

GENERAL MEETING

Location: Butler County
Butler County Public Safety Training Center
107 College Dr.
Butler, PA 16002
Date: September 21, 2025

Meeting called to order at 1:00 by President, Bill Spaeth

Appointment of Sgt. At Arms – Eugene Bartlett

Introduction of County Officers: by Eugene Bartlett

Invocation & Pledge to Flag: Chaplain Charles Hull

Response by PA Fire Police: by President Bill Spaeth

Roll Call of Officers and Counties by Recording Secretary Cindy Tutoli

Reading of minutes of previous meeting by Cindy Tutoli. Motion to accept by Eugene Bartlett.
Seconded by David Graham.

Bud Yohe of York County advised that the date of Fire Academy training should be changed to July 2026 instead of this September.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Bill Spaeth: There's a newsletter posted to the website. Let him know of any changes or additions to the website anyone would like to see.

Bill attended an instructor's meeting a few weeks ago. He is trying to work with fire commissioners to get things done. Brian Fenerty of Cumberland County is available for any help on training.

Jim Hoerner: There are sheets on the front table showing committees along with their descriptions. Let him know if you are interested on being part of the committee. This would be for his term as President. Hope to get things done in the next few years.

Brian Fenerty recommended posting the lists to the website for additional participation.

Secretary: N/A

Treasurer: Mike Wassuta read the financial reports. Approved by Dave Lightman, Erie County.
Seconded by Harry Bicking. Bucks County.

Brian Fenerty asked if there was an update on 504(3C) (noting minutes was showing it as 501(3C))
Mike advised it had previously been sent to IRS by the accountant but has heard nothing back yet. Per accountant, it is not uncommon for it to take months.

Brian asked if this was the same people approached for forensic audit and why forensic audit when he said account review. Bill said this should be discussed under old business.

Chuck Hull: Said no deaths since last meeting but he was just handed notification of a new death: Lester L. Bankert from York County who died on 9/10/2025.

Discussion from Butler County pertaining to death of Herbert Hitchens. Wife, Marysue Hitchens said she sent in death information but was advised that death certificate with embossed seal was required. She sent to Jack Urling but still did not have the raised seal. They were told no longer necessary.

Bud Yohe said methodology for deaths needs to be fixed.

(Mike went to have private conversation with Mary Sue so meeting could continue.)

Jim Hoerner: Attended FASP convention / conference. ACADIS now has 32,000 fire fighters registered. They do not separate Fire Fighter from Fire Police from EMS meaning member needs to check off which one.

COMMITTEES:

Convention & Bi-Monthly: Nelson received contact information and made connection for meeting but said he should have double checked on sound system.

Bylaws: Jack Urling did first reading of by-law change concerning change in death benefit which is changing to two times annual dues instead of a dollar amount that is current showing.

Publicity: N/A

Insurance: Per Mike, there will be another mailing from American Life next month. If you mail in the card, you will get a call from American Life. If they contact you and you say no and they

continue to contact you and you consider it "harassing" let Mike know who / when / time/ etc. so he can contact American Life.

Brian Fenerty asked for clarification on different insurance policies which Mike provided. Bill asked Mike to put something in writing so that it can be posted to website.

Membership Committee: Per Nelson, try to get more / younger members as we are not getting any younger.

Registration: Per Roy Burton, 15 Counties; 51 Members; 3 guests

Training: Rob spoke about money from Fireman's Relief Association. They have money that can be used to get equipment. Bill said to check the Attorney General Relief Association website for everything you can get from the Relief Association.

Brian: Willing to go anywhere in the State. Someone from West of Pittsburgh to come for his personal training in Cumberland County. He runs 2 basic / 2 advanced courses and some others. He is willing to go out anywhere in the state to sit down on a weekend to discuss what can be done for them.

Finance: Mike said new 2026 membership books were handed out today.

Bill went thru the website.

Store Report: Brigitte Mountz provided:

As of 7/20/25- 9/20/25 there were 9 on-line sales for \$324.76; \$669.70 in the checking account and \$75.00 cash on hand.

She said to let her know if anyone is interested in anything else not showing on the website

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Brian Fennerty re-opened the discussion about the forensic audit. Although subsequent internal audit was performed, he still wants an outside audit. Mike will ask the accountant. Bill said he asked his accountant who would not touch it.

Brigitte said she has an accountants' degree and extensive background. Read the audit report performed on 6/23/25.

Recommended getting Office 365 that can go on 5 computers. They are using 3 of them but we can buy one of them for use on the office computer.

Also recommended that a company credit card should be used instead of personal and then reimbursed. Mike mentioned that he's reimbursed Bill for expenses he used on his personal credit card.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rob Hill: Discussed grants. Up to three (3) \$1,000 grants for county association for members of their organization. We need to see what the equipment is and get invoices first. Full grant needs to be paid out. If it turns out that grant was not used for what they requested, they must return funds.

Grant application will be opened 11/1/2025 through 3/31/2026 and will be awarded at the May convention after decision by the executive board.

Van Baker of York County made motion at the July meeting but not seconded then so re-motion made by Van and seconded by Dottie Shatto of York County to cancel or change the date of our next meeting to accommodate the PA Fire Academy training.

Vote was taken: 12 delegates voted yeah to change our date. 15 delegates voted nay, therefore, no change to our date for our July 2026 meeting.

ELECTIONS:

Bill explained that no Zoom voting is allowed due to privacy issues. Brian said that per the by-laws "ballots to be destroyed" so couldn't be via Zoom as those could not be destroyed.

As we did not receive bio from Van Baker to put on the website, all nominees provided verbal bios at the meeting.

Nominations:

1st VP: Kevin Burton (Warren County)
Rob Hill (Carbon County)

2nd VP: Eugene Bartlett (Butler County)
Van Baker (Cumberland County)

Two original nominations; Alton Chase Jr. (2nd VP) and Wendy Davis (Secretary) withdrew.

Bill Spaeth appointed Jack Urling as Judge and Chuck Hull and Mike Wassuta as tellers.

VOTING RESULTS:

1ST VP: Kevin Burton

2nd VP: Eugene Bartlett

Motion to destroy ballots by Dave Graham and Harold Boyer of Butler County

Oaths of office will be held at next meeting

GOOD OF ASSOCIATION:

Motion made by Brian Fenerty that secretary minutes be sent to all delegates 1 – 2 weeks after meeting and Treasurer's report to be sent out one week prior to meeting. Seconded by Van Baker.

Mike said that might not be possible depending when bank statement is available. Cindy said that more members do not provide an email address. Jack Urling modified the motion to minutes being sent to delegates who provided email addresses and to have hard copies available at meeting. Seconded by Van Baker.

Jim made motion for office to get new computer, keyboard, printer and program. Approving up to \$1,500. Brian upped to \$2,000. Seconded by Kevin.

Jim provided Activity report for June thru August

Next meeting November 16, 2025 – Montgomery County

Jim thanked Butler County for the food and hosting the meeting.

Moment of silence and Benediction by Chaplain Charles Hull.

Motion to adjourn by Nelson Brenneman seconded by Chuck Hull.

Respectfully submitted

Cindy Tutoli

Recording Secretary