

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
NEW JERSEY FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting of March 17, 2011

The NJ Fire Safety Commission meeting was held on Thursday, March 17, 2011, at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville, NJ.

Commission Members Present: Mr. Pasquale Intindola, Vice-Chairman
Assemblyman David Rible
Mr. Charles W. Schilling
Mr. Gerard Naylis
Ms. Kathleen O’Leary
Mr. Lawrence D. Wood
Mr. Roger Potts
Mr. Ronald Phillips
Mr. Daniel DeTrollo
Mr. Lewis Candura
Mr. Arthur Londensky
Mr. C. Kenneth Anderson
Mr. Paul Hartstein
Mr. Frederick Collender
Mr. Arthur Mercurio

Commission Members Excused: Assemblyman John Wisniewski, Chairman
Senator Anthony Bucco
Mr. John Lightbody
Mr. Armando Roman
Mr. Steve O’Gorman

DCA Staff Members Present: William Kramer, Acting Director
Charles Luxton, NJDFS Lou Kilmer, NJDFS
Charles Lavin, NJDFS Heather Puskar, NJDFS
Jerry Clark, NJDFS Rick Farletta, NJDFS
Michael Whalen, Codes and Standards

Guests: Nicolas Kikis, NJ Apartment Assn. Daniel Mulligan, Ocean Co. FM
Bernie Cohan, EDIFC Ronald McGowan Jr., Wildwood Crest FD
Kevin Bellen, LV 696 Chuck Aughenbaugh, NJDFCA
Kelly Reilly, Asm. Rible’s Office Patrick Bost, NJ Health Dept. PEOSH
Kevin J. Hayes Sr., Long Branch FM Irwin Kreisburg, PEOSH
Charles Giblin, NJ Treasury Andrew Stratton, Cranford FD/NJFMBA
Mark Ciarlarello, No. Plainfield FD Rufus Jackson, Newark FD
Anthony Maya, Newark FD Craig Babcock, Rockaway Twp. FD
Kevin Krushinski, Sayreville FD Damian Emerich, Newark FD

A. Call to Order

In place of Chairman John Wisniewski, Acting-Chairman Pat Intindola called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM and began the meeting with the “Pledge of Allegiance” and pointed out the fire exits.

B. Approval of Minutes

With no discussion requested or necessary corrections, the minutes of the regular meeting of January 19, 2011 were approved.

C. Correspondence

Vice-Chairman Intindola noted that all correspondence for today’s meeting is contained in the Fire Safety Commission packets. With no discussion requested on any of the correspondence at this time, the meeting was moved to Public Comment I.

D. Public Comment I

Vice-Chairman Intindola opened the floor to any member of the public wishing to speak.

Bernie Cohan requested – once again – that Red Bank Fire Marshal Stanley Sickels be added to the New Jersey Fire Safety Commission in the slot that was vacated by David Aron several years ago. Vice-Chairman stated that Mr. Cohan’s request would be noted and passed along to the legislative members of the Fire Safety Commission.

Lt. Andy Stratton from the Cranford Fire Department/NJ FMBA spoke to the Fire Safety Commission about the “Fire Is” fire safety education program. The basis for the program is a video done by Dr. Frank Field which will be promoted throughout New Jersey schools. Students and their families will be urged to watch the video (either on-line or via cable access) as an assignment or for extra credit. Mr. Stratton spoke about the upcoming training sessions that are taking place which outline the implementation of the Fire Is program. The dates/times of those three training sessions will be:

- Tuesday, April 12th at Camden Emergency Services Training Center*
- Tuesday, May 10th at Morris County Fire Academy*
- Wednesday, May 18th at Middlesex County Fire Academy*

An information packet on the Fire Is program was included in the Commission packets and made available to all attendees of the meeting.

Deputy Chief Rufus Jackson from the Newark Fire Department spoke briefly to thank the Fire Safety Commission for all their hard work and to continue their efforts on behalf of New Jersey’s firefighters.

On behalf of Dave Matos who was unable to attend today’s meeting, Commissioner C. Kenneth Anderson reported on the Summit on Volunteerism in Emergency Services. The

summit was held and a report on it will be prepared and posted on the New Jersey Fire & EMS Institute website shortly. One of the main questions that they were trying to answer is “What is your ideal vision of a strong volunteer community in fire and EMS?”. A vision was put together – although it has not been “approved” by anybody – that summarizes a lot of the things they were looking for. That vision was: “That New Jersey will have strong emergency services organizations, whose purposes and needs are well-known and appreciated by the communities they serve and by the general public. That local Fire Departments and First-Aid Squads are well-staffed by highly-qualified volunteers who respond to all types of emergencies during daytime and nighttime hours. That volunteer emergency responders are highly-trained because progressive training opportunities are readily available. That volunteer organizations have strong leadership and good internal and external communications. That volunteers are valued by their communities for their contributions and sacrifices.” Commissioner Anderson admitted that the vision is probably utopian, but it is a goal to shoot for for volunteer emergency services state-wide.

Chuck Aughenbaugh from the New Jersey Deputy Fire Chiefs Association suggested that the Fire Safety Commission meetings be moved back to Wednesday so that the legislative members of the Commission can attend more regularly. Vice Chairman Intindola and several other Commissioners agreed that Wednesday is a better day of the week to hold the meetings, and this topic of conversation can be put on the agenda for discussion at the May meeting.

With no other members of the public wishing to comment at this time, the meeting was moved to Division of Fire Safety Activities.

E. Division of Fire Safety Activities

Chief William Kramer reported that Lawrence Petrillo’s final day as Director of the Division of Fire Safety had been last Friday, March 11th. Chief Kramer will be serving as Acting Director. He looks forward to continuing to work with the Fire Safety Commission and the fire service state-wide.

Chief Kramer reported that there had been a recent issue with the mainframe computer system, which is handled by the Office of Information and Technology. There may be some errors on transcripts, so Chief Kramer urged the Commission to spread the word that people should double-check their transcripts to ensure they are accurate. If they are not, please contact the Division of Fire Safety’s Training and Certification Unit. OIT is trying to trace back to where the problem began so it can be fixed. Commissioner Gerard Naylis asked if the website had been corrupted as well. Chief Kramer answered that the website should still be accurate, but it certainly makes sense to double-check it.

There was an incident recently in Hunterdon County that involved a structure fire with photovoltaic equipment. In a newspaper article about the incident, the Fire Chief was quoted that his department was able to handle the incident based on the training it received. The Division of Fire Safety, NFPA, PSE&G all contacted this Chief about the

training – and it turned out the training was through a company drill that had been downloaded off the Division of Fire Safety website. Chief Kramer said it is good to see the benefits of the efforts that went into putting that training program together and that it is serving its purpose.

Chief Kramer reported the Division of Fire Safety is in the process of doing a firefighter injury investigation in the wake of a recent incident in Asbury Park. The personal protective equipment from the firefighter has been sent to NIOSH for evaluation. The Division of Fire Safety also received permission from the Department to release the Trenton firefighter fatality report. That report will be posted on the Division website after it is distributed to the Chief of the Trenton Fire Department and the family.

Following up on the manifold failure issue that took place in Sussex County, Chief Kramer reported that the Division of Fire Safety has contracted with a metallurgist in Delaware to conduct testing on the device in question. It is currently undergoing destructive and non-destructive testing.

The Department of Labor has made the NJDFS aware of a situation – occurring mostly in the Bergen County area – involving the purchase of SCBA cylinders that are being marketed by a specific company who used to provide cylinders to an SCBA manufacturer. Because these cylinders are no longer part of the SCBA manufacturer's ensemble, the NIOSH testing is not there. Therefore, these bottles are not being permitted to be used under those criteria. The Department of Labor sent out a notice about this issue in August 2010 along with a notice from NIOSH. This has become a big issue because roughly 11,000 bottles have been purchased by various fire departments in New Jersey and several legislators and state agencies have gotten involved. This is an ongoing issue and the Division of Fire Safety will be meeting with the Attorney General's Office on the matter in the near future. Irwin Kreisburg from the Department of Labor added that there is information on their website with further information if your department purchased these cylinders. Mr. Kreisburg also said that the bottles are structurally sound; it's just a matter of the semantics and naming. Commissioner Ronald Phillips asked if there was a temporary order in effect for fire departments that hold these bottles until the issue is resolved. Chief Kramer referred the question to Patrick Bost from the Department of Health and he answered that they are working on how to deal with violations in regards to this issue. Commissioner Wood asked if a variance could be issued if it is asked for by a department with these cylinders. Mr. Bost answered that the fire department should contact the Department of Labor on that issue. Chief Kramer wrapped up the discussion on the SCBA cylinders by stating a meeting would be held with NJDFS, the AG's Office, Department of Labor, and Department of Health in the near future to iron out all these questions. Hopefully, the results and a resolution could be reported at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Arthur Mercurio asked why it takes so long for the Department of Labor to examine fire-related bills that are introduced in the Senate or Assembly. It was his feeling that too much time is wasted until DOL acts on these bills. Chief Kramer

answered that the Division of Fire Safety has been coordinating quite well with the DOL and DHSS from an organizational standpoint.

Chief Kramer reported the School Security Drill Regulations appeared in the February 7th edition of the *New Jersey Register*. A subsequent amendment to these regulations – a minor administrative correction – appeared in the March 7th edition of the *New Jersey Register*. Amendments to the Fire Equipment Contractor Certification requirements have been submitted as a proposal and will appear in the March 21st edition of the *New Jersey Register*. These amendments have to do with the certification requirements of NICET. On the topic of contractor certifications, Commissioner Lewis Candura requested an update on the report he asked for at the previous Commission meeting in regards to fire equipment contractor violations. Chief Kramer said that Chris Michallis is in the process of preparing that data and should be ready to report on it by the May Commission meeting.

Vice Chairman Intindola asked about the status of NJDFS's Peer Review. Chief Kramer answered that there was a Peer Review scheduled in January, but needed to be postponed due to conflicts with the Board members.

Commissioner Arthur Mercurio asked whether or not New Jersey's emergency responders are prepared to deal with an incident at a nuclear power plant on the level of what is currently being dealt with in Japan. Chief Kramer answered that New Jersey has two nuclear power plants – one at Oyster Creek in Lacey Township, another at Salem Hope Creek in Lower Alloway. There has been a lot of interaction and training held with Salem Hope Creek, and the Neptune South system is part of the emergency operations plan. Also, the Fire Chief at Salem Hope Creek is heavily involved with the MAC-SICS program. Chief Kramer was unsure if the same level of cooperation could be said for the emergency operations at Oyster Creek. This is something that Chief Rick Farletta will be looking into as soon as possible. Commissioner Arthur Mercurio asked Assemblyman David Rible to urge the legislature to look into and prepare for an emergency of this magnitude before it is too late. Assemblyman Rible agreed that this is an issue that needs to be worked on.

Chief Lou Kilmer reported that the NJDFS staff has continued to diligently work with developers on the new computer system. Quite a bit of time is being spent on the program, and a prototype should be ready by the end of this year. The new computer system is slowly becoming a reality, and it will vastly transform the way the NJDFS and the local enforcing agencies do business.

The Division of Fire Safety was very successful with the annual reports of local fire officials. They were done online once again this year, which makes it easier for them to submit and review. Also, Chief Kilmer spoke about the Bed & Breakfast facilities in Cape May. The Division of Fire Safety has been working with Codes and Standards on coming up with recommendations for the Code in regards to these facilities.

Commissioner Naylis asked how the collection of outstanding Life Hazard Use fees had been coming along since the Division of Fire Safety had been using a collections agency. Chief Kramer answered that he did not know the exact figures as far as how much is still outstanding, but well over \$2 million has been collected thus far.

Commissioner Roger Potts asked if PEOSH and OSHA were currently conducting systematic inspections of local fire departments throughout the state. It was his understanding this was being done – in alphabetical order – to see if equipment had exceeded the 10-year mark. Mr. Kreisburg answered that inspections are being done, but the 10-year rule is not being strictly enforced based solely on time. The equipment will be examined on a case-by-case basis.

Commissioner C. Kenneth Anderson inquired as to the status of the Fire Safety Commission report that had been prepared for the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs. Chief Kramer answered that the report has been completed and forwarded to Chairman Wisniewski. It is now up to the Chairman how he would like to present or submit the report on the Fire Safety Commission's behalf. Vice Chairman Intindola said he would speak to Assemblyman Wisniewski and figure out how to proceed.

In response to a request made by Commissioner Naylis at the January meeting, Special Agent Charles Giblin from the NJ Treasury Department gave a report on the status of the enforcement of the Fire-Safe Cigarette legislation. Mr. Giblin gave a very interesting and comprehensive report on how people have tried to circumvent the new legislation and sell counterfeit cigarettes throughout the state. Treasury has seized these counterfeit cigarettes from Native Americans (particularly on the west coast), mainland China, Kosovo, Eastern Europe, etc. Many significant arrests and seizures have been made. Also, there has been an issue of "roll your own" cigarette distributors that have tried to find a loophole in the new rule by claiming not to be a manufacturer. Treasury has closed these types of places down because they define them as a manufacturer who is non-compliant - but there is serious pushback from legislators and lobbyists to let these "roll your own" places operate in New Jersey. This is a potential loophole that would totally go against the intent of the Fire Safe Cigarette Act.

On the whole however, Mr. Giblin felt that there is generally very good compliance and Treasury is very pleased with this. Commissioner Naylis asked where in New Jersey they are finding the most knock-off cigarettes. Mr. Giblin answered that the inner-cities, and purchasing on the internet, have been the most frequent problem areas. Irwin Kreisburg asked whether the Treasury Department dealt with the enforcement of electronic cigarettes. Mr. Giblin answered that, no, the electronic cigarettes do not fall under the technical definition of a "cigarette" and therefore they have nothing to do with them.

The Fire Safety Commission thanked Mr. Giblin for his report and his efforts in enforcing the Fire Safe Cigarette Act.

F. Advisory Council Reports:

1. Codes Advisory Council

Commissioner Charles Schilling reported that, for lack of an agenda, the Codes Advisory Council has not held a meeting since the last time the Fire Safety Commission met in January. However, the Codes Council is deeply involved in the review of Subchapter 4 and will be reporting on this at the next Commission meeting in May and seeking some approvals. The Codes Council has also been working in conjunction with Codes and Standards on several items – including the mobile video game units.

2. Training and Education Advisory Council

Commissioner C. Kenneth Anderson submitted the following report for the Training and Education Advisory Council:

The Training and Education Advisory Council met on February 15th at the Dempster Training Center at 10:00 am.

Kent Neiswender reported on several projects including:

- Training and Certification Office has moved to the 7th floor.
- The Spring Catalog will offer about 110 courses
 - The catalog will only be on line
 - A post card will be mailed about March 1st; Registration will open March 7th.
- New Jersey weekend will be June 11th and 12th
- Pro Board/IFSAC accreditation are moving forward
 - Vendor questionnaires have been sent out
 - The package is anticipated to be about \$25,000
 - Computer changes will be needed but won't be started till PO is signed
 - Anticipate 13 certifications initially
- The Kean waiver is being processed.

All certification standards need to be compared and possibly updated to the most recent NFPA standards.

The current standards adopt the second edition of the *Delmar Company Officer – New Jersey Edition* as the text for the Fire Officer I and II curriculum. Delmar is now publishing the third edition. The second edition is no longer printed. The Officer Committee reviewed the new edition. There is very little change in the text. We wouldn't be considering any change at this time if the second edition wasn't replaced. Re-verification of the test questions should be a minor task.

The Council accepted the recommendation and, by motion, recommends to the Fire Safety Commission that the Fire Officer Standard be revised to require the third edition (as well as the other revisions to the standard that have been previously approved by the

Commission) and the Commissioner be requested to publish a Proposal in the *New Jersey Register*.

Subsequently, the Division staff raised the question of opposition to the Proposal if a sole source is specified and there is no justification document prepared to support the recommendation. The question was discussed with the Assistant Commissioner and he also recommends that there be an evaluation of all major Fire Officer textbooks and the supporting materials.

The Division is obtaining the materials and will convene a Subject Matter Expert Committee to review the materials and make an evaluation. Sadly, we were advised five months ago that the second edition was being replaced and the process to select a replacement is just getting started.

The Forest Fire Service recently held a major training session for its members for several IMS positions. Forest Fire is developing two Type 2 Incident Management Teams. On an availability basis, seats were opened to non Forest Fire employees. The Division participated in that program.

The RIC Committee submitted the final draft "Rapid Intervention Crew Training Guidelines" shortly before the meeting. There were some questions. T&E decided to hold the draft until the next meeting. Also, all members would be advised so any other comments could be received.

It was reported that the RIC Operations course being developed through Kean is about 60% complete. It was suggested that the information be presented at the next T&E meeting and that materials might be piloted by the Council.

A CD with information relating to Driver Training was distributed to the members. The Committee asked for review of the information for content and accuracy. Feedback will be reviewed by the Committee. This might be approved, Train-the-Trainers conducted and the materials handed off to the EOs. At this time it is only considered as a resource; no certification program is recommended.

The Council was made aware of an ordinance in Deptford Township that required the height of the highest parapet wall to be marked on the building. The possibility of a statewide requirement was suggested.

The next meeting of the T&E Council will be April 19th at the Dempster Training Center at 10:00 am.

Commissioner Anderson also spoke about a report he submitted to the Fire Safety Commission in regards to last year's Mid-Atlantic Conference of State Fire Commissions. Both Commissioner Anderson and Mercurio paid their own way to attend the conference in Connecticut and found it very beneficial. Commissioner Anderson cited a recent problem in West Virginia where workman's compensation was privatized a

few years ago, it was subsequently cancelled for volunteer fire departments due to excess losses. This problem is something that maybe the fire service in New Jersey should keep their eye on. Commissioner Anderson said this sharing of information on this issue illustrates the benefit of being involved with other states at the Mid-Atlantic Conference.

3. Statistics and Information Advisory Council

Commissioner Gerard Naylis reported that 91% of fire departments have submitted their NFIRS data for 2010. This number is still expected to climb as data is continually being submitted and fine-tuned. Commissioner Naylis urged all Commission members to spread the word that if they know of a department that has not submitted data, for them to do so as soon as possible.

Commissioner Naylis illustrated the benefit of NFIRS reporting by being able to examine the trends in statistics from year to year. He used the example of “cigarettes as an ignition source” to see how much of an effect the Fire Safe Cigarette Act is having. Commissioner Naylis also urged the Division of Fire Safety to keep the NFIRS Unit fully staffed so that we can use statistics like this as a tool.

Assemblyman Rible asked if the Statistics and Information Advisory Council had any numbers handy in regards to civilian fatalities. Commissioner Naylis said he did not have those statistics on hand at the moment, but would certainly look into it and have them at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Statistics and Information Advisory Council is tentatively scheduled for April 12th.

4. Master Planning and Research Advisory Council

In the absence of Commissioner John Lightbody, no report was given.

5. Public Education Advisory Council

Commissioner Daniel DeTrollo reported the Public Education Advisory Council met on March 10th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. The minutes from that meeting are in the Commission packets.

Commissioner DeTrollo reported that the 2011 FIRE Bowl would be featuring SIX school districts. All five that competed last year will be returning along with Jersey City, who has been added at the last meeting. Through the efforts of Jersey City Fire Department Director Armando Roman, Jersey City was added to guarantee that the 6th Annual FIRE Bowl will be the biggest ever. The program officially kicked off on February 15th when the source materials are distributed state-wide. The key dates for this year’s FIRE Bowl. The trip to Middlesex County Fire Academy will be held on March 31st and the final event will be at Kean University on May 18th. All Commission members are welcome and encouraged to attend both events. This year’s FIRE Bowl

sponsors are Hartz Mountain Industries (trip luncheon), the NJ State FMBA (trip luncheon), IMTT-Bayonne (t-shirts), and Joshua Marcus Group (awards/medals). Event hosts are Kean University and Middlesex County Fire Academy. Additional shirts will be printed this year to promote the program.

Commissioner DeTrollo spoke about the ABC-7 Operation Save-a-Life kickoff breakfast that took place in January in New York City. State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo spoke on behalf of the Division of Fire Safety and Betty Lou DeCroce spoke on behalf of the Department of Community Affairs and Governor Chris Christie. Mayor Michael Bloomberg was also a guest speaker. Charlie Luxton reported that the smoke detectors have not yet been received, so no pick-up dates have been scheduled. Once the smoke detectors are received, they are expected to number around 15,000 and be housed at Kinder Morgan in Carteret.

Commissioner DeTrollo also called attention to a section in the Public Education Advisory Council minutes that included a transcribed phone message from a guidance counselor at an Irvington school. The message talks about how through the efforts of Public Education Council Member William Illge, a third grader and his family were able to survive a fire in their home.

The next meeting of the Public Education Advisory Council is scheduled for Thursday, May 12th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy at 10 am.

6. Firefighter Safety and Health Advisory Council

In the absence of Commissioner Richard Blohm, no report was given.

Commissioner C. Kenneth Anderson asked about the status of the EMS Rehabilitation Guidelines that have been discussed at the past several Commission meetings. Chief Kramer answered that they are in the process of being tweaked by Division of Fire Safety staff, put in a guidance document format, and then posted on the NJDFS website.

7. Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council

Commissioner Paul Hartstein reported the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council met on March 9th at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center. Minutes from the meeting are contained in the Commission packets.

All necessary approvals have been obtained in order to put Juvenile Firesetter Educational Resources material up on the NJ IAAI website. This will serve as a centralized location to get information regarding juvenile firesetter programs. There was also a discussion on the class that was held on December 2nd and 3rd at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. The consensus was that everyone enjoyed the class and it was universally well-received. Reservations have been made at Middlesex County Fire Academy for December 1st and 2nd, 2011, in anticipation of holding the class once again.

Joe Ehrhardt is putting together a one-day “clinic” type program that is geared towards the mental health community. That will be taking place on June 15th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. Also, Michael McCormick from the Stevens Treatment Program attended the meeting and spoke about their residential treatment facility. They are now accepting out of state placements and have been approved to accept New Jersey residents. They accept adolescent boys from ages 11-22.

Commissioner Hartstein spoke about the issue of insurance companies – particularly VFIS - charging higher premiums for fire districts that sponsor juvenile firesetting programs. Commissioner Hartstein finds this to be illogical because the presence of a juvenile firesetting program has been proven to result in a reduction in property loss and helps prevent repeat incidents. This is something to be aware of statewide, and Assemblyman Rible added that this was something he would look into.

Commissioner Hartstein made a motion that Joseph Boyle be added to the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mercurio and passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council is scheduled for May 11th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy at 10 am.

G. Committee Reports

1. Residential Sprinkler Committee

During the Statistics and Information Advisory Council report, Commissioner Mercurio asked Commissioner Naylis for an update on the status residential sprinkler regulations. Commissioner Naylis answered that while there is a bill currently in the legislature, the chances of the Governor ultimately signing it are relatively slim. While the Governor has cited economic reasons for not signing off on residential sprinkler regulations, Commissioner Naylis hopes he will live by that and revisit residential sprinklers when the economy does eventually turn around. Commissioner Naylis also reiterated that residential sprinklers are not the be-all, end-all fix for putting out fires and preventing property loss and damage. Their intended purpose is to give people enough time to get out of a burning building.

H. Old Business

Commissioner Ronald Phillips followed up on the BPU/water supply communication issue. He said that a meeting was held in Bergen County between the fire service, BPU, and the water company since the last Commission meeting. Commissioner Phillips felt that, given the involvement of BPU, the water company has been more receptive to the concerns of the fire service. Progress has been made on this issue and Commissioner Phillips urged the Division of Fire Safety to continue to work with BPU on this.

I. New Business

Commissioners Schilling, DeTrollo, and Candura all voiced displeasure that the Commission meetings are now being held on Thursdays instead of Wednesdays. Vice Chairman Intindola said it would the issue would be put on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

J. Public Comment II

Chuck Aughenbaugh from the New Jersey Deputy Fire Chiefs Association publicly thanked the two Chiefs from the Newark Fire Department for attending the meeting today. Mr. Aughenbaugh has been urging Fire Chiefs statewide to attend Commission meetings so they will know what's going on. Mr. Aughenbaugh also commented on the issue of SCBA cylinders from early in the meeting, and he will be sending a letter from his organization in support of SCI Industries.

Mr. Aughenbaugh has distributed the RIT guidelines to all the Chiefs in his association and will be getting feedback on them leading up to the Training and Education Advisory Council meeting on April 19th. Mr. Aughenbaugh also spoke about the growing issue of shared services/mutual aid in these trying economic times. Communication technology needs to be updated and inter-operable between departments. Mr. Aughenbaugh urged the legislative members of the Fire Safety Commission to look out for issues like these that are being raised and for the fire service and public safety in general. Assemblyman Rible responded that, despite a lot of the talk that is floating around, the legislature is doing its best to support the fire service and public safety. He said that economically times are very tough, but the legislators do appreciate the efforts and sacrifices of New Jersey's fire service. Mr. Aughenbaugh said that he realizes there is going to be significant change and thanked Assemblyman Rible for his efforts. Commissioner Phillips pointed out that fire departments now need to be mindful of personnel issues as they relate to neighboring fire departments and districts. There is a growing concern that, with reduced manpower, career departments will rely more and more on neighboring volunteer departments. Commissioner Phillips suggested that this is another area where legislation may need to be explored.

Sayreville Fire Official Kevin Krushinski asked if the Division of Fire Safety had received his recommendations in regards to the inspection and identification of buildings with photovoltaic systems and, if so, what were their findings. Chief Kilmer said that these recommendations would be forwarded to the Codes Council and put on the agenda at their next meeting.

Irwin Kreisburg announced that NIOSH handouts with additional information are available regarding the SCBA cylinder issue. Anyone present at today's meeting can see Mr. Kreisburg to obtain one of these forms.

Michael Whalen from Codes and Standards announced that Commissioner Arthur Londensky has been named the Chairman of the Fire Subcode Committee. Also, Commissioner Londensky will be receiving the Mid-Atlantic Industry Advancement

Award from the National Fire Sprinkler Association. The Fire Safety Commissioner congratulated Commissioner Londensky on this achievement.

Vice Chairman Intindola, on behalf of the entire Fire Safety Commission, congratulated Commissioner Charles Schilling on celebrating his 90th birthday. Commissioner Schilling thanked the Commission for their well-wishes.

K. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Intindola asked if anyone had any additional business they would like to bring before the Commission. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

*** The next meeting of the Fire Safety Commission will be May 19, 2011 at 10am. It will be held at the Monmouth Junction Fire Department in Monmouth Junction, NJ**