observation is that we haven't significantly reduced deaths and injuries, particularly cardiac deaths using voluntary measures.

The big picture rationale for this is that we, the fire service as an industry, have failed to voluntarily use our consensus standards or other means to reduce injury or death, and to take the steps necessary to address cancer and mental health/suicide issues. It's called "market failure and need for regulation".

What?

1. Updates current rules for Hazmat PPE to meet the current NFPA 1990 standard.
2. Shifts Structural PPE requirements out of existing rules and into this new rule.
3. Updates definitions of portable extinguisher agents (mostly newer technologies).
4. Skilled support workers fall under IC and within requirements for protection from hazards at the incident. (The IC is responsible for the safety of the electrical worker or backhoe operator.)
5. Updates dozens of definitions to match those in the NFPA standards (switching to the terms more familiar to the emergency response community). Pages 110 to 135.
6. Requires written emergency response plans:
  - a. Pre-Plans
  - b. Community Risk Assessments
  - c. Responder Protection Plans
  - d. Resource Plans – effective response force determinations
7. Requires Health & Safety Programs
  - a. Facility Modifications
  - b. Hazard Reporting & Response Systems
8. Risk Management Plans – refer to NFPA 1500
9. Medical & Physical Requirements
  - a. Half of FF deaths are cardio & they feel we've done nothing about this.
  - b. Good news – the proposed regulations give a lot of flexibility to the local agency to establish their own standards, however, they are going to have to adopt some kind of medical and physical exams. But at least every three years.
  - c. Reinforces Fit Testing of mask requirements.
  - d. Strong emphasis on heart disease and toxic gases (cancer).
10. Mandatory annual skills checks – NFPA 600, NFPA 1500 & NFPA 1670
11. Increased skill level for instructors – they need to have more skill/knowledge than those they are teaching.
12. Emphasis on interactive teaching – not watching videos.
13. Required training would include:
  - a. Risk Management
  - b. Bloodborne Pathogens/Infection Control
  - c. PPE Hazard Assessment/PPE Selection & Use
  - d. Respiratory Protection
  - e. Portable Extinguishers
  - f. Incident Management Systems (IMS)
  - g. Accountably Systems
  - h. Hazmat Awareness
  - i. AED/CPR
  - j. The NFPA Job Performance Requirements (JPR) for each activity the responder performs.
  - k. NFPA 1001 is required for all firefighters.

- l. Rapid Intervention Training (NFPA 1407) for all structural firefighters
- m. NFPA 1002 is required for everyone who drives fire apparatus.
- n. Anyone who is in a "officer position" must be trained to NFPA 1021
- o. Wildland Firefighters must be NFPA 1410, or Red Card trained.
- p. Our stations will have to provide decontamination, cleaning, and storage areas for PPE.
- q. Testing and maintenance of alarm systems in our stations will be required according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- r. Sleeping areas need interconnected hard wired smoke detectors & CO detectors.
- s. New stations with sleeping areas must have sprinklers.
- t. Provision of tools and equipment for training by members is required.
- u. PPE must be provided at no cost to the employee.
- v. Training provided at no cost to the employee (seems mostly in the area of providing for the same tools and equipment used in the field – if you use "quick clot" in the field, you have to provide it for training.
- w. Employees need to be trained prior to new equipment being put in use.
- x. PPE must fit.
- y. Gross decon before leaving the incident would be required.
- z. A "robust" vehicle inspection and maintenance program will be required.
- aa. Seats and seat belts are required. (Harnesses in ambulances.) Some flexibility for operations when being seated and belted is not feasible (parades, funerals, reloading hose lays, etc.)
- bb. Pump & aerial ladder testing will be required.
- cc. Vehicle operator training would be increased.
- dd. Private vehicle or home response policies are required.
- ee. Reiterates 2 In 2 Out rule.
- ff. Use of incident management/NIMS required.
- gg. Rehab needs to be provided at incidents.
- hh. Traffic safety procedures need to be implemented – including the use of reflective vests.
- ii. You'll need SOPs. And including non-emergency incidents.
- jj. Use of back-up spotters required.
- kk. Post Incident Analysis will be used for any significant event – injuries, death, large-scale events, near misses.
- ll. Annual review of operations for effectiveness.

What Not? A few items are specifically excluded.

- A. Lower-than-technical level search & rescue is not included. (It appears that the same is true of hazmat, but I didn't see it as obviously stated. If you don't do it, you don't need the training.)
- B. Fire Poles are not banned! But training on 4-point contact by the responder is required. And there are some other rules on their use.
- C. No required vehicle replacement schedule.

A few thoughts:

1. Significant financial impact on the small fire departments (those 50% of departments serving communities of fewer than 3000 people).
2. The small fire departments are currently lacking administrative/management staff with the skill sets needed to implement much of what is proposed. The OSHA proposal does address the economic and financial impacts of this, but I don't think there is a real understanding of the lack of skills to do some of this.

3. I think that half of the fire departments out there will take 20+ years to fully implement this, assuming access to funding and a leadership capable and willing to implement.

4. Providing written comments and testimony on this proposal will be a huge task for the NVFC, and we need an action plan. We have less than 90 days (if I'm reading this correctly) to provide written comments.

a. Maybe have a large group of individuals each draft comments on one small piece of the proposal over the next 30 days, and then pull it all together and correlate them into a single document?

b. Focus on the details in their report.

c. Focus on the impact on small organizations and the need for flexibility in how we implement this, as well as a long timetable.

d. What we can be block entirely? How are the other fire service groups responding? Will we be swimming alone or with them? What topics are we the only ones addressing – increases our need to focus.

e. Address how we deal with the possibility that we will oppose certain regulations that are consistent with our own statements in things like the Lavender Ribbon Report

**Southern NY VFA** – President Juan Batta wished all a Happy New Year. Thank you to those who attended the meeting in West Babylon and the meeting on Saturday. March 23 is the Membership meeting in Glen Cove. If you prefer to have the minutes emailed, please email Secretary Kevin and let him know. His email is on the website.

**North Fork VFA** – Artie reported they meet tomorrow in Southold Dinner 6:45 – meeting to start at 7:30. Bond was approved for Cutchogue to build new firehouse, will be a two-year process.

**Long Island Benevolent** - Meeting Friday January 26<sup>th</sup> in East Farmingdale. Dinner at 7pm and meeting at 8pm. Doing street listing review on Friday, a lot are missing out on this.

**Babylon Town VFA** – Joel reported that they meet March 19<sup>th</sup> in Wyandanch.

Joel also reported that the parades so far are Lindenhurst, County, Islip Town and the State. This year there will be two sets of counters at the parades, so if someone goes down, let your department know that they must let the set know that someone went down.

**Islip Town Council** – Muster and Chili cook off are in the works. Mega Show is February 2, 3,4 – cost is \$25 per person to get in, parking is free. It is sold out to Vendors.

**South Shore** – Russel reported that they met in Westbury FD last Friday and had presentation on drugs – Fentanyl – people die every day. Next meeting is March 15 in Hicksville, Station 4 at 7:30.

**Old Business** – None

### **New Business**

- Tom Kriklava reported that this year Anthony LaFerrara is going in as President of NYS Chiefs. Suffolk Chiefs are helping to sponsor/support the festivities. A letter will be going out.
- John Masem said that at the EMS conference Core credit will be given for Friday, none-core credit for Saturday. It is this weekend in Selden.
- Gene Perry stated we are no longer doing the daily numbers fundraiser so we are going to try a 50/50. \$1.00 each and we hope to sell 20,000. We will be mailing 120 to each department. Drawing will be at our Dinner in October. See Gene for tickets.

**Good and Welfare –**

- Please keep Virigina McConville in your prayers. Jean sent her a card.
- Ken Johnson from Center Moriches passed away, his wake is Friday.

**Dark Horse** – Gary Stecker won \$120.00

**Next membership meeting is March 26, 2024 in Bayport**  
**Next Executive Board meeting is February 27, 2024 in Mastic.**

Closing Prayer said by President Vinny Ammirati.

Motion to adjourn by Peter Callergi seconded by John Masem at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jean Christensen  
Secretary