

GOOD WILL
PUBLIC RELATION
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION
EDUCATION
FRATERNAL

Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes

Date: November 20, 2019

Location: Boy Scouts of America, Evendale

The meeting was called to order at 09:08 with Chief Hardwick presiding.

Pledge/Invocation

Roll-Call of Officers

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

Associate Members

(859) BOARD UP

Leah Hanlon thanked the membership for welcoming her to the meeting. She reminded the membership that (859) BOARD UP offers displacement services in addition to their board up services.

1-800-BoardUp

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

Bound Tree Medical

Rob Meister thanked the membership for allowing him to attend. Please contact him for your medical supply needs.

Servpro and Bryant Hartke Construction

Steve Hurles (Servpro) and Bob Luchsinger (Bryant Hartke) presented information on their company services and how it may benefit members of the HCFA. Services include restoration services to damage caused by fire, water, and mold. They provided a flyer detailing their histories and services to the membership. A copy of the flyer and their business contact information is attached to these minutes.

Pete Bohrofen

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

1. Dodge & Cox
2. Vanguard Capital Opportunity
3. Vanguard Small Cap

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.

HCCC MDC Update

HCCC Director Andy Knapp presented the following information relating to the ongoing MDC update:

- Net Motion is being installed. 95% of public safety agencies use this product.
- Field Ops is a “lite” version of the MDC interface designed by Central Square. It can run on tablets or phones, but is not very robust and will not have the same features as the full MDC program. Since it is not a primary product for Central Square, they will not make HCCC-specific changes for field users.
- HCCC is working on a spec sheet for department purchasing of MDCs. It will require Windows 10 Professional to run.
- There is currently testing ongoing with the CAD and a limited number of MDC terminals to identify potential areas of improvement as the system is developed.
- Director Knapp is looking into the possibility of leveraging the purchasing power of Hamilton County to help get price breaks for departments as they purchase the new MDC hardware. This leveraging of large purchases of equipment for over 300 units would also promote standardization of the equipment being installed in the field.
- The old data radio system will need to be offline by June 2020, and as departments switch over to the new system they must switch over their entire department. The system will not allow units from a single department to operate on the old and new systems.
- Director Knapp, based on his experience in Loveland, recommends departments install a hardened modem and external antenna in each MDC-equipped vehicle for reliable performance. MDCs utilizing internal air cards will connect to the system as well, but connection may not be as reliable based on geography and cell tower coverage.
- Modems will need continuous connection to the CAD to receive runs. In-house Wi-Fi systems that can connect to the MDC will help departments get the MDC off of the cellular network and save on data costs. HCCC will work with individual IT departments, but they are not able to individually tailor 47 plans for each jurisdiction accessing the system.
- Assistant Chief Sherman Smith (CFD) reported on the experience of Cincinnati’s

conversion to the new MDC system. They have opted to use Sierra Wireless and an external antenna as their access to the CAD. They have found that the data packets exchanged for dispatching and status changes are relatively small. Most of their data use comes from AVL pinging. One of their biggest challenges has been installing equipment in existing vehicles in a manner that protects the modem and cabling to the antennas. As they spec new vehicles, they will incorporate pathways for wiring and connection to the electrical system.

- Captain Matt Flagler (CFD) reported that when they started this project 3 years ago they were able to purchase the modem and antenna for approximately \$1,000, and the docking station for the laptop for approximately \$1,300. They are using Panasonic CF-31 laptops in their apparatus. They are utilizing a shared data package from Verizon for 107 modems that are connected to the system.

Verizon and Digital Highway (DH)

Representatives from Verizon and Digital Highway were present to provide information on their products and services that departments may wish to consider as they migrate to the new MDC system. Both companies have been working with manufacturers to get the best rates possible for equipment to pass along to the end user.

Regional Collaboration Partners

GCHMU

Brooke Matzen reported Command 400 was back in service.

University of Cincinnati

UC will offer needle decompression training in February or March of 2020. They plan on doing this in conjunction with the cadaver lab. Regina Menninger will provide information as details become available.

UC Fire Science

Larry Bennett reported there will be an upcoming class on terrorism. Additional information can be found in the UC Fire Science newsletter attached to these minutes.

Cincinnati State

Bob Cutajar provided a flyer detailing upcoming open enrollment classes. The flyer is attached to these minutes.

Scarlet Oaks

Johnny Mason reported that Scarlet Oaks is looking for two people to join their advisory board. Please contact him if interested.

There will be 22 students graduating from the Fire and Rescue Academy on December 17. The spring academy class looks like it will be full.

Scarlet Oaks will be a National Testing Service Network site and can provide written fire service employment testing for those that utilize the service.

Progress is being made in securing funding to build a new burn building and drill tower at the school. The anticipated cost is \$1.8 to \$2 million for the project.

EMA

Morgan Peterson reported that EMA is in the process of updating their emergency ops plans and the EOC list. A flyer listing upcoming training opportunities was presented and is attached to these minutes.

Nominations

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of candidates for the December elections:

- Vice President: Chief Kevin Hardwick (Glendale)
- Treasurer: Chief Todd Owens (Reading)
- Board of Directors (3 positions):
 - Chief Bryan Young (St. Bernard)
 - Chief Alfie Jones (Forest Park)
 - Chief Doug Campbell (Delhi Township)
 - Chief Rob Hursong (Harrison)
 - Chief Paul Wright (Montgomery)
- There were no nominations made from the floor.

Officer Reports

Vice President

Chief Hardwick reported that a US Senator from New Hampshire, along with Senator Rob Portman, is moving a proposal through the senate to fund a study of firefighting PPE to determine potential chemicals or carcinogens that may be found in PPE.

Treasurer

Chief Owens submitted a written financial report in his absence which is attached to these minutes.

Motion to accept the report by Chief Wright, second by Chief Hauck. Motion carried.

Secretary

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

Motion to accept the minutes made by Chief Hauck, second by Chief Timmers. Motion carried.

Mayday Policy

Chief Paul Gallo reported that he did not receive any input that materially changed the Mayday document. Motion to adopt was made by Chief Jones, second by Chief Hursong. Motion carried. The final document will be emailed to the membership.

Peer Support

Ed Von Lehmden reported there have been 64 contacts with employees since the start of 2019. In order to offset the cost of trainings in 2020, Von Lehmden asked if the membership would consider providing up to \$1,500 towards the support teams training. Motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$1,500 was made by Chief Hursong, second by Chief Scott Souders. Motion carried.

USAR

Chief Tom Lakamp emailed the November USAR report to Chief Meador for inclusion in these minutes.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15.

Next Meeting December 18, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary