

GOOD WILL
PUBLIC RELATION
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION
EDUCATION
FRATERNAL

Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes

Date: February 17, 2021

Location: Scarlet Oaks and Virtual Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 09:01 with Chief Hauck presiding.

Roll-Call of Officers

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

COVID-19 Update

HCPH

Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman reported declining hospitalizations in the region, and a reproductive value of 0.76 in Hamilton County. As of this morning, over 100,000 residents of the county have been vaccinated. This represents approximately 12% of the county. HCPH is continuing to receive shipments of vaccine from the state, but demand continues to outpace supply at this time.

HCPH is continuing to work with the Health Collaborative on getting the fire chiefs access to the database of positive tests. They hope to have the project complete soon.

EMA

Director Nick Crossley reported EMA is well supplied with PPE, including medical grade masks for first responders. He is expecting a shipment of gloves next week.

They are continuing to support vaccine storage for HCPH. The backup generators for the cold storage are scheduled to go online February 18.

The recent snow event generated requests from communities for jurisdiction-specific announcements from Alert HC to remove cars from roadways due to snow emergencies. Alert HC is not set up to make these announcements, and they recommend jurisdictions look into the emergency alerting program in use in several communities for notifications to their residents. This will allow a tailored message to be sent to the community. Alert HC was used to notify subscribers of changes to the alert level issued by the Sheriff since this was a county-wide announcement. Approximately 17,000 subscribers received that notification via text.

Regional Collaboration

HCCC

Director Andy Knapp reported that Norwood transitioned their dispatch to HCCC on February 1. As a result, there are only 2 PSAP centers in the county. This should improve the consistency of call handling since all calls will be directed to Cincinnati or HCCC.

Norwood is currently on the East dispatch channel. The East and West channels will be assessed over the next several months to determine if changes need to be made to help balance the call load on each channel.

Director Knapp reminded the association that Rave Facility is available for your business to pre-enter important information that may be useful upon an emergency dispatch. This is very similar to the Smart911 app for personal use. HCCC has a public relations team that will come out to community events to demonstrate the system and its benefits.

There are 9 new employees going through training, though HCCC still has 24 openings they anticipate filling.

GCHMU

Brooke Matzen reminded the chiefs that they should never accept mercury at the firehouse or take mercury and transport it in a vehicle. For information on proper disposal, please contact GCHMU.

USAR

Chief Tom Lakamp presented his report on USAR activities. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

PHCOC and HCFIU

Chief Owens reported there will be a protocol committee meeting on WebX on February 26.

Tri State Peer Support

Ed Von Lehmden reported the next meeting will be on February 25 via Zoom.

The team has applied for their 501(3)(c) status, which increase eligibility for grants and increase private partnerships for funding. He reported that Clermont county has committed to \$10,000 in annual funding, which is being matched by private money.

A presentation on public safety spousal support will be made by Steve and Sandy Conn on March 4 at 8:00 PM.

Officer Reports

President

Chief Hauck reported the strategic planning is underway. It will begin with a review and possible revisions to our mission statement by the executive board, followed by discussion with the membership.

Vice President

Chief Hardwick reported the IAFC and NFPA will be releasing their vehicle safety document in April or May.

The IAFC Lavender Ribbon Report is undergoing a refresh and will be released in July.

The contact list for the Rave system will be sent out to fire departments for review. Please review your contacts, and reply with any updates.

The burn surge tabletop exercise is scheduled for March 19. This is a required Health Collaborative exercise. If you are interested in participating or observing, please contact him.

There will be an open house and dedication of the new burn building at Scarlet Oaks on March 17. Membership is invited to attend after our meeting.

Treasurer

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

The 2021 dues will be going out soon.

Chief Bryan Young will be added as an authorized signer of checks in case of an absence of Chief Owens.

Motion to accept the report made by Chief Hardwick, second by Chief Meador. Motion approved.

Secretary

Chief Meador reported the minutes from the last general membership meeting were emailed to the association.

Motion to accept the January minutes made by Chief Rob Leininger, second by Chief Owens. Motion carried.

Committee Reports and Teams

Communications Committee

The last meeting was cancelled due to the snow event.

Health and Safety

Chief Hauck reported that last Saturday several members of the committee observed the Firefighter Mile at Scarlet Oaks. Those members will participate in the Firefighter Mile in two weeks to evaluate the program, and will report their findings to the committee for consideration of its use at the county level.

Old Business

Chief Hardwick stated that the Move Up plan will be distributed soon.

Chief Hauck asked for volunteers to participate in the Training Committee. Membership is not limited to just the chief level. The executive board envisions this committee will work to bring training to the county departments that may not be able to host a training due to limited budgets or audience size. Any interested party is asked to contact Chief Hauck.

New Business

Chief Paul Wright reported the Winter Symposium will be held on March 9 and 10. It will be virtual this year. There is a small fee for participation, but a \$40 credit towards the July conference will be issued to those that attend the symposium.

The Ohio Fire & Rescue Officer Development Conference will take place July 12-16, which is a Monday through Friday. This year's conference will be in-person.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53.

Next Meeting March 17, 2021

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary