**Meeting Called to Order** at 19:33 hours by Vice-President Stan De Long.

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by Chief Frank Mazza.

**Moment of Silence Observed**

**Attendance:** Attendance taken by Vice-President, Recording Secretary Baldwin absent.

7 Departments represented, reported many agencies busy with active calls or finishing up calls for service.

**Report of Officers:**

* **Minutes from February’s meeting** read. Motion to accept by Vischerferry, 2nd by Burnt Hills,

Carried.

* **Correspondence:** 
  + E-mail received from Ed Sharrow, Region 3 Director of the NYS Fire-Police Association, asking for help from area fire-police squads to assist with traffic Direction and Control at the Mardi Gras parade and Hudson Valley Firemens Convention in Lake George this June. Anyone available is asked to contact Ed Trembley or Stan De Long.
  + Ed Trembley forwarded e-mail to President Champagne regarding guest speaker for June’s Meetinag. Representative to speak briefly about wellness, health issues such as stress nd exertion injuries to the firefighters.
* **Treasurer’s report:** Detailed report not yet available. To the best of his knowledge, there has not been any activity with the current accounts. Will arrange for board to review books / account activity.

Motion to accept by Stillwater, 2nd by Burnt Hills, No Discussion, Carried.

**Report from the Fire Advisory Board:**

Not Present / No Report

**Fire Coordinator’s Report:**

* Ed reports the state courses that are coming up are: Pump Operators in Middlegrove and Hillcrest are full. If agencies have members that are in need, contact Ed’s Office to be placed on a waiting list. If there should be a need for a third class this year, Ed will try and arrange another class.
* Fire-Police course that starts tomorrow (4/19) is full.
* The Principles of Instruction that starts the 28th (April) at Malta Ridge Fire station still has openings.
* The Survival class that starts on the 25th (April) at Round Lake still has openings.
* Principal’s of Fire Investigation being held at Union Fire Company (Ballston Spa) is full, if some openings should occur, anyone on the waiting list will be notified.
* Handouts for the State Chief’s class for Recruitment & Retention being held on April 23rd are available. West Crescent Chief reporting the class has been rescheduled for September.
* Any agencies participating in the State wide campaign for Recruitment & Retention NY, please let Ed now, he would like to get a press release out on a County level listing those agencies that plan to have their house open for the public.
* Ed spoke about calls received by Communications, reports of control burns during the DEC Ban period, arrangements have been made to have Law Enforcement respond if available to assist, as many departments have voiced concerns about home owners becoming difficult with Fire Officers on scene. It is recognized that this is more of a police matter, however, fire department is needed to extinguish the fire. Communications will advise the responding Chief if Law Enforcement is responding at that given time, Ed asks when the First Unit arrives, determines that Law Enforcement is not need, to update Communications so they can return that police unit to service.
* Reprogramming of radios have been delayed as there was a problem with new updated template design. Agencies should be receiving a call from Pittsfield Communications very soon to arrange for reprogramming of radios.

**Training Coordinator’s report:**

(see above)

**EMS Council Report:**

(no report)

**Special Committees:**

* Hudson-Mohawk meeting in Athens on April 21st  / Convention will be held in Philmont July 14th, 15th and 16th.
* Legislative outreach program in Edinburg on April 23rd at 10 AM.
* Hudson Valley Convention is June 15th – June 18th
* FASNY Recuit N.Y. campaign will be April 23rd and 24th. / FASNY Convention at the Desmond August 10th – 13th.

**Special Programs / Guest Speaker:**

* Tom Rinaldi introduced as guest speaker. Tom spoke about residential sprinkler systems, how they save lives, especially those who can not escape fast enough during a fire. The importance of pushing the requirement through. Current NYS codes for residential sprinkler systems has not been adopted since 2010. 2015 codes are in progress which has a lot of NEW stuff. New codes, no sprinklers !! Currently in the 180 day period. Tom was thanked for speaking on such short notice. Thank You Tom !!
* Shawn Brimhall, NYS OFPC announced the Office is reviewing applications for state fire instructors as there has been some retirements, hope to get interview process done in May in time for Instructor training in June.
* Shawn discussed expected changes in the FF1 program (Firefighter 1) the current course has been dissected from what was changed about a year ago. It has shorter segments for students to take – All students would start off as Basic Exterior Operations class and Hazardous materials class which will give them the minimum requirements to meet PESH best practice standards and be used safely on the fireground, this will allow everybody to get to that point. Those who wish to continue to Interior Firefighting certification can continue at the time the first segment is completed, now enrolled in “Interior SCBA Firefighter” if the County chooses to follow this training change. The student does have the option to returning at a later time to continue his/her training is desired to advance to Interior Firefighter. The current curriculum is 104 hours, with this change, will up the hour requirement to 120 hours. State is going away from the four (4) hour nights of practical training based on several complaints fielded by students, Department Officers and Instructors. With that said, practical skill nights will be strictly practical skills, no lectures, and lecture night is strictly lectures, no practical skill time. This is expected to be rolled out by September 1st and beyond. The summer class will run as a 14 days course like previous classes. Course dates were just released. In Addition, a lot of the take home skills have been put back on the Course Instructors as many were not completing the training correctly causing increase failure. Basic First Aid course added, this will also be put back on the Course Instructor. CPR card is still required.

**Old Business:**

* P.J. wanted to acknowledge the great turn out at the February meeting.
* Department dues are $30, any agency that has not paid yet, please submit outstanding dues to Ed Trembley.
* 200th Celebration at Eagle-Matt Lee (Ballston Spa), June 25th, Fire-Police assistance is being sought. Contact Stan De Long or Asst. Chief Kevin Krogh.

**New Business:**

* Phil Brousseau inquired who is maintaining the Web Site ? Who has access to the site to bring it up to date. It was believed Andy was keeping it up to date. Last posted meeting minutes are from 2014. Phil offered to check with Andy.
* Saratoga County Fair to be held July 19th – 24th. Sign up sheet will be distributed at the June Meeting, in the meantime, if anyone wishes to take charge, please contact President Champagne.
* Stan received a suggestion after the February meeting was closed, any department with new apparatus, bring to the next Chief’s Meeting to display, show off, have a few members on hand to answer questions, speak about the apparatus capabilities, etc … helpful for neighboring agencies for mutual aid advantage.
* June Meeting will be on June 20th at 7:30 PM, Waterford Visitor’s Center. Guest Speakers will be Lt. Jeff Brown and Inv. Tim Brown from the County Sheriff’s Office. Stan mentioned that Lt. Brown has been experiencing issues with fire agencies submitting the old Arson Check form and he will discuss this at the June meeting. Copies of the new form provided at

the meeting. There will also be a speaker about health wellness as it pertains to the firefighter.

* August meeting to be held at West Crescent on August 15th. Wendy Tennant from County Self-Insurance will be on hand to discuss new changes with Self Insurance and filing claims.
* October meeting tentatively at Middlegrove Fire Company. Tentative speaker from Hudson Solar – Solar panel safety.

**Good and Welfare:**

(no report)

**50/50 Raffle:**

(none)

**Meeting adjourned** at 2015 hours, Motion made by Vischerferry, 2nd by Burnt Hills, Carried.

\*\*\* Thank You Halfmoon Fire for the Excellent Steak & Chicken dinner !!! \*\*\*

Minutes recorded by Vice-President Stan De Long. Submitted on April 19th, 2016.

Attendance roster attached.