

GOOD WILL  
PUBLIC RELATION  
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION  
EDUCATION  
FRATERNAL

## Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes

**Date:** June 19, 2019

**Location:** Boy Scouts of America, Evendale

The meeting was called to order at 09:05 with Chief Leininger presiding.

**Pledge/Invocation:** Chief Leininger

### Roll-Call of Officers

President Rob Leininger - Present  
Vice President Kevin Hardwick - Absent  
Treasurer Todd Owens - Present  
Secretary Denny Meador - Present  
Chief Doug Campbell - Absent  
Chief Mike Hauck - Absent  
Chief Alfie Jones - Present  
Chief Roy Winston - Absent  
Chief Rob Hursong - Present

### New Chiefs

Chief Steve Ashbrock announced that Stephen Oughterson will succeed him as chief of the Madeira-Indian Hill Fire District on July 1, 2019. Chief Ashbrock will invite Chief Oughterson to the August general membership meeting.

### Associate Members

#### Pete Bohrofen

Pete Bohrofen reported the current top three performing funds in Deferred Comp are:

1. Dodge & Cox
2. Vanguard Capital Opportunity
3. Fidelity Contra Fund

There will be a new option in the pension fund for retirees to use their insurance stipend in a “COBRA fashion” for up to 18 months to provide for continuity of care during insurance provider changes. For additional information, please follow the link provided: <https://www.op-f.org/Information/ViewNews.aspx?Id=7134>.

#### 1-800-BoardUp

Tom Camp thanked the association for allowing 1-800-BoardUp to attend.

#### GCHMU

Brooke Matzen provided a written report on GCHMU and Command 400 activities for the month of April, May and June 2019. The report is attached to these minutes.

#### Great Oaks

Flyers for upcoming classes were distributed to the membership and are attached to these minutes.

Jim Whitworth thanked the members of the HCFCGA for their support over the years of the Great Oaks programs. He has enjoyed his time as program director, but is looking forward to retirement. On behalf of the HCFCGA, Chief Leininger wished Jim well on his future endeavors and thanked him for his years of service.

#### University of Cincinnati Medical Center

Regina Menninger reported that Jess Chaille will be the new EMS coordinator at UCMC.

#### TriHealth

Kay Vonderschmidt reported that she will be looking for volunteers to participate in an upcoming DuoDote research project. She will provide details to the association as they become available.

#### University of Cincinnati

Larry Bennett distributed a flyer announcing an increase to the Bennett Family Scholarship Fund from one (1) \$1,000 scholarship to five (5) \$1,000 scholarships for 2019. The flyer is attached to these minutes.

There will be a one (1) credit course for drone operators offered in November 2019. Details on the class will follow.

#### Mobilcomm

Terry Connaughton thanked the association for allowing Mobilcomm to attend.

#### Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

No report

#### Hamilton County Public Health

No report

#### Health Collaborative

No report

#### EMA

FEMA mitigation funding will now work under a new model named Building Resilient

Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC). It will focus on reducing the nation's risk by funding public infrastructure projects that increase a community's resilience before a disaster affects an area. This should increase the available funding levels from the millions to billions of dollars. There are currently over 400 proposed mitigation programs in Hamilton County alone. The deadline for the current round of funding is July 10, 2019.

Please contact EMA if you would like a representative to attend any of your public safety or community-wide events. They will provide personnel and informational materials on disaster preparedness and early warning systems such as HC Alert.

### LEPC

Doug Witskind distributed a flyer for the Rail Safety & Hazmat Emergency Response Training in July. The flyer is attached to these minutes.

The annual chemical reporting will be delivered to local jurisdictions in the coming weeks. This report will include the Tier II reporting and a worst case scenario report for each facility in your jurisdiction that is required to report.

### **Agenda Change**

Due to an ISO meeting in Reading, Chief Owens requested he be permitted to make several reports at once so he could attend the ISO review.

### Treasurer

Chief Owens presented the financial report to the membership, and a copy is attached to these minutes. Motion to accept the report by Chief Paul Wright, second by Chief Ashbrock. Motion carried.

Bound Tree has joined the association as an associate member and paid their dues.

### PHCOC

UCMC is in the process of developing a mobile stroke unit, which will be the third mobile stroke unit in Ohio. Essentially, the unit will be a CAT scanner on wheels that can go to the patient and begin diagnosing and treating the patient while being transported to a stroke center. The current mobile stroke units are operating in Columbus and Toledo.

### HCFIU

The fire investigation unit has been extremely busy over the last few months, averaging one (1) call each week. In May they investigated four (4) fires, two (2) of which were classified as incendiary. Chief Owens reminded the membership that if you think you will need HCFIU, please request them as early in the incident as possible in order to give the team the time to assemble.

The team looked into using the old UASI masks for respiratory protection during investigations. Unfortunately, the cost of replacing the expired canisters is cost-prohibitive. They are actively evaluating other types of masks to issue their members.

The most recent HCFIU meeting was held on May 14 at Little Miami Station 47. The minutes were provided to Chief Leininger, and will be distributed as an attachment with these minutes.

## **Officer Reports**

### President

Chief Leininger reported on the discussions the executive board held at their meeting on June 12. Please refer to the minutes of the June 12 meeting for details.

### Vice President

No report

### Secretary

Chief Meador reported that the June executive board meeting minutes would be emailed to the membership by Friday June 21.

The minutes for the May general membership meeting were emailed to the membership and provided at the June meeting. Chief Hursong moved to accept the May minutes. Second by Assistant Chief Jerry Cooper. Motion carried.

## **Committee Reports**

### Peer Support

Ed Von Lehmden reported that the Peer Support Team is organizing their board and hope to have all the positions filled by the August HCFCA meeting. The HCFCA will have two (2) representatives on the board. Chief Hursong has expressed interest in filling one position, leaving one additional spot open for our association. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Ed.

The team is continuing to work with regional partners as they develop programs and services for our employees. The Health Collaborative has expressed interest in supporting the support team, and their participation could open the door to grants for training and services.

The IAFF peer class scheduled for September is full. An additional class is being organized for December 2019. Please contact Ed for details and registration.

### Cardiac Health

Chief Meador reported that to date only one person has contacted David Stark (Evendale FD) expressing interest in serving on the Cardiac Health Subcommittee. Membership on the subcommittee is open to any fire department employee that is interested in creating programs to improve the cardiac health of our employees. David's information will be redistributed with the minutes for those interested.

### HCCC and Communications Committee

HCCC Director Knapp reported that there was not a Communications Committee meeting in June.

The MDC software purchase for the HCCC was approved by the prosecutor's office in early June. Funding for the project, which cost approximately \$400,000, has already been approved by the commissioners. Director Knapp reported that the go-live date for the new system will be February 2020. Fire departments will be responsible for the costs of hardware for their vehicles as well as any subscriptions to data service that may be required. Information on the types of computers or tablets that are compatible with the software will be forthcoming as the project moves forward.

The HCCC Board of Advisors will recommend that a freeze be placed on the current user fees for 2020. Chief Leininger stated that with the retirement of Chief Ashbrock, we will need to find a replacement for him on the Board of Advisors. Chief Ashbrock has agreed to represent the HCFCA on the board as the association looks for a suitable replacement.

Representative Lou Blessing is in support of making changes to ORC 128 to improve the 911 funding model. Currently, Ohio collects \$0.25 on cellular phones while our neighboring states collect up to \$1.00 on all mobile devices (phones, tablets). However, there does not appear to be much political will in Columbus to raise the rate to \$1.00. Current discussion is calling for an increase to \$0.35 to be applied to all mobile devices, not just cellular phones.

Hamilton County has hired Holly Christmann as the new assistant administrator. Director Knapp and Chief Leininger will both arrange to meet with her to discuss funding challenges for emergency services communications.

### Mayday Policy

Chief Leininger reported that Assistant Chief Paul Gallo is chairing the Mayday Committee. The committee is finishing a draft policy to be presented to the membership at the August meeting.

### SWOFCA

Chief Wright reminded the membership that the next SWOFCA meeting will be held in Columbus in conjunction with the Ohio Fire & Rescue Officer Development Conference being held from July 11 through July 15.

### CFD

No report

### USAR

Assistant Chief Tom Lakamp provided a report to Chief Leininger via email. The report is

attached to these minutes.

**Open Discussion**

Chief Ashbrock thanked the team members of Command 400 for their assistance with locating a missing resident in his jurisdiction in May.

Chief Frank Cook reported that the UASI decontamination unit housed at Station 109 has been transferred to Campbell County (KY) EMA.

Chief Leininger reminded the membership that there will be no meetings in July for the association. The next general membership meeting will be held on August 21.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10.

**Next Meeting August 21, 2019**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary