

GOOD WILL  
PUBLIC RELATION  
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION  
EDUCATION  
FRATERNAL

## **Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** January 15, 2024

**Location:** Scarlet Oaks

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

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

President Chief Tom McCabe – Present  
Vice President Chief Denny Meador – Present  
Treasurer Chief Todd Owens – Present  
Secretary Chief Bryan Young – Present  
Chief Doug Campbell – Present  
Chief Steve Oughterson – Present  
Chief Rob Hursong – Present  
Chief Mike Hauck – Present  
Chief Doug Wehmeyer – Present

### **New Chiefs**

Chief Oughterson introduced George Heffner, who is the new Chief of the Terrace Park Fire Department, following the passing of Chief Dronsfield. Chief Souders introduced Assistant Chief Chris Godfrey who will be replacing him after his upcoming retirement. Chief Wehmeyer introduced John Eadicicco as the new Assistant Chief of Lockland Fire Department.

### **Swearing In**

Chief McCabe swore in Chief Wehmeyer as the newly elected Board Member.

## **Presentations**

Chief McCabe presented Chief Souders with a plaque thanking him for his dedication to the Hamilton County Fire Chiefs Association and his many years of service as the Chair of the Communications Committee.

## **Associate Members**

### Mobilcomm

Terry Connaughton thanked the membership for allowing him to attend.

### Duke Energy

Chad Shaffer thanked the membership for allowing him to attend.

### 1-800-Board-Up

Tom Camp thanked the membership for allowing him to attend. Tom also reminded everyone about the upcoming Charity Golf Event that they are sponsoring with Local 48, **See Attached Flyer.**

### Red Cross

Gail Rose thanked the membership for allowing her to attend.

### 1-859-Board-Up

Jessie Grabert shared that she is back with 1-859-Board-Up

### FACE Team

Chief Campbell shared that the next FACE Team Meeting will be held at Forest Park and there will be a virtual option.

### Waverly Advisors

Pete Bohrofen shared the following are the top three performers for Ohio Deferred Comp:

1. Fidelity Growth
2. Fidelity Contrafund
3. US Large Value Company Stock (Dodge &Cox)

Pete also shared that he had been expecting a bit of a cool down in the economy, this has happened the Producer Price Index came in much lower than expected and also the Consumer Price Index came in lower than expected. Pete thinks that there will be 3-4 rate cuts this year. Happy New Year!

## **Regional Collaboration**

### Hamilton County Communications Center

Andy Knapp reported on the following:

- HCCC currently -11 dispatchers, last year at this time they were -17, steady progress.
- Have a contract for complete upgrade of 911 equipment.
- Cyber Security upgrade for the radio system was completed last year.
- Communications Center switchover to the new building will tentatively be 1<sup>st</sup> week of January of 2026.
- Andy also expressed his thanks to Chief Souders for all of his work with the Communications Committee.
- Radio Encryption is still being discussed, but no update.
- CAD to CAD issue is at the Central Square level, probably a 90-day delay on this.

### Hamilton County EMA

Nick Crossley reported on the following:

- Nick recognized Chad Shaffer for his outstanding assistance to the County.
- 2025 Operations Plan is out for review.
- Denise Driehaus is the new president of the Board of Commissioners.
- Encouraged everyone to look at your Emergency Operations Plan.
- Warehouse is on track for completion in March, training rooms also should be completed around this time.
- Launching an online Continuity of Operations software tool, that may be used by municipalities.
- EMA continues to get calls from elected officials about Emergency Notifications.
- Currently working on projects for the 2025 UASI Grant.

### Hamilton County Public Health

Christa Hyson reported on the following:

- They are still seeing an increase in RSV, COVID, however Flu is down in our area, Norovirus is also way up.
- Chempack training is coming up on February 11<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>, **See Attached Document.**

### GC HazMat & Command 400

Chief Theders shared the following:

- GC HazMat had 29 responses in 2024, Summary was shared with last month's minutes.
- 2 responses so far this year.
- Several upcoming trainings, shared with last month's minutes.
- Anyone interesting in joining the team please contact Brooke

Chief Siefke shared that Command 400 had 1 callout to assist HCUSAR in SPTP.

### Cincinnati FBI

Rick Maier reported that the White Powder Threat Letters have now expanded beyond public offices, they are now showing up at individuals' residences, if you need any assistance with these please reach out to Rick. Rick also shared information about the recent Vehicle Ramming Attack in New Orleans and the potential for copycat attacks. There are some concerns with drones being flown around areas where FBI needs to operate at incidents, they will be prosecuting these individuals to the fullest extent of the law.

### USAR

Chief Lakamp reported on the following:

- 1 deployment on January 4<sup>th</sup> for a critical missing in Springfield Township.
- Confined Space Training will be in Blue Ash on January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

### PHCOC

Chief Owens reported the next meeting will be January 23<sup>rd</sup> at Mercy Health Plex in Fairfield @1430. Protocol Committee Meeting will be this Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at Sharonville Station 86 @0900.

### HCFIU

Chief Owens reported that the Fire Investigation Unit had 7 Callouts. The unit is going through a restructuring with Ben Shapiro becoming the next Chief at Montgomery Fire Department, Keith Ryan will be assuming the role as Commander of the unit.

### Tri State PEER Support Team

Amy Foley shared that they will be hosting monthly Toolbox Tuesdays, these will be on the following topics:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday – Peer Support 101
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – Clinical Consultation (this is for trained Peer Supporters)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – Different Resources Available
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Tactical Tuesday

### UAS 500

Chief Johnson reported that they had no details for the month.

### Health Collaborative

No Report.

### **Officer Reports**

#### President

Chief McCabe shared that the Executive Board met last week and will begin working on items for the new year.

Vice President

No Report.

Treasurer

Financial Report shared, **See Attached Report.**

Motion to accept the report by Chief Wright, second by Chief Hursong. Motion approved.

Secretary

December Minutes have been distributed.

Motion to accept the report by Chief Hauck, second by Chief Jetter. Motion approved.

**Committee Reports and Teams**

Communication Committee

Chief McCabe shared that the January meeting was postponed and they are going through some restructuring due to the upcoming retirement of Chief Souders. Assistant Chief Ryan Androne will be the new chair and there will be 2 appointed representatives from each of the following Chiefs groups: East, Central, Midwest and West There have been nominations submitted from the Central Chiefs and West Chiefs Groups for the committee, still waiting on the East Chiefs and Midwest Chiefs Groups for their nominations.

EMS Committee

Chief Owens reported that their next meeting will be February 4th.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Chief Owens shared that Retired Reading Fire Chief Kevin Kaiser has recently been diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer and is beginning treatment, he is in good spirits, please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Chief Hauck, second by Chief Hursong, motion approved. The meeting was adjourned @09:46.

**Next Meeting: February 19, 2025**

Respectfully submitted, Chief Bryan Young, Secretary