

GOOD WILL  
PUBLIC RELATION  
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION  
EDUCATION  
FRATERNAL

## **Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 20, 2019

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

The meeting was called to order at 09:04 with Chief Hardwick presiding.

**Pledge/Invocation:** Chief Hardwick

### **Roll-Call of Officers**

President Rob Leininger - Absent  
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 - Absent  
Chief Rob Hursong - Present

### **Associate Members**

#### (859) Board Up

Leah Hanlon provided NCAA brackets for those that wished to participate in their contest, and 10% of the entry fees will go to the Jovante Woods Foundation. They will also be hosting a tournament party on March 21 at Buffalo Wings & Rings in Oakley.

#### 1-800-Board-Up

Tom Camp provided information literature at the tables for membership.

#### Cincinnati State

Lt. Amy Gray (Covington Fire) reported that all PUCO money for 2019 has been spent.

They had received approximately 40% more funds than in 2018, and will request an increase for 2020. She also provide a flyer detailing Open Enrollment Courses for 2019-2020.

### 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 current up, but based upon his experience, presidential elections tend to stall the market. Even though we are two years away from the election, the markets may begin to react to the early campaigning already underway. If you are planning on retiring in the next 18-24 months, be aware of where you are investing your retirement funds.

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

#### HCCC

- Director Knapp reported that the Locution project is not yet in the full testing mode as was anticipated. In early testing, a glitch was discovered in the “common names” field which prevented the Locution system from announcing the common names correctly. Some of the code was rewritten, and it appears to have corrected the problem.
- All station tone testing has been completed.
- March 27 is the target date to begin running Locution in a major test mode.

#### SWOFCA

- Chief Mark Ober reported that they are tracking House Bill 27 which as proposed would remove immunities currently afforded to drivers of emergency vehicles. It was referred to committee in February.
- Increases in MARCS subscriptions are being considered. This will only affect local departments if they are paying to have radios be accessible throughout the state. This will have a greater impact on departments that rely on MARCS for their dispatching backbone.
- The Winter Symposium was very successful. While the chiefs were participating in the event, legislation was being added to legislation to allow for the county sheriff to become the EMA director for a county. Through our lobbying efforts this language was removed, but Chief Ober expects it will reappear in future legislation. The OFCA will continue to monitor the situation and oppose the legislation if it is introduced again.

#### CFD

- Assistant Chief Anson Turley reported that the process of installing Locution for Cincinnati dispatch will occur late in 2019.

- The current recruit class is in its 6<sup>th</sup> week of training, and they are on track to graduate in July.
- The CFD is focusing on using data and analytics to identify efficiencies in operations and staffing which will in turn help with budgeting. The early results look promising.

#### USAR

- No report

#### PHCOC

- Chief Owens reported that the next prehospital care meeting will be on March 28.
- The drug license is now on a 2-year renewal cycle and is done online. The only document you will need to upload during the process is your drug list. If you have any difficulties completing your renewal, please contact Chief Owens.

#### HCFIU

- Chief Owens reported that the unit is continuing to update its policies and procedures, including a decontamination process for investigators.

#### GCHMU

- Brooke Matzen submitted a written activity reports for GCHMU and Command 400, which are attached to these minutes.

#### Duke Energy

- No report

#### EMA, Homeland Security, and LEPC

- Applications for the hazard mitigation grant program are due on March 22.
- Updates for your community's hazard mitigation plan may be made starting next week. An email will be sent with instructions on completing the update. It should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete.
- The Mass Care Summit will take place on March 27.
- Flyers listing upcoming EMA and LEPC courses were distributed, and copies are attached to these minutes.
- Tier II reporting for approximately 600 facilities in Hamilton County is now occurring. Your department should receive reports directly from the facility, but you will also receive a follow-up notice from LEPC in late April or early May.
- LEPC will be involved in exercises on April 25 in Green Township (hazmat) and September 19 (Hamilton County MCI drill).

#### HCSO

- No report

#### Hamilton County Public Health

- The syringe exchange program is currently looking for additional locations.
- There is plenty of Narcan available for first responders. If you need Narcan, please contact Public Health for doses.

### **Non Agenda Report**

Chief Steve Ashbrock thanked the multitude of fire departments, local, state and federal agencies that assisted in mitigating the plane crash that occurred in Madeira on March 12. His staff is working on a review of the response to the incident to identify areas of improvement, but he felt that the incident was mitigated as well as such an unusual incident could be.

Chief Ashbrock thanked the Hamilton County Communications Center, the mutual aid fire departments, the Greater Cincinnati Airport fire chief, FAA, NTSB, FBI, Madeira Police Department, Ohio State Patrol, EMA, Duke Energy, and the Hospital Net.

### **Officer Reports**

#### President

Chief Leininger was participating in the Community Paramedicine seminar and was unable to attend this meeting. He asked that membership refer to the March 2019 Executive Board meeting minutes for his report.

There was discussion regarding sustainable funding for emergency communications. There is some discussion at the state level to increase the fees on cell phones to help fund 911 services. Lou Blessing will be hosting a teleconference on March 25 to discuss the issue from a state-level perspective. It was suggested that we contact Jonathan Westendorf and Michelle Fitzgibbon to enlist them in lobbying efforts to increase the cell phone fees. State funding will be an important component of communications funding, and when combined with county funds and reasonable user fees will help sustain HCCC.

#### Vice President

Chief Hardwick reported that he spoke with Amber Antoni of the Health Collaborative to enlist her help in improving the car seat installation training/recertification program in our region, and she is willing to assist us with this challenge. As information becomes available it will be distributed to the membership.

There will be an entire track on cancer prevention at the 2019 Ohio Fire & Rescue Officer Development Conference. Presenters will include some of the groups from Florida that were here for county-wide education in 2018, as well as scientists and doctors conducting the cancer research in firefighters. Registration for the conference is now open and can be accessed from the OFCA web page.

Planning for the MCI drill on September 19 is going well. At this time it is anticipated

that 50 EMS transport units will be needed to transport approximately 100 patients, though many more patients will be triaged on the scene. The Health Collaborative will be submitting a grant application that if successful will provide a triage pack for each engine company in Hamilton County.

Southwest and central Ohio is well represented on the FACE Team, and efforts are underway to reach out to the northeast region to make this a truly state-wide organization. The next meeting will be held on March 27 at 13:00 at Deerfield Township Station 57. The meeting will also be accessible through Go To Meeting if you are unable to attend in person.

Chief Rob Penny is continuing to update the regional fire resource list. To review the resources of your department, go to the "Regional Asset Directory" page of the HCFCFA web site. If updates need to be made, please complete the PDF form and email it to Chief Penny.

#### Treasurer

Chief Owens presented the financial report and provided copies for the membership. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Membership invoices have gone out by email. If you have not seen yours, please contact Chief Owens.

Chief Hauck motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Second by Chief Wright. Motion carried.

#### Secretary

Chief Meador reported that in lieu of traditional minutes, links to the video of the February Locution meeting, as well as supporting documents from HCCC were emailed to the membership. The video is on the HCFCFA web page for review. The minutes for the March Executive Board meeting were provided to membership via email and a printed copies were available at today's meeting.

Chief Campbell motioned to accept the Secretary's Report. Second by Assistant Chief Jermaine Hill. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Communications

Director Knapp reported that a PR team from the HCCC is available for events in your jurisdiction. This is a great way for your residents and community leaders to learn about the services provided by HCCC.

Director Knapp will be meeting with the prosecutor's office on March 21 to finalize the contract for the new mobile platform. With the sale of Trittech, there was contract language that was no longer applicable to HCCC. As the attorney of record for the county, Director Knapp has no choice but to wait on them to review and approve all

contracts. However, the funding is in place so once the contract language is approved the project will move forward.

The HCCC will be conducting a tabletop exercise to test their continuity of operations plan. It is not required by the county or state that they conduct this exercise, but Director Knapp believes this is important to be proactive in assessing any potential deficiencies in moving to backup plans should there be a loss of the main communications functions of HCCC. With no single “switch” that can be flipped to move to a backup system, this exercise will be extremely valuable for emergency planning.

#### Health and Safety

Ed Von Lehmden provided information on upcoming peer support training that will be taking place on April 16 at Nathanael Greene Lodge. The informational flyer is attached to these minutes. He thanked the Executive Board for the letter of support for the Impact 100 Grant, which will assist in funding train-the-trainer initiatives for peer support.

The committee is continuing development of a draft SOG for recognition of mental health issues and the process by which to refer someone to professional services.

A request to complete a short mental health needs survey was sent to the membership. If possible, please complete the survey by March 28.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47.

#### **Next Meeting April 17, 2019**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary