

**Cambria County Regional Firefighters' Association
October 2025 Monthly Meeting Minutes
Ashville Volunteer Fire Company
October 23, 2025**

- **Call Meeting to Order** – President Josh Petrisko called the monthly meeting to order at 1901 hours.
- **Pledge of Allegiance** – President Petrisko then led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Prayer** – Pat Illig – Patton gave the opening prayer.
- **Resolutions** – Pat Illig read the name of Jeffrey Zalar – St. Michael FD. All members assembled stood in silent reflection for 1 minute in memory of their departed brother.
- **Reading of Last Meeting's Minutes** – minutes from the September 25, 2025 meeting was read. No corrections or additions noted. President Petrisko declared the minutes to stand as read.
- **Reading of Bills** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod read the bills for the month in the amount of \$5,615.97
 - **Motion to pay bills:** Tom Branton – Portage
 - **2nd:** Joel Offman
 - **Question:** called
 - **Vote:** Passed
- **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Paul Kundrod reported:

Total Funds in Certificates:	\$166,810.66
Total Funds in Checking Accounts:	<u>\$94,545.83</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCES as of: 10/23/2025:	\$261,356.49

 - **Motion to approve report:** Mark Coleman – Beaverdale
 - **2nd:** Charles Woodley – Hope
 - **Question:** called
 - **Vote:** Passed
- **Communications** – None
- **Committee Reports:**

- **Fire School Site** – Tony Sestrich – Richland
 - Tower dedicated on October 3
 - Site gets shut down Saturday, Oct 25.
 - Needs help at site
 - Want to get the drainage pipe installed
 - Mike Krug repaired floor of burn building. Still minor patching to be done.
 - Met with Ed Myers – excavation for building pad. Got 6 tons of stone for price of 4 with several tons donated.
 - November 5 – Site Committee meeting
 - Need dates from the Essentials Instructors for burns, etc,
- **Fire School/Training** – Jim McCann – Johnstown
 - Met Wednesday Oct 1 in Lewistown with Administrator Harvey Boyer and Anson Bloom for clarification of upcoming changes to Essentials programs and how certification will work. Also, expressed concern that 14-, 15-, 16-year olds taking existing programs will not have to retake all of their training in the new program. Were assured there will be a bridge program for at least 2 years
 - Changes to the training fee structures. Sheet published and available to Department and also online with pricing.
 - Certs thru Bucks:
 - \$25 – written, \$225 – practicals
 - \$25 – retest fee for certs.
 - Fire School weekends April 10, 11, 12; 17, 18, 19; 25, 26
 - Will have a meeting to finalize Fire School programs.
 - Changes with Bucks pricing are going to affect offerings. May run more in-house or contracted programs like County Coroner, FA/CPR, etc. May also run State Programs.
 - Essentials Registrations now open online.
 - ZFID program in Spring being run at Fire School Site. Last weekend in March, 2nd weekend in April.
- **Building Committee** –
 - Meeting on Oct 14th to layout building and start looking at contracts needed
 - The Office of State Fire Commissioner grant for the Emergency Service Training Center Capital Grant Program – \$100,000.00 for the new training classroom building on the site is only for ground prep, cement, building shell.

- Dallas Kephart may sponsor an LSA Grant for \$150,000. Commissioners all on board. Will be used to finish out the building.
- Motion for Secretary to send letter to Commissioners seeking support for LSA Grant by Micky Lutch – Spangler
 - 2nd by Tom Branton – Portage
 - Question called
 - Vote – Passed
- **Certification** – RJ Wilson – At large
 - Add three additional members to the Certification Committee:
 - Nick Wuckovich
 - Joe Lamantia - Nanty Glo
 - Tom Pringle - Logan Township - United
 - Tom Pringle will be the Deputy Certification Coordinator.
 - On Wednesday October 15th and Sunday October 19th, we completed the closed FF1 written and skill testing for Saxton.
 - Currently, association members do not pay a fee for the first retest of written FF1 and FF2 failures. The retest proctor does not receive compensation. A small fee of \$10 being assessed to the applicant needing to do a retest. This fee would then be given to the proctor for the retest for their time.
 - We currently have the site reserved for Friday May 29th FF2 written, Saturday May 30th FF2 Skills Claysburg, Sunday May 31st FF2 Skills Lawrence Twp. Neither department has confirmed those dates.
 - The site is reserved for June 5th and 6th of 2026. June 5th is the FF1 written exam for Morris Township and Philipsburg Fire Companies. June 6th is the FF1 Skill exam for those two departments.
 - We will be working with Tony on open FF1 and FF2 dates for 2026. We want to make sure we have the four departments requesting closed dates are accommodated first.
 - Notable changes from the New Evaluators training Tom Pringle and I attended:
 - The yearly Evaluator Workshop is being sent back to the Fire School Site. So, we will be able to do the yearly requirement from Cambria.

- Only one evaluator apprenticeship is required per Evaluator Certification. They are dropping the two-evaluator apprenticeship requirement.
 - Even though we did have the HMOR certificates, they did not collect them from us. We were told there will be a new policy coming out concerning the HMOR certificates. Stay tuned.
- On November 6th, Joe Adams, Tom Pringle, Nick Wuckovich, Paul Kundrod, and myself will be attending the in-person meeting at the State Fire Academy site.
- **Fundraising** – Lianna Weir
 - Trying to get sponsorship letters out by holidays
 - Forcible Entry Contest Winners will be at the December meeting:
 - Greg Hassen Jr., 1st – Hope
 - Zane Barrett 2nd – Patton
 - Zack Diandrethn3rd - Revloc
 - Want a canned food drive at December meeting. Helps connect with other non-profits.
 - Will have several online polls – colors and designs of merch.
 - Dunlo still having their tractor raffle to benefit the Fire School.
 - Excise Distillery have a sale with 15% of proceeds going to Association & Trails.
- **Website** – Lianna Weir
 - Bucks pricing sheet info posted to website.
 - Video podcasts occurring
 - Link on the website for Departments to put in email contact info. Can't be added manually – we can't access the input. Department must put it in. 32 Departments have info uploaded.
- **Membership** – Nick Wuckovich – starting transition to Jeff Weir
- **Law & Legislative** – Nick Wuckovich
 - No budget
 - Senate Resolution 17 – trying to revise Relief Funding
 - Right now funding is used in General budget, transportation, not being used for Relief, so Departments are only getting about 10%
 - PTSD – Act passed to allow filing under Worker Comp “if we can get medical evidence” using Section 108. For

adding medical evidence will cost \$30,000.00 for the research.

- Motion to donate \$250.00 to PFSI – Nick Wuckovich
 - 2nd – Joe Adams
 - Question – there was discussion about amount, but Paul Kundrod had told Nick that he was comfortable with \$250.00.
 - Vote – passed.
- **Prevention** – Nick Wuckovich
 - Keep working on books – many departments have been getting money for their efforts.
 - Nick thanked everyone for confidence in electing him 3rd VP of Western to help keep things flowing to this part of State.
- **Application Review** – Joe Adams
 - Lawrence Township – Clearfield County approved
 - Motion – Rich Brown – Nanty Glo
 - 2nd Jerry Brant – Patton
 - Question called
 - Vote passed
- **By-Laws** – No Report
- **Box 11** – Lianna Weir for Jeff Weir

Balance as of 09/30/2025	\$8,528.05
Income:	
	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Income Month	\$0.00
Total Income	\$8,528.05
Expenses:	
Fuel card	<u>\$91.54</u>
Total Expenses	\$91.54
Total Income on hand 07/31/2025	\$8,436.51
Box 11 Fund	\$6,086.51
Box 11 Truck Fund	<u>\$2,350.00</u>
Total Income on hand	\$8,436.51

Box 11 Run Log 2025

2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	APR	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Month Total	4	3	5	4	1	3	6	9	2	4			41
Total Members as													
of 07/31/2025		46											
Incidents: 29													
Stand-by: 3													
Public Svc: 9													

- **Fire Advisory** – No Report
- **Recruitment & Retention** – No Report
- **Junior FF** – No Report
- **Credentials** – No Report
- **Awards** – Tom Bracken – thanked Association for allowing him to cut ribbon at Tower dedication.
 - Good year – had 5 Valor, 1 Unit, 1 Life Saver.
 - Change to Jr FF of the Year. Allowing only 1 nomination per department.
- **Tuition Assistance** – No Report
- **Contests and Parade** – No Report
- **Convention** – working on book
- **9-1-1 EMA** – No Report
- **Junior FF** – No Report
- **Chernisky runs** – presentation at Nanty Glo – December 5 – 11:00
- **New Committee – FACE Team** – Jerry Brant
 - **FACE** – Firefighters Against Cancer Epidemic
 - 3 organizational meetings
 - Would like presentations
 - Dr. to address meeting virtually in future
 - Committee: Jerry Brant – chair. Jim McCann, Mike Hawksworth, Lianna Wier, Nick Wuckovich, Eric Miller, Paul Kundrod, Adam Free, Bill Lehmann
- **Roll Call of Officers** – All present except Paul Kundrod, illness; Christian Fyock, on search detail.

- **Roll Call of Companies** – 29 answered roll
 - Altoona, Ashville, Beaverdale, Bellwood-Excelsior, City of Johnstown, Colver, Conemaugh Independence, Cover Hill, Dale, East Taylor, Ferndale, Gallitzin, Glendale-Coalport, Hastings, Hope, Irvona, Keystone Regional, Logan Twp – United, Nanty Glo, Newburg, Nicktown, Patton, Portage, Reade Twp., Richland Twp., Spangler, St. Michael, Summerhill Borough, Westover

- **Old and Unfinished Business** –
 - Some departments still owe for Fire School and Essentials:
 - Alexandra - \$210 - Essentials
 - Black Lick - \$125 - Essentials - \$480 Fire School
 - Gallitzin - \$105 - Essentials - \$1800 - Fire School
 - Revloc - \$315 - Essentials - \$310 - Fire School
 - Richland - \$150 - Essentials
 - Scalp Level - \$270 - Essentials
 - Spangler - \$210 - Essentials - \$230 - Fire School
 - West Hills - \$665 - Essentials - \$540 - Fire School
 - Westover - \$105 - Essentials
 - Hope - \$1090 - Fire School.
 - Question raised on Departments earning contest point for working Chernisky Races. President Petrisko noted that the they are still working on that.

- **New Business** –
 - Motion by Jim McCann to allow Association to pursue ETA with State Fire Academy. Sec't to send letter to PSFA to initiate process.
 - 2nd – Nick Wuckovich
 - Question called
 - Vote passed
 - Burn Hoods replacement – existing are badly deformed. Bids:
 - DiStefano Welding - \$3,856
 - FWF - \$4,267
 - Al Mack - \$5,100
 - Motion to replace – Joe Adams
 - 2nd = Mark Coleman
 - Question called
 - Vote passed

- **Good of the Association –**
 - Essential schedules out
 - 2026 meeting schedules available
- Standing rise for host Ashville called for by President Petrisko
- Next Meeting – Spangler – December 11, 2025.
- **50/50:** \$100.00

- **Adjournment –**
 - **Motion:** Mark Coleman
 - **2nd:** Mike Blanchetti
 - **Vote:** Passed
 - **Time:** 20:21 hours

Respectfully submitted,

William K Lehmann, Secretary