

GOOD WILL
PUBLIC RELATION
COOPERATION



STANDARDIZATION
EDUCATION
FRATERNAL

Fire Chiefs' Meeting Minutes

Date: September 19, 2018

Location: Boy Scouts of America, Evendale

The meeting was called to order at 09:03 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 - Present
Chief Alfie Jones - Absent
Chief Roy Winston - Present
Chief Rob Hursong - Absent

Associate Members

California Casualty

Sharlie Trentman thanked the membership for the opportunity to give an overview of California Casualty. It is a family-owned company that specializes in home, auto, and renters insurance for firefighters, police officers, nurses, and educators. She provided a flyer presenting an overview of their services, which is attached to these minutes. An additional flyer was provided for the "Better Safe Than Sorry" giveaway from California Casualty, and is also attached to these minutes.

1-800-Board-Up

Tom Camp thanked the membership for consideration of 1-800-Board-Up services.

(859) Board Up

Nominations for the Hometown Hero recognition program are continuing. Winners of the award are treated to a lunch with their crew, as well as a gift basket. Please contact (859) Board Up to nominate a deserving individual or crew.

Mobilcomm

Terry Connaughton thanked membership for the opportunity to attend.

Pete Bohrofen

Pete Bohrofen reported that he has no new information regarding Aon and the health insurance for OP&F retirees. He will continue to monitor information from the pension fund and retirees and keep the membership informed.

The current top three performing funds in Deferred Comp are:

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

Pete also reported that he had the opportunity to meet with six new full-time hires in Fairfield Township to discuss options for saving for retirement. He stressed that it is never too early to start planning and saving so that at the end of a 25 year career a firefighter can retire with financial security. If this is something that you think would benefit your staff, please contact him to discuss options on meeting with your staff.

Physio Control/Stryker

There will be a 12-lead class held at UC on October 11 from 08:00-17:00. Eight hours of EMS CE will be awarded upon completing the class.

New Chiefs

Dennis Brown was introduced as the new fire chief for Wyoming. He is looking forward to the new opportunity and working with the HCFA.

Guest Presentations

Verizon

Shelly Kunz made a brief presentation on Verizon services for emergency services. In addition to services customers may be familiar with, such as priority calling in emergencies, Verizon also offers a Crisis Response Team to facilitate communications when normal cell service may be interrupted.

Verizon offers data and voice prioritization for government customers similar in scope to the services being advertised by AT&T and FirstNet. For additional information, please contact your government account representative.

Verizon will be hosting a Public Safety Day on September 27 at one of their switching locations at 5400 Duff Drive. Sessions will be held at 09:00 and again at 13:00.

Cincinnati Children's

Emily Lee made a presentation on Cincinnati Children's car seat fitting program. She provided a flyer listing the locations, contact numbers, and addresses of agencies that are participating in the car seat fitting program. She reported that there are currently 202 registered technicians in the region, with 65% of them located in Hamilton County.

There has been a change made to the certification class to encourage more personnel to get their certification. The class has been reduced from five days to three. The cost of the class is \$170.

The flyer and a copy of a PowerPoint presentation providing details on the program are attached to these minutes.

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

No report.

CFD

- Chief Winston thanked the fire departments that provided medic units for the shooting at Fountain Square, and thanked HCCC for their assistance as well.
- The new recruit class of 38 firefighters will be graduating on September 28.
- The firefighter memorial service will be held on October 11 at 12:00. All departments in the region are welcome to attend.
- As part of Fire Prevention Week, CFD will be holding open houses at all of their stations on October 13 from 13:00 to 17:00.
- The Cincinnati Fire Museum, in conjunction with Goldstar Chili, is once again holding Chilifest on October 6. Information was sent to HCFA membership earlier in the week with details.
- CFD has been awarded \$8.3 million in AFG and SAFER grants. The AFG award was \$1.2 million and will be used to upgrade all apparatus with ALS equipment. The SAFER grant is \$7.1 million and will be used to hire additional firefighters. The next class of 40 is scheduled to begin recruit school in February 2019.

USAR

- Chief Lakamp reported that there will be no increase in OEMA grant funding this year. USAR will continue to receive \$7,250.
- There have been no recent local deployments, but there are seven members deployed to the North Carolina region as part of Ohio Task Force One.
- Participation letters will be going out to USAR members. The intention was to get them out earlier, however the events associated with hurricane Florence have delayed the process.

PHCOC

- Chief Owens reported that the draft protocols for 2019 will be accessible from the HCFA website.
- In order to carry ketamine, your DEA license will need the III-N designation. Please contact Chief Owens if you have questions or are having difficulty amending your license.
- The next pre-hospital care meeting will be on September 27 at 14:30 at Mercy Fairfield.

HCFIU

- Chief Owens reported that they are currently averaging one call out per week.
- Assistant Chief Shapiro has coupons for \$2.00 off on the purchase of Simple Green for those that are opting to use it in their structure fire decon buckets.
- AC Shapiro also reported that Simple Green Pro is being used by the HCIFU to clean tools because it does not cause issues with evidence testing when used at fire scenes.

Education Partners

- University of Cincinnati
 - Larry Bennett provided information on the upcoming drone class on October 2. The flyer is attached to these minutes.
 - UCMS is opening a new EMS room. Thanks to Carter Pittman for his efforts getting this project off the ground.
 - There will be an opening for an open EMS manager position.
 - UCMC is working to develop online training content for EMS continuing education.
- Cincinnati State
 - Bob Cutajar reported that this year's PUCO grant 35% higher than last year. This should cover approximately eight months' worth of training. There are currently classes scheduled through the end of the year. A list of current courses was provided to the membership, and a copy is attached to these minutes.
 - 8-hour refresher classes for hazardous material training are available and

can be delivered at individual departments.

- The AFG, which was a \$250,000 request was denied in this grant cycle.
- Cincinnati State provides a 4-hour Active Shooter Awareness workshop. A flyer was provided to the membership and is attached to these minutes.
- Please contact Bob for any questions or to discuss training needs for your department.

Duke Energy

- Susan Browning presented the Hamilton County Event Data for the month of August, which is attached to these minutes.

GCHMU

- Brooke Matzen reported that details of activities for GCHMU and Command 400 were sent to the secretary for inclusion in these minutes.
- 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 reported that the national wireless alert test will take place on October 3 at 14:18. The previously scheduled test was cancelled due to mitigation efforts for Florence.
- The protocol for initiating wireless emergency alerts is still in progress. Chief Lakamp is assisting with development of the protocol.
- An email containing grant guidance documents was sent to Hamilton County partner agencies last week. Our region's State Homeland Security Grant award is just over \$650,000 this cycle. Grant project applications are due by the close of business on October 19. A regional committee of the eight county Emergency Management Directors will review all grant applications, prioritize them based on state and regional guidance and submit to the state via their online grant management system by November 16. Ohio EMA decides which applications are accepted and will let us know after November 16.
- One staff member has been assigned to Florence mitigation.
- Sam Reed is taking a job with the state. EMA will be hiring a new training exercise coordinator to replace him.
- The Hamilton County mitigation plan is expected to be adopted by the Hamilton County Commissioners at their meeting on September 29. A sample resolution was provided to the membership for their local governments to adopt to be eligible for mitigation funds. Governments have one year from the date of adoption by the county commissioners to adopt the mitigation plan.
- LEPC will be offering two courses in the coming months. Doug Witsken provided flyers to the membership, which are attached to these minutes.
- LEPC is currently planning several trainings for 2019. These will include a Propane IQ course, an anhydrous ammonia course (offered on three separate days), air monitoring for hazmat incidents, and CSX chlorine training in

Queensgate. Doug will provide information on these classes as it becomes available.

Hamilton County Sheriff

- No report

Hamilton County Public Health

- No report

Health Collaborative

- Amber Antoni reported that they are looking for departments to volunteer to work with Ohio Track to test and evaluate the trauma tracking system. They are looking for 27 regional departments to participate. Please contact Amber if your department is interested.

Officer Reports

President

Chief Leininger reported that we are still looking for funding options for communications. He has contacted Peggy O'Neil from CLEAR to discuss how their levy is structured and administered, and to see if they can provide guidance on levy options for the fire service.

The HCFA will support Director Knapp in his efforts to find sustainable funding for the HCCC.

Vice President

Chief Hardwick reported that the cancer prevention program is being pushed to the OFCA to be considered for presentation at the annual conference in July.

There were 11 medic units and 4 chiefs staged for the mass shooting incident at Fountain Square. One chief also responded to HCCC to assist with communications. An early review of the incident showed that the county MCI plan worked as intended.

The active shooter/response drill is confirmed for September 19, 2019 at Great American Ballpark. Preliminary planning is calling for the event to have 300 casualties, 100 of which will be transported to area hospitals. The remaining victims will be transported by private vehicles. This will mirror the situation faced by EMS and hospital staffs in the Las Vegas mass shooting.

Treasurer

Chief Owens presented the financial report and provided copies for the membership. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Chief Hardwick moved to accept the financial report; second by Chief Hauck. Motion was approved.

Secretary

Chief Meador reported that the August minutes were distributed electronically with the agenda for today's meeting. Chief Kiefer moved to accept the minutes; second by Chief Hardwick. Motion was approved.

Committee Reports

Communications

Chief Souders reported that the locution system is still on track for implementation at the end of 2018 or early 2019. At this time, the plan is to have one channel dedicated to messages from the locution system (outgoing information only), and a second channel dedicated to status changes and information updates (incoming and outgoing information). The committee believes that this can be "overlaid" on the current radio template so the locution system can be up and running in a timely fashion without having to reprogram every radio on the system. For example, FG3 may become the "outgoing" West Dispatch and FG4 may become the "outgoing" East Dispatch. This would leave the Primary channel open for status changes and updates, and incidents requiring a fireground would begin on FG5.

As to the house systems, Chief Souders said that the switch to locution will not result in a need for departments to change their internal station alerting. They should continue to operate as they do now.

HCCC Director Andy Knapp reported that he was tasked by the county administration to cut approximately \$1.7 million from his budget for 2019. In addition to asking for cuts, the county administration is considering increasing the detail fees charged to our departments. Earlier this year they asked for an impact statement on rate increases of \$1.00 and \$2.50 per detail. During a recent meeting, the administration floated the idea of increasing the detail rate by \$5.00 per detail.

The general consensus of the membership is that an increase of \$5.00 per detail is unacceptable, and Director Knapp agrees that detail fees are not the answer to the HCCC funding crisis. He is reviewing several consultants' reports that address HCCC funding, and will continue to work with the administration to find sustainable funding for HCCC.

Health and Safety

Ed Von Lehmden reported that the first session of mental health programs, the "Mental Health Considerations for High Stress Occupations" was held on September 18 and was well received. He thanked the membership for their support of these programs.

Additional events are scheduled for the remainder of the year, and membership was provided a flyer of upcoming dates. The flyer is attached to these minutes.

Chief Leininger thanked the committee for all of its hard work bringing these programs to fruition.

Discussion / Action Items

Constitution

Two proposed change to the constitution was present to membership for consideration at the meeting.

Amendment 1 was to change Article III, Section I, Elected Officers, to set the terms of the President and Secretary so that they are staggered from the terms of the Vice President and Treasurer. Additionally, the immediate past president may serve as an advisor to the Board of Trustees. Motion to accept by Chief Souder; second by Chief Campbell. Motion was approved by a majority vote.

Amendment 2 was to change Article V. Meetings, Section 4, to set the election of the Vice President and Treasurer to odd number years, and set the election of President and Secretary to even number years. Motion to accept by Chief Timmers; second by Chief Shapiro. Motion was approved by majority vote.

A copy of the constitution and amendments are included with these minutes.

Other Business

Elections

Chief Leininger appointed Chiefs Camp, Gallo, and Timmers to the Nomination Committee. The positions open for election in 2018 are:

- President (Leininger)
- Secretary (Meador)
- Trustee (Hauck)
- Trustee (Winston)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07.

Next Meeting October 17, 2018

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Denny Meador, Secretary