

GOOD WILL
PUBLIC RELATION
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STANDARDIZATION
EDUCATION
FRATERNAL

Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes

Date: October 16, 2019

Location: Boy Scouts of America, Evendale

The meeting was called to order at 09:10 with Chief Leininger presiding.

Pledge/Invocation: Chief Leininger asked for a moment of reflection on the recent passing of CFD Captain Ronald Wilson.

Roll-Call of Officers

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

Associate Members

1-800-BoardUp

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

Bound Tree Medical

Rob Meister introduced himself as an account manager for Bound Tree Medical, and stated appreciates the opportunity to attend. Please contact him for your medical supply needs.

(859) BOARD UP

(859) BOARD UP will be hosting a Bengals tailgate party on October 20.

Pete Bohrofen

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

1. Dodge & Cox
2. Vanguard Small Cap
3. Fidelity Contra Fund

Pete also reported that based upon his analysis of market factors, it does not look like the country is headed in to a recession prior to the 2020 elections. The Federal Reserve is continuing to hold interest rates down, and the employment numbers are continuing at their high levels. He also recommended that with interest rates still low, there is an opportunity to shop around for better rates for home and auto loans.

Cindy Abrams

Chief Hursong introduced Cindy Abrams as the new representative for the 29th Ohio House district which represents a large portion of western Hamilton County. Representative Abrams has been involved in public safety as well as local government, and supports the mission of public safety in the region. She will be on the following committees: PUCO; Long Term Care and Aging; Education; and Labor and Commerce. If you have any questions or concerns, even if you don't live in her district, please feel free to reach out at the number and email she provided to the membership, which are attached to these minutes.

Africa Fire Mission

Chief Leininger introduced David Moore of the Africa Fire Mission. Dave reported that Africa Fire Mission provides fire departments across Africa with equipment and training to keep their firefighters safe and to help protect the communities they serve. In addition to equipping them with firefighting tools and training, they also assist in developing fire prevention and community fire response strategies.

Africa Fire Mission has completed missions to Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi and Zambia. They have also expanded the program into Europe, with one mission completed in Ukraine, with another mission planned there in 2020. An informational postcard was distributed to the membership and is attached to these minutes.

Africa Fire Mission can accept used turnout gear and hand tools for use in their missions. Even though the PPE may not meet current US standards, it is critical to the firefighters in these nations where the only other option may be street clothes. Unfortunately, SCBAs are not currently being accepted due to the lack of available compressors that can refill the bottles.

If your department would like to donate equipment, or your personnel are interested in joining a mission to support training and fire safety education, please contact Dave Moore at the email provided on the attached post card.

Regional Collaboration Partners

HCCC

Director Andy Knapp reported that the county commissioners voted 3-0 to add a 0.25% sales tax in April 2020 when the Union Terminal sales tax rolls off. As long as the tax stays in place, the commissioners plan on reducing the dispatch rate to \$10 in 2020 and \$5 in 2021. For those that were at the communications funding meeting at Colerain in 2017, this is the plan outlined by Commissioner Todd Portune. Director Knapp has seen some opposition to the tax on Twitter, but as of this meeting there is not an organized effort to oppose the tax.

EMA

EMA Director Nick Crossley spoke on the importance of this sales tax for EMA. In addition to the benefits to be gained by the HCCC and local governments with reduced dispatch fees, the funds collected will also allow EMA to continue its mission of community preparedness as well as its support of USAR, GCHMU, siren maintenance and emergency notification systems.

There will be a training exercise workshop on October 28. Exercises for 2020 are currently in the planning stages.

The accreditation process is moving forward, with the final review of EMA occurring in August 2020.

GCHMU

Brooke Matzen reported that the Decon IQ training will take place on November 11 from 08:00 to 17:00 at IAFF Local 48. Advanced Hazmat IQ will take place on December 10 from 08:00-17:00 at Harrison Fire Department.

Command 400 is currently out of service due to a part that controls the slide outs on the unit. They are expecting to receive and install the part in the next two to three weeks. In the meantime, Command 31 out of the City of Fairfield is being utilized as a backup unit using “go kits” with equipment from Command 400. Team members trained on the unit this past week and are ready to respond if called.

HCCC CAD Outage

Director Knapp reported that the CAD issue was the result of a “high power electrical event” coupled with a failure of the battery backup system to notify system administrators of a loss of power in the backup system. The issue caused catastrophic damage to the virtual server, and also prevented personnel from making a notification to user on the alpha paging system and Active911 system. HCCC will be working with system engineers to determine the cause of the electrical event, determine methods of preventing such an event, and creating a process to notify users of HCCC when alpha paging and Active911 are inoperable.

Cincinnati State

Bob Cutajar provided a flyer detailing upcoming PUCO-funded classes. The flyer is attached to these minutes.

Officer Reports

President

Chief Leininger referred members to the meeting minutes of the October 9 Executive Board for his report.

Chief Leininger appointed the following to the 2019 Election Committee: Chiefs Paul Gallo, Terry Timmers, and Tom Camp.

Vice President

Chief Hardwick reported the MCI after action report should be completed in November. The next full-scale exercise will be scheduled for 2022.

The EOC contact list is being updated. If your department has new members interested in staffing the EOC, or you need to update contact information, please send the changes to Chief Hardwick.

The FACE Team will not meet in October.

Legislative work is continuing on the issues associated with PFAS and PFOS in firefighting foam. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Chief Hardwick.

Treasurer

Chie Owens presented the October financial statement, which is attached to these minutes. Motion to accept the report made by Chief Hursong, second by Chief Hauck. Motion carried.

PHCOG

Chief Owens reported that those scheduled for site visits have been notified. Please contact him if you have any questions about the process.

HCFIU

Chief Owens reported three call outs in September.

Secretary

Chief Meador reported that the September general membership minutes and October Executive Board meeting minutes were emailed to the membership.

Motion to accept the minutes made by Chief Owens, second by Chief Steve Lawson. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Mayday Policy

Chief Paul Gallo reported that the committee had received several comments and suggestions to the draft presented last month. An update document was emailed to the membership prior to today's meeting, but there may not have been adequate time for departments to review with their staffs. Chief Hauck moved to table approval of the policy until the November meeting. Second by Chief Timmers. The membership approved the motion with the direction to submit any concerns to the Mayday Committee by November 1.

There was continued discussion concerning how the emergency button works on the radio system, and how the button works if you are working in a bordering county and are using on of their fireground channels. Reached by phone, Scott Brown reported that the radios operate in the following manner if they were programmed by Mobilcomm:

- When using a fireground from HCCC, if the emergency button is activated the radio will revert to the HCCC primary channel, and the radio will be given transmission priority over all other radios on the system.
- If multiple emergency buttons are activated, each radio will revert to the HCCC primary channel, and all of the radios in emergency mode will receive transmission priority. If two or more of these radios attempt to transmit, the system will take them in the order that the user tries to transmit, then the system will accept the subsequent transmission

- from next radio attempting to transmit. A radio in emergency mode will not be kicked off of the primary channel.
- If the radio is utilizing a surrounding communications system, the emergency button will behave in the manner programmed into that systems radio system. Activation of the emergency button will not revert the radio to HCCC primary.

Chief Scott Souders recommended that all departments update their radio aliases with HCCC to more quickly identify the owner of a radio with an emergency activation.

Communications Committee

Chief Souders reported that HCCC and the committee reviewed the "General Response" dispatch code. At this time, the "General Response" code will remain in order to limit the amount of dispatch codes in the system. However, additional dispatch information that will clarify any dispatch can be added to the alpha pager, text message, and Active911 dispatches by contacting Shawn Cruze at HCCC.

Director Knapp reported that there is continuous progress on the new MDC system. A portion of the mobile client software has been installed and is being tested. There is also ongoing testing with an app called "Field Ops", which is essentially a CAD "lite" product. It will not have the full functionality of the CAD, but it does access basic information and can be used for status changes. If you are interested in testing the product, there a limited number of licenses currently available. Contact Director Knapp for details.

Net Motion will be installed on the CAD on November 17. This system is integral to the Locution station alerting system.

The new MDC system is still on track for a start date of February 2020.

Mobilcomm

Terry Connaughton reported that the manufactures recommend field units install a hardened modem in their vehicles to ensure reliable connection to the MDC and CAD. The two products commonly used are Cradlepoint and Sierra Wireless. Through their experience, the technicians at Mobilcomm suggest considering the Cradlepoint for ease of installation and use. Currently, the MSRP for Cradlepoint is \$1,500 per unit. Each modem is considered "carrier agnostic" and will work with most cell provider networks. A flyer was provided to the membership with Cradlepoint information, and is attached to these minutes.

Chief Hauck asked if computers or tablets utilizing a hot spot or air card will work on the new system. Director Knapp stated that they will work, but his experience in Loveland was that the connection was not as reliable as a vehicle-mounted modem. Areas that have good cell tower coverage may find that air cards and hot spots provide sufficient data transfer as opposed to outlying areas of the county.

USAR

Chief Lakamp's report is attached to these minutes.

Peer Support

Ed Von Lehmden reported continued progress in peer support and mental health care. He

anticipates the team will be fully functional in January 2020.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05.

Next Meeting November 20, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary