



GOOD WILL  
PUBLIC RELATION  
COOPERATION

STANDARDIZATION  
EDUCATION  
FRATERNAL

## Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes

**Date:** April 20, 2022

**Location:** Soil & Stars Education Center and Virtual

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

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

President Mike Hauck – Present

Vice President Denny Meador – Present

Treasurer Todd Owens – Present

Secretary Bryan Young – Present

Chief Doug Campbell – Present

Chief Steve Oughterson – Absent

Chief Rob Hursong – Present

Chief Allen Walls – Present

Chief Tom McCabe – Present

Past President Rob Leininger – Absent

### **Welcome**

Nicole Gunderman, deputy director of Gorman Farm, welcomed the association to the Soil & Stars facility and gave a brief overview of the fam and STEM programs.

### **Award Presentation**

Chief Hauck presented Chief Hardwick presented a plaque and lifetime HCFCA membership card in honor of his 42 years of service to the fire and EMS community.

### **Goines Legacy Group**

Pamela Goines presented information on the "Safe Encounters" training that focuses on autism

awareness. Through this training, first responders learn strategies and techniques to interact with autistic individuals to ensure the safety of both the autistic individual and the first responder. The training was initially targeted toward law enforcement but has expanded to include the fire service as well. The cost of a four-hour class is \$799 and can accommodate up to 30 people. Her business card is attached to these minutes.

### **Associate Members**

#### 9258 Wealth Management

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

1. Dodge & Cox
2. Vanguard Institutional Index
3. Vanguard Capital Opportunity

There are indications that some inflationary pressures are easing. The price of used cars and durable household appliances is starting to trend lower, and the housing stock is beginning to increase.

#### Mobilcomm

Terry Connaughton thanked the membership for allowing him to attend.

#### 859-BOARD-UP

Jessie Grabert reminded everyone of the FACE Team meeting on April 27 at the Sharonville Fire Department.

#### TriHealth

Kevin Hardwick reported his role with TriHealth is emergency management for all of their properties. Aside from the widely-known properties, this also includes smaller facilities such as the clinics found in pharmacies across the region. He thanked everyone for their support over the years and looks forward to working with the association in this new capacity as well as continuing his work with the FACE Team.

#### Stryker

Ross Finan reported Stryker is coming out with a new cot. He expects to have a demo model in the near future.

### **Regional Collaboration**

#### HCCC

Director Andy Knapp thanked the membership for the support of the dispatchers during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

#### EMA

Morgan Peterson reported the warehouse still has ½ mask respirators and filter cartridges available. Contact LEPC Coordinator Doug Witsken if you are in need. EMA staff is available for

public relations events in your communities.

GCHMU

See the attached report from Brooke Matzen.

USAR

See the attached report from Chief Tom Lakamp.

PHCOC

Chief Owens reported they are having continuing discussions on EMS involvement of psychiatric emergencies and holds. They are also discussing the advisability of splitting the Attempt/Threat Suicide into two types of dispatches.

HCFIU

No report.

President

No report.

Vice President

No report.

Treasurer

Chief Owens reported the dues for 2022 have been coming in, with only a few memberships outstanding. The financial report is attached to these minutes. Motion to accept the report by Chief McCabe, second by Chief Scott Souders. Motion approved.

Chief Owens asked the membership to consider purchasing two new laptops for Command 400 at a cost of \$2,400 total. Since it moved to GCHMU, the association has incurred approximately \$2,700 in costs. Motion to purchase laptops for up to \$2,400 was made by Chief Doug Wehmeyer, second by Chief Walls. Motion approved.

Chief Young is now authorized to sign checks for the association in Chief Owens' absence.

Secretary

Chief Meador reported the minutes for the March meeting and April board meeting have been distributed. The duties of Secretary will be passed to Chief Young by May 1, with all computer files and physical documents transferred at that time. Motion to accept the report by Chief Tom Campbell, second by Chief Jermaine Hill. Motion approved.

Tri-State Peer Support Team

Amy Foley reported on several upcoming training opportunities. Information is attached to

these minutes. HB 545 is working its way through the house without noticeable organized opposition.

Ed Von Lehmden reported there is up to \$75 million in funding available in early May. TSPST has submitted the necessary documents to be eligible for funding and may reach out for a letter of support for the organization.

#### MCI Drill

Chief Young reported the MCI drill went well, and he has received positive feedback from the participants. A formal survey will be conducted to assist in developing the next MCI drill in three years.

#### Operations Workgroup

Chief Blum presented information to the membership on an operational workgroup and their goal to standardize various fireground operations to improve safety. They have already developed an Incident Command worksheet and video, which has already been distributed to the county chiefs. Their immediate focus is going to be on personnel accountability, air management, and RIT bag standardization. The next meeting is scheduled for April 25 at Station 86. The meeting will start at 13:00.

#### Communications Committee

The committee is working on the possibility of separating “Attempt/Threat Suicide” into two unique dispatches. They will need to meet with HCCC Medical Director Jason McMullan to see if this can be accomplished. They are also considering a change to differentiate between an indoor gas leak and an outdoor gas leak to better dispatch resources.

A draft of the cyano kit dispatch procedure will be sent out soon. Please provide the committee with any feedback after review.

The new policy of automatically replacing a unit that doesn't acknowledge a run within two minutes was discussed at length. Some departments were of the opinion that two minutes was ample time for a unit to acknowledge a detail, while others believe that a longer period of time would be more appropriate based on internal circumstances unique to their department or operational model. Prior to this policy change, the time allotted before HCCC attempted to contact the original unit was five minutes, which the members agreed was too long of a period of time. Topics discussed by the membership included:

- The reasoning for this change
- Getting units on the road in a timely fashion
- NFPA 1710 standards for fire and EMS turnout
- Interrupted sleep patterns that may occur
- Internal turnout time policies and how they are tracked

- Acknowledging a run via radio prior to actually going en route with HCCC
- Community standards and expectations

Chief Paul Wright made a motion to extend the acknowledgment time from two minutes to three minutes without the need for HCCC to contact the original unit. A second was made by Chief Owens. A roll call vote of chiefs signed in to the meeting was conducted, with seven “yes” votes, 12 “no” votes, and one abstention. The motion did not pass (voting tally attached).

Continued discussion occurred as to what data could be looked at to determine the effectiveness of this change in getting units out the door in two minutes or less. Director Knapp believed that information could be gathered and analyzed using data previous to the policy implementation. He is willing to pull the necessary fire and EMS dispatch times to aid in the analysis if the chiefs would like.

Chief Owens made a motion to extend the time to 2:30 and perform an analysis of past turnout times to make changes to the policy if necessary. A second was made by Chief Souders. A roll call vote of chiefs signed in to the meeting was conducted, with 14 “yes” votes and four “no” votes. The motion passed (voting tally attached).

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Ed Von Lehmden stated there had been some confusion about who to contact for TSPST services or CSIM services. The team would like to have any call for service go through HCCC, which will, in turn, contact the TSPST duty officer. The duty officer will then provide the appropriate resource to the agency seeking it. This will be more straightforward than using a flow chart or having individual departments try to navigate the available resources. Chief Dan Sunderman made a motion to route all calls as recommended by TSPST. A second was made by Chief Campbell. Motion passed.

Chief Chris Theders provided information to the members about the Honor Log now housed at Blue Ash Station 13. This is one of 50 logs that will be sent to each state. It will be available for display throughout the state. An informational sheet was sent to Chief Meador, and he will distribute it as part of the minutes.

Chief Campbell provided an update on the Maltese Cross Society. Due to the pandemic, not much progress was made on getting board positions filled. He will be providing information to the association on filling board positions. He stated that it does not necessarily have to be chiefs that participate on the board. They will be working on organizing a county-wide awards banquet to recognize the work of our employees and also raise money for the Maltese Cross.

Chief Hauck reported the following new board positions:

- Chief Meador, Vice President
- Chief Young, Secretary
- Chief McCabe, Member at Large

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Chief McCabe, second by Chief Dennis Brown. The meeting was adjourned at 11:03.

**Next Meeting: May 18, 2022**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary