

GOOD WILL  
PUBLIC RELATION  
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION  
EDUCATION  
FRATERNAL

## Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes

**Date:** August 15, 2018

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

The meeting was called to order at 09:06 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 - Absent

Chief Alfie Jones - Present

Chief Roy Winston - Absent

Chief Rob Hursong - Present

### Associate Members

#### (859) Board Up

Leah Hanlon reported that there are additional decon buckets available from the cancer prevention seminar. They contain some of the basic supplies needed to get started. Please contact her if you would like the beginnings of a decon kit.

#### 1-800-Board-Up

#### Peter Bohrofen

Pete Bohrofen reported that he has no new information regarding Aon and the health insurance for OP&F retirees. There is a meeting coming up soon, and he hopes to have

more information to report at the September membership meeting.

The current top three performing funds in Deferred Comp are:

1. Vanguard Capital Opportunity
2. Fidelity Growth Company
3. Dodge and Cox Stock Fund

### **Guest Presentation**

Amber Antoni from the Health Collaborative gave a brief presentation to the membership.

The Ohio Department of Health is implementing Ohio Track, a mechanism to track MCI patients from the initial contact by EMS at an MCI event through their transfer to a medical facility. In order to test the system, the Health Collaborative and the county chiefs will be using the system for during the 2019 MCI drill.

The Health Collaborative has a warehouse of medical supplies that can be distributed in cases of large-scale emergencies. Additionally, they have ventilators on hand that are not being utilized. The Collaborative is working with outlying fire departments to make the ventilators available to them so that effective mechanical ventilation can occur during extended transport times.

Amber also reminded the association that the hospital system utilizes disaster radios from ODH to make notifications during events such as an MCI. The HCCC radio system has this channel programmed into their system, and it should be loaded in the mobile and portable radios across the county.

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

#### HCCC

Director Andy Knapp reported that he has not yet heard if there will be any change in dispatch fees as a result of the County Commissioners withdrawing the sales tax increase earlier this month. Prior to the sales tax being approved (then withdrawn) by the commissioners, he had been asked by the county administration to provide information on the impact a detail fee increase would have on the HCCC budget. Specifically, they asked about increases of \$1.00 and \$2.00 per detail.

#### SWOFCA

- Mark Ober reported that at the July conference, the SWOFCA agreed to include the billing of its dues with the billing of the dues for the OFCA. If you have not yet received your renewal notice, there will be an invoice for OFCA dues and a separate invoice for SWOFCA dues.
- The SWOFCA currently has 1,739 members.
- Training for handling the logistics involved in a LODD will be offered at the Ohio

Fire Academy. If you are interested, please contact Mark Ober.

- The Officer Resource Symposium will be held on September 22 and 23.

#### CFD

- Chief Lakamp reported that Cincinnati is currently at its lowest staffing levels since 2016. The new recruit class will be graduating on August 28.
- The new fireboat will be dedicated in September.

#### USAR

- Chief Lakamp reported they have closed out their OEMA grant for 2018.
- Trench rescue training was conducted in July. Turnout was about average for this time of year.
- There were no deployments in the past month.
- Participation letters will be going out to USAR members as well as their sponsoring fire chiefs documenting involvement in team activities. There are currently 116 members on the roster with varying degrees of participation.

#### PHCOC

- Chief Owens reported that Greater Cincinnati Area Hospital Status Reporting Guidelines are under revision. A draft copy will be sent out by Chief Meador for review. Any questions or comments can be directed to Amber Antoni of the Health Collaborative.
- Good Samaritan psychological services will be undergoing remodeling. They expect that capacity may be reduced by as much as 30% during the project. Good Sam has requested that EMS units transporting for psychological patients please call ahead.
- The next protocol meeting will be on August 31 at 09:00 at Blue Ash Station 13.
- The next pre-hospital care meeting will be on September 27 at 14:30 at Mercy Fairfield.

#### HCFIU

- Chief Owens reported that there were two (2) callouts in July, with two (2) investigators on each incident.
- The policies and procedures are being reviewed and updated by HCFIU under the direction of Assistant Chief Shapiro.

#### Education Partners

- University of Cincinnati
  - Larry Bennett has written an EMS law textbook that is available for free to fire departments. Please contact Larry and he will send you a link to download the text.
  - Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati are collaborating with the Southwest Ohio Critical Incident Stress Management to provide therapy pets as needed for.
  - UC has a group of PhD students that are focusing on drones as part of

their research. If there are opportunities for these students to obtain field time with departments or organizations, please let Larry know and he will relay the information to the students.

- Cincinnati State
  - Bob Cutajar reported that last year's PUCO grant was \$75,000 and covered approximately six (6) months' worth of training. For this budget cycle, he has requested \$150,000 in funding to extend available training for the entire year. The AFG, which was a \$250,000 request, is still in the evaluation process with FEMA. Awards are currently being announced.
  - Open enrollment courses are available for hazmat, rescue and safety. A list of available courses and costs were provided to the membership in a flyer at the back table.
  - Please contact Bob if you have an employee that is in need of a class but may not have tuition funding at hand. If he has reached his budgetary mark for a particular class, he may be able to get a slot at a reduced cost until the new grant money is released.
- Great Oaks
  - Johnny Mason reported that the current Fire and EMS Academy is starting and has 19 students enrolled.
  - There are numerous upcoming classes, including courses for Instructor and Fire Officer. Information on upcoming courses was provided to the membership on flyers at the back table.
  - Great Oaks has added additional instructors to their staff. If you or a member of your department is interested in teaching, please contact Great Oaks.

#### Duke Energy

- No report

#### GCHMU

- Brooke Matzen reported that details of activities for GCHMU and Command 400 were distributed electronically as an attachment to the agenda for this meeting.
- There will be an open house hosted by GCHMU on September 21 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM to celebrate the retirement of Dale Farmer.

#### EMA, Homeland Security, and LEPC

- Director Nick Crossley sent out information this week on mitigation funds that are available through Ohio EMA. Application forms, program descriptions, and fact sheets were included.
- The 2018 Partners in Preparedness Meeting will be held on September 10 at the Sharonville Convention Center to discuss the goal, vision, and direction of EMA. The flyer for the event was emailed at the end of July. Please share it with anyone in your administrations that assist with hazard mitigation and preparedness.
- Homeland Security funding for 2018 is expected to remain at same levels as

2017.

- There will be a meeting on August 16 to develop the fire department SOPs for wireless emergency alerting.
- The WebEOC will transition from the county site to the state site. The county WebEOC will no longer be active after August 31. There is a training session scheduled for August 22 at the EOC to introduce county users to the state system. If you have questions on the transitioning your access to the state site, please contact Irvin Jones at the EOC.
- There was an incident in Dayton where an active shooter drill was mistaken for an actual event. Director Crossley suggested that if local jurisdictions are planning on conducting a drill that might generate 911 calls from the public, the organizers should alert HCCC of the training to assist in quickly determining if the 911 call is related to the drill or a real event.

#### Hamilton County Sheriff

- No report

#### Hamilton County Public Health

- No report

### **Officer Reports**

#### President

Chief Leininger reported that he would defer his report to the information sent out in the Board minutes of August 8 which were distributed electronically with today's agenda.

#### Vice President

Chief Hardwick thanked the sponsors of the cancer prevention, including (859) Board Up, 1-800-BoardUp, Dry Patrol, California Casualty Vogelpohl, Sutphen, Pierce Manufacturing, and the Ohio Firefighter Cancer Support Network. This event was well received by the participants, from firefighters to chiefs. This program is a great first step towards reducing cancer rates in our employees.

The MCI (disaster) drill is tentatively scheduled for October 2019. It is being planned as an active shooter event with a goal of having 300 patients seen at regional hospitals. Provided the stadium is available, the event will be held at Great American Ballpark. Chief Hardwick noted that in a real-world incident, it will not be just fire departments taking victims to the hospital. As we saw in Las Vegas, more patients were brought in by non-EMS personnel than fire personnel.

There is still a need for staffing at scheduled events at the EOC. The next large events that will require staffing are Riverfest and Oktoberfest.

#### Treasurer

Chief Owens presented the financial report and provided copies for the membership.

Chiefs Leininger and Lakamp thanked Chief Owens for maintaining detailed records of the association's finances. Chief Ashbrock moved to approve the financial report. Chief Hardwick seconded the motion. The motion was approved by membership.

### Secretary

Chief Meador reported that the July minutes were submitted electronically by Chief Kerry Meyer, and the Board meeting minutes were sent to the association with today's agenda. Chief Leininger noted that there were a few minor corrections to some names in the July minutes. With the assent of the members present the July minutes were accepted with corrections.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Communications (presented prior to the President's report)

Chief Souders reported that the last Communications Committee meeting focused solely on the best way to transition to the Locution dispatch system. At present, it looks like the most efficient use of the system will be to have one channel dedicated to outbound traffic (Locution dispatch only, no human interaction), and a second channel dedicated to status changes that would be two-way communication between field units and a dispatcher.

The timeline for installation is testing of the system in November with a go-live date of late December 2018 or early January 2019. Director Knapp reported that this will be a relatively clean installation.

The Locution system will work with current station alerting, so departments will not need to purchase any additional systems. There will be an opportunity for departments to purchase accessory systems to incorporate into the backbone of the Locution system once it is operational. These accessories include dispatch message boards, station lighting systems, and isolated dispatching for multi-house departments. Anyone interested in researching the products for budgeting can contact Director Knapp to get the contact information for the sales representative.

Director Knapp advised the membership not to purchase additional data radios for use with the MDC system. With potential changes on the horizon for data delivery, the purchase of a data radio may not be a wise use of funds. If you are in need of a data radio, contact Director Knapp and he will assist in trying to find used equipment to use.

#### Health and Safety

Chief Meador reported that Assistant Chief Von Lehmden is finalizing the mental health classes scheduled for this fall. There will be three (3) different programs offered between September and December. A copy of the letter containing information on the sessions will be sent out to the membership with the August minutes. There will be a committee meeting on August 20 to finalize the dates and locations.

## **Discussion / Action Items**

### Constitution

A proposed change to the constitution was presented to membership for consideration at the September meeting. The change is a housekeeping measure to stagger the elections of the President, Treasurer, and Secretary so all three are not up for election in the same year. The proposal moves the election of the Treasurer to odd-numbered years with the Vice President, and keeps the election of the President and Secretary in even-numbered years. If approved at the September meeting, this change will be in effect for the 2018 elections.

## **Other Business**

### Elections

Chief Leininger reminded membership of the upcoming election period for the association. The nomination committee will be established in September, candidate slates will be presented in October, and elections will take place in November.

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Chief Owens to adjourn and was seconded by Chief Hardwick. The meeting was adjourned at 10:24.

## **Next Meeting September 19, 2018**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary