



MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DISTRICT 7

Chief Matthew R. Belsito, Sutton
Chairman
(508) 865-8737

Chief Robert P. Parsons, Spencer
Vice Chairman
(508) 867-8825

Chief William T. Kessler, Uxbridge
Treasurer
(508) 278-2787

Chief Richard P. Hamilton, Millbury
Secretary
(508) 865-5328

District 7 Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2018 - 6:30 p.m.

Auburn/Webster Elks, 754 Southbridge St, Auburn

Call to Order – 19:10

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretaries Report

M – Chief Gauthier: to accept as emailed

S – Chief Wilson

V – Unanimous

Treasurers Report

M – Chief Gauthier: to accept as emailed

S – Chief Wilson

V – Unanimous

MEMA

Pat Carnevale announced he is taking a one-year leave of absence from MEMA to take a position with the Governor Baker / Lt. Governor Polito administration. Bonnie Roy will be acting Region 3/ 4 manager in Pat's absence. He conveyed his appreciation to everyone for their support in will still like to attend meetings. The group thanked him for all his assistance and welcomed him to any of our meetings. Kristen Jerome stated she talked with Paula Krumsiek and the scoring for the grants have been postponed due to the weather, they are about 2 to 3 weeks away from completion. The office is trying to keep up with the workload.

DCR

District 7 Warden Liard couldn't make the meeting because he was sick but sent word through Chairman Belsito that they will be at full staffing April 2nd and he would re-start the daily fire weather announcements once the snow is gone.

Tech Rescue Team

Lt. Nick Lambert gave a presentation on the Technical Rescue Team. He outlined the specialty equipment that they have acquired over the years. He explained the expertise of the members and the various functions they perform. Lt. Lambert also explained the procedure for activation; to call Southbridge fire by the County Fire Radio, and if you have a team member in your town or nearby, whoever is the first member on scene will become the team leader for the incident until a higher skilled member takes over. Presently the entire team is paged out through IamResponding, but they are working on different levels of response. He stressed that they do not take over command of the incident, they work for the I/C and present a plan of action to perform the rescue.

Committee Reports:

- Training

Chief Vinson gave updates on the programs in process. The Dr. Griffin program reminders will be sent out several more times. The Company Officers class is filling up but would to see more apply. The venue has changed to Grafton which will allow more to attend. Working with the Media class has a few more openings.

- Radio

Chief Hamilton stated the scheduled radio committee meeting was cancelled due to the weather, it has been rescheduled for April 12th at 4:00 in Oxford.

- FCAM

Chief Coleman was on vacation. Chairman Belsito stated the last FCAM meeting was cancelled due to the weather.

- Homeland Security

Chief Kochanowski gave an update on the projects in progress. The Southbridge tow vehicle and the radio for it have been approved and ordered. The radios for Field Com 1 have been approved.

- Tech Rescue

Chairman Belsito reported there have been some minor changes to the standards that everyone agreed to. There was a meeting last Monday with the coordinators from Districts 7, 8 and 14. They started reviewing policies. Chief Fleischer added they were looking for some common policies and procedures as a starting point between the teams. If the state activates the group, this would give them a good start towards working as one team. He also stated Worcester has sent an invitation to the District 7 Team for a structural collapse class. It is 3 months long with a different class each month. Chairman Belsito advised the group they are working on reviewing the dive team policies.

- State Mobilization

Chief Wilson stated the last meeting was cancelled.

- Communication Team

Chief DiFronzo stated there have been no meetings.

Old Business

Per Chairman Belsito: They are looking at May 1st to put FC-1 in service.

District credit card: Chief Kessler gave an update, still working on the application

RIT Bands: Chief Coleman working on.

Captains proxy vote: Vice-chairman Parsons read a proposed by-law for voting at meetings. The proposal will be sent out for everyone to review and will be brought up at the next meeting.

District Explorer Posts: Asst. Chief Silver explained they are still getting together a meeting of advisors. Leicester and Dudley are starting their own posts. He would like to add a tab of our website with information on the various posts and how to contact one.

District Fire Investigation Group: Asst. Chief Silver discussed the D7 FIU. He passed out a proposed SOG for the district and also a handout for field investigation notes. He explained they have 7 members at the advanced level. Work is needed on a call out procedure, similar to a dive team or others. Troopers David Fleming and Greg Spahl joined him tonight to discuss the group proposal. Trooper Fleming stated they work with groups in D6 and D14 and they are great assets, both programs are similar and they work outstanding. He gave examples of successful investigations that work efficiently with all the extra help. The concept is very good. He said the call out criteria is still the same, on whether to call the Marshal's office or not. He stressed the need to have your police department involved to make it work much better. He was satisfied with the District 7 proposed SOG. Chief Silver stated if you need just a couple of members, then the district team could get called out to help. They are still looking for interested members.

New Business

Deputy Chief Dyer discussed the O2X class that Worcester is hosting June 19-22. He explained the benefits, both mental and physical. He invited the District members to attend, there is a fee. Worcester has been happy with the program and the new Worcester recruits will go through it. An e-mail has been sent out with details. He also stated another class is being put on in Worcester. John Salka, retired FDNY, is presenting an in-house class at the Worcester Training Division on April 2nd, 18:00 to 20:00, for their District Chiefs. The District 7 Chiefs were also invited. Cost is \$25 per person, flyers will be sent out.

Dates to Remember

Dispatcher Mayday training: April 11th in Spencer, sign up through MFA
Task Force / Strike Team Leader training to be rescheduled.
PIO class: April 3rd/ 4th, and April 7th/ 8th, in Auburn.

Good of the Organization

Deputy Chief Belanger discussed the retirement party for Chief Bemis. The event is April 21st at the Auburn Elks, he has tickets in anyone is looking for them.

Chief Knoff explained the retirement party for Chief Cloutier. That will be April 29th at the Treehouse Brewery in Charlton, he will have tickets available soon.

Chairman Belsito had discussed the issue discovered by Vice-Chairman Parsons regarding the bill signed into law by Governor Baker making Massachusetts an OSHA state. The Chairman summarized the information he had and was looking for feedback from the body. Chief Vinson explained the OSHA 30 class they recently had, paid for with a grant through the Department of Industrial Accidents. He suggested contacting them or your State Representative for information on it. Chairman Belsito will contact Marshal Ostroskey to see if he can provide any other information. He requested that if anyone finds any information on it that they share it with the District.

M – Chief Kochanowski: To adjourn

S – Chief Vinson

V – Unanimous

Adjourned 20:35

Next Meeting: April 26th, Auburn