

GOOD WILL  
PUBLIC RELATION  
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION  
EDUCATION  
FRATERNAL

## **Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** May 15, 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 - Present  
Treasurer Todd Owens - Present  
Secretary Denny Meador - Present  
Chief Doug Campbell - Present  
Chief Mike Hauck - Present  
Chief Alfie Jones - Present  
Chief Roy Winston - Present  
Chief Rob Hursong - Present

### **Associate Members**

#### California Casualty

Sharlie Trentman touched on the insurance services provided by California Casualty for members of the police and fire community, information on a \$7,500 garage makeover being sponsored by California Casualty (see the flyer attached to these minutes), and reminded everyone of the administrative assistant appreciation lunch through the SWOFCA. She also has posters detailing the best practices for cancer prevention. If you are interested in any for your station please contact her.

#### (859) Board Up

Leah Hanlon

### Dry Patrol

Hali Abner provided a flyer with details on the cancer awareness program being presented this year at the 2019 Ohio Fire and Rescue Officer Development Conference. Dry Patrol also sponsors other fire training across the region. Contact Hali if you are interested in any of their programs.

### 1-800-Board-Up

Tom Camp

### Mobilcomm

Terry Connaughton

### Pete Bohrofen

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

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

In looking at the economy, the markets are going to continue to fluctuate due to trade issues with China and the upcoming presidential election cycle. At this time, signs point to flat to moderate increases in the markets.

### **Guests**

#### Ohio's SafeRx Collaborative

Tessa Miracle demonstrated the Detera Bag, which is used to inactivate medications to promote safe disposal of drugs and prevent unused prescriptions from being abused. The collaborative not only working to safely dispose of unused prescriptions, they are working with physicians in Ohio to reduce the number of medications prescribed, particularly addictive drugs such as opiates. This multi-pronged approach is designed to reduce opiate deaths in our state.

There are over 60,000 drug deactivation bags available throughout Ohio, and individual departments can apply for a supply that can be distributed to residents. Chief Jones asked if we could apply for the bags as the HCFCA. He is willing to store and distribute the bags to county departments. Tessa said we could apply as an organization, and will be happy to work with Chief Jones to secure a supply.

A flyer provided at the meeting is attached to these minutes.

#### First Responder Task Force

Nathan Wells and Robert Sherman made a presentation on behalf of the First Responders Task Force, which is part of the Armed Forces Benefits Association. Their organization originally offered life insurance to members of the military, and have since expanded their coverage to fire, police, and EMS personnel when they saw life

insurance benefits reduced or denied to the first responders that died during the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

As part of their program, AFBA offers a \$5,000 policy as a “thank you” to all current fire and EMS personnel on a renewable yearly basis. If you employee is interested in additional coverage, they may choose packages offered by AFBA. Information cards were provided to interested chiefs at the meeting to arranger for a follow-up presentation. If you are still interested, please go to the First Responders Task Force web page for contact information.

### **Regional Collaboration (Partners, Task Forces, Teams)**

#### GCHMU

No report. Command 400 was operating at a critical-missing incident in Indian Hill at the time of the meeting.

#### Education

- University of Cincinnati
  - Regina Menninger wished everyone a Happy EMS Week.
- Cincinnati State
  - Bob Cutajar reported that CSU would be applying for additional PUCO grant money during the next cycle. If your department was unable to receive training due to the funds running out, please contact his so your department can be moved to the top of the list for the next grant cycle. A flyer for 2019-2020 open enrollment courses was provided and is attached to these minutes.

#### EMA

Morgan Peterson reported the mitigation steering committee will be meeting on May 23 from 09:30-11:00 at the American Red Cross.

The Partners in Preparedness Meeting and Training will take place on September 23 from 09:00-12:00, and participants can choose the workshop most beneficial to their needs: Crisis Communication & the Role of Local Leaders; Local Emergency Operations Plan Development; Alerts & Warnings Available in Hamilton County; or Local Exercise Planning. Details are in a flyer attached to these minutes.

If you would like to have EMA outreach materials or personnel at your community events this summer, please contact Emily Johnson to make arrangements.

Matt Moynihan provided information on upcoming EMS courses for the remainder of 2019. The flyer is attached to these minutes.

#### Hospital Collaborative

Amber Antoni reported that the HCFA was awarded a grant to supply each front-line

engine in Hamilton County with an MCI bag and triage tags.

The Cincinnati Reds will be honoring Stop the Bleed instructors at their game on May 27. If you have an instructor on staff that would be interested, please have them contact Amber for details.

The MCI drill scheduled for September is still looking for commitments to provide EMS transport units.

## **Officer Reports**

### President

Chief Leininger referred membership to his report in the May 8, 2019 executive board minutes which will be emailed to the membership.

### Vice President

Chief Hardwick reported the next F.A.C.E. Team meeting will be held on May 29 in Franklin, Ohio. One of the main topics of discussion will be tracking employee exposure to carcinogens. He also reminded membership to take advantage of the cancer education track at the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Conference in July.

### 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 Hauck, second by Chief Hursong. Motion carried.

### Secretary

Chief Meador he was delayed in getting the executive board minutes finished due to the amount of information presented at the meeting. They will be sent to membership as soon as possible. Chief Leininger is completing the minutes from the April meeting and they will be emailed to the membership upon completion.

## **Committee Reports**

### Peer Support

Ed Von Lehmden presented policy and procedure document for the creation and management of the Peer Support Team. He is requesting that the team fall under the umbrella of the HCFCFA much like USAR and HCFIU, which will allow them more access to grant funding to continue bringing mental health programs to our employees. This document was adopted by the executive board at the meeting on May 8 and emailed to the membership prior to the general meeting. Motion to adopt was made by Chief Hursong, second by Chief Owens. Motion to adopt passed.

If you have an employee interested in joining the Peer Support Team, they will need to fill out an application to begin the process. Please contact Ed Von Lehmden or Josh

Asbach (Ewendale FD) for a copy of the application.

The video of the Dr. Chard presentation will be available on a YouTube channel. The link will be emailed to the membership once it is posted.

The Peer Support Team reported receiving numerous emergency referrals for counseling and support services. This number is higher than anticipated, but with the program being new there has most likely been an early surge in service requests. They expect this number will decrease over time as they catch up to the service needs of the employees.

#### Communications Committee

Chief Scott Souders reported that the initial feedback on the Locution system has been positive. At the last committee meeting on May 14, they agreed to repeat pertinent portions of the Locution dispatch to ensure crews are receiving the information they need for response. This information would include such items as the address and assigned fireground channel. Their request was sent to Locution and we should start hearing the new dispatch format within a week.

The committee is also working to fine tune some of the “vague dispatches” we receive. For example, one dispatch signal is for a nonbreather/cardiac arrest. The committee believes it is important that the initial dispatch should be more detailed, such as the age of the patient for this type of incident so the responding crew has better situational awareness during their response.

When you receive a verbal update from dispatch, please acknowledge over the radio that you have received the transmission.

There was general discussion among the membership about the procedure for the IC to contact dispatch and the dispatch to contact the IC. Monitoring the fireground and primary dispatch channel can be difficult depending on the situation. The membership agreed that the procedure should be that the initiator of the radio transmission should use the radio channel the receiver will most likely be monitoring. For example, if dispatch needs to call the IC, the dispatcher should go to the assigned fireground channel to make contact. If it is the IC that needs to contact dispatch, the IC should go to the primary channel to initiate the transmission. The Communications Committee and HCCC will work on implementing this system.

Director Andy Knapp reported that HCCC has switched to First Net (AT&T) for mobile communications and data. They have not found any drawbacks after the switch, but Director Knapp reiterated that this may not be the best decision for all departments. He recommends that departments continue to use a mobile provider that meets their operational needs.

#### Safety & Health

Chief Meador reported that the committee met on May 9 to begin formulating a program to improve the cardiac health of our employees. This project will be challenging, because it requires self-motivation from the employees to improve their physical fitness and diet. However, like the cancer and mental health projects, we believe that by involving the line firefighters in the planning and direction of the program we will get more buy-in from our employees to put a greater emphasis on physical health.

Dave Stark from the Evendale Fire Department has agreed to chair the cardiac health subcommittee. If you have someone on staff that is passionate about physical health and would like to be a member of the subcommittee, please have them contact Dave. This subcommittee is open to all levels of staffing, from firefighter to chief.

Dave Stark's contact information and his bio are attached to these minutes.

#### SWOFCA

Retired Chief Mark Ober is stepping down as our liaison to the Southwest Chiefs. Chief Paul Wright will represent us with the SWOFCA.

#### CFD

Chief Wright reported that they are working on the new contract and budgets for the fire department.

They have published a 5-year strategic plan to guide future department development. One initiative to come out of the strategic plan is the formation of an EMS bike patrol to be utilized at large public events such as the Taste of Cincinnati and Riverfest. The bike patrol will allow quicker response to medical issues that occur during these large events where it is difficult to get fire or EMS apparatus to a patient.

#### PHCOC

Chief Owens reported that the Protocol Committee is discussing adding Tylenol to the pain management protocol, adding Zofran to the pediatric protocol, and updating the needle decompression protocol to address the length of the needle used. The next committee meeting will be held on June 21 at 09:00 at Blue Ash Station 13.

#### HCFIU

Chief Owens reported there have been seven (7) callouts since the end of March. The unit is continuing to work on their SOGs for decontamination at an investigation scene and as well as respiratory protection.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47.

**Next Meeting June 19, 2019**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary