

Jason Kraack
Chairman

Tim Hornecik
Vice Chairman
Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board

Mary Ann Drobysch
Secretary

Russell Reeves was present to swear in members in attendance

Date: March 30, 2026 Pledge to the Flag recited.

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 pm

Attendance: 8 out of 15 members present

Minutes: Read and amended under 911 to reflect portables and mobiles need to be reprogramed.

Bethel: Peter Maltese	P
Callicoon: Ross Turner	P
Cochecton: Jason Knack	P
Delaware: Timothy Hornicek	P
Fallsburg: Charles Payne	P
Forestburgh: Michael Rommell	A
Fremont: George Conklin	A
Highland: Dave Preston	A
Liberty: Don Sherwood	P
Lumberland: David Fein	A
Mamakating: Anthony Fello	A
Neversink: Tim Dexheimer	P
Rockland: Nathan Routledge	A
Thompson: Tet Tun	A
Tusten: Stephen Stuart	P

Coordinators Report:

It has been a busy couple of months, 3 fatalities in fires, multiple MVAs with fatalities. John appreciates everyone's hard work. The County's Critical Stress Incident Management Team has done debriefings.

The Youth Academy will be begin July 20. Registration will be until 4/1 or when class is full.

There will be basic and advance training courses available. Ther is a training authorization letter that must be filled out by your chief. This is an official document and there are some that are not being completed properly and some that may be forged. There can be penalties involved. This is a serious problem and any letters not in compliance must be corrected.

NYS Fire Prevention and Control held a class with some local chiefs in attendance. There was information on mutual aid plans.

The burn ban remains in effect until 5/14. There have been a few incidents of violations. The Recruit and Retention program has several events lined up for this spring and summer.

All departments are confirmed for NERIS, but not all are using. Contact Jack if your department has issues.

John gave the annual report and broke down the numbers.

Committee Reports:

Arson Task Force: They have been busy, the 3 fire fatalities require a lot of work.

911:

The new channel plan is out and all 6 battalions were given copies. Mobiles and portables are in the process of being reprogrammed. Both channels will be available until all the conversions have been completed.

Storm mode, stations should be manned during major events with trees and wires down. List should be kept with locations and reported to the control center.

The Mutual Aid Plan is being utilized by a few districts. There are some issues within split districts. Please reach out to John if you are having problems. Single districts do not have as many issues. Once everyone is up and running there should be no problems.

Radio procedures for cars after 1,2 and 3 do not need to be on the radio. You can report once you are on scene.

The Jeffersonville tower should be completed by late summer, early fall.

EMS: The Fly Car is working out very well. Grant money has been received. There is a possibility of a senior car for the summer.

Communications:

Old Business: None

New Business:

County Memorial Service will be on 5/3/26, to begin in the legislative hearing room and then proceed down to the memorial. If you have a deceased member being honored, please invite their family as well.

There are rumors that Empress Ambulance is leaving, for now they are only rumors. It was brought up that there are violations of the burn ban. Some are claiming religious exemptions, but note that there are limitations of what can be burned under those exemptions. If the problems continue contact the DEC.

Good and Welfare: There will be a public hearing in April regarding the reconstruction of the bridge over the Neversink Reservoir. This bridge is necessary for the fire department. Public support would be appreciated.

Meeting Adjourned 7:35 pm

Next meeting May 18, 2026 at 7:00 pm

Any member not in attendance for the March meeting must go see Russell Reeves at the County Clerk's Office to be sworn in.