



MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DISTRICT 7

Chief Stephen M. Coleman Jr., Auburn
Chairman
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Chief Robert Parsons, Spencer
Vice Chairman
(508) 867-8825

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

Chief Mark DiFronzo, Southbridge
Secretary
(508)-764-5430

District 7 Meeting Minutes February 27, 2014 Charlton Fire Department - 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order – 1858 hrs.

Secretaries & Treasurers Reports

Secretary's Report was emailed to all
M A/C Hamilton to accept as sent
S Chief Cloutier
V Unanimous

Treasurer's Report was emailed to all
A brief synopsis was presented
M Chief Cloutier to accept as presented and emailed
S A/C Hamilton
V Unanimous

A mention of Paul LaRochelle III and his passing, Chairman Coleman asked all members to keep the LaRochelle family in your thoughts and prayers.

Committee Reports:

- Training Committee

Recruit Class going is well. The mid-term is complete and the class average was 72 on the exam. Total Class average is 79.

Practical evolutions completed. Live Fire will be Saturday March 1st in Auburn and March 15th in Worcester.

Discussion starting on Company Officer Training. A survey has been sent out to all of the Chiefs for their officers to fill out.

Minutes of the Training Committee have been posted to web site.

- **So. Worc. County Radio Committee**

No meeting since last D7 Chiefs meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2014 at 4:00pm at Oxford Fire Headquarters.

- **Back Up Control Point Committee**

Meeting scheduled for March 4, 2014 at 4:00pm in Spencer.

- **FCAM Update**

Professional Development was well attended. Some great programs were delivered along with key note speakers.

Chief Robinson is now the Chair of Board of Fire Prevention Regulations.

There are some Senior Fire Officer Programs coming most notably Chief Goldfedder

May 9th in Stow at D.F.S.

May 10th in Springfield

NFA is presenting Politics and the White Helmet in Granby.

Minimal discussion on the Community Paramedicine still working on potential business plan.

Next Meeting March 19, 2014 in Charlton at the Overlook

- **Homeland Security**

Meeting held on February 11, 2014

A request from Auburn for the region to purchase diesel heater units with trailer. Captain Anderson from Auburn wrote the project justification for the request. These units would be available for communities that may lose heat in a municipal type building.

A debris trailer went to Lunenburg.

Ragged Hill Radio Project – a contract has been drafted, waiting for signatures.

Evacuation Plans created by CMRPC have been completed. “Thumb drives” with all of the information are to be sent out to each community.

The Safety Officer Program that was approved by CMRHSC is at EOPS waiting for approval

Next meeting is March 4, 2014

- **Tech Rescue Committee**

- The necessary classes have been established and assigned.
- Approximately 70 members have signed up for these programs.
- All dates are approved with no changes or adjustment of students.

- **Call Chief's Committee & State Mobilization**

Call Chief's – No meeting scheduled.

State Mobilization – Chief Wilson and Chief DiFronzo were unable to attend.

- **EMS Committee**

Discussion on Sutton Issue – The current provider is no longer going to provide service Sutton is looking for new service or looking at doing EMS by the Town. D7 EMS Committee is assisting.

Reviewing the training concerns meeting new the NREMT curricula.

Old Business:

Field Communication Operators update

A list of potential staff has been gathered. There were 33 people interested. This did not include radio committee members, it's assumed there will be an interest by that group as well.

A request to send two people to a Train-the-Trainer program on Communications Leaders (COML) and Communications Technicians (COMT) on behalf of District 7 was discussed to be brought before Homeland Security for consideration. These trained people could bring this program back to the region and train communications operators to use the communications units more effectively.

M To approve D7 request to Homeland Chief Cloutier
S Chief Belisto
V Unanimous

Forcible entry prop for the District update

The unit has been ordered and is being built. It is about 2 months out.

Discussion regarding Box 4 & Providence Canteen billing

After a response to Upton by Box 4, a bill of \$1,700 was received. The reason given was due to a no “fire” response. It was requested for a Haz-Mat response. Apparently if it is anything else other than a fire it is billable. Providence Canteen does the same. Please be cautious if requesting for non-fire situations.

New Business:

Air & Light Truck SCBA bottles; The SCBA cylinders are due for testing. The approximate cost is \$2,430 for 90 cylinders.

M Chief Kochanowski to test up to 100 cylinders.
S Chief Belsito
V Unanimous

In the future a budget plan should be developed to prepare for these and other costs.

Discussion on toning capability for departments

Sturbridge Fire had a failure of their radio system. Paging of staff was not capable due to “noise” on the phone lines interfering with the tones.

A discussion on what other communities do. Most have the ability to tone via a portable or mobile radio. Also, most communities are on a “repeated” type system that would allow for better coverage when toning from a portable or mobile radio. Other communities are not capable of toning out other communities at this time.

FC 30 is capable but is not programmed to do so. The radio committee will look into options. Minimal cost to setup a couple radios and software. Communities are advised to look at back up plans for this.

Radio Consultant/Homeland Grant

A suggestion was made to have an outside agency review the D7 system with monies to come from Homeland Security.

After much discussion, Lt. Cady offered to reach out to another colleague with experience with this to review our system and provide his opinion potentially at no cost.

Also, a survey to be created for input on what the Chiefs’ want out of a radio system for the District.

Good of the Organization

A link has been e-mailed to all of the Chiefs regarding the training survey for company officers. Please forward to staff and follow up. Looking for 100% input. There are 173 Company Officers from Lt. to Deputy Chief in the district. As of this meeting, 73 have completed the survey.

[Auburn-Blackstone-Brookfield-Charlton-Douglas-Dudley-East Brookfield-Grafton-Leicester-Mendon-Millbury-Millville-Northbridge-North Brookfield-Oxford-Southbridge-Spencer-Sturbridge-Sutton-Upton-Uxbridge- Warren-West Brookfield-Webster-Worcester](#)

By Law Committee meeting March 5, 2014 in Spencer to review some changes. They may be available for the April meeting.

Please Note a change in meeting locations

March Meeting will be in Dudley, April meeting in Millville.

WebEOC has been improved. All should take the opportunity to re-familiarize yourselves with the program.

CMRPC EMS supply program

They are looking to get aggressive pricing for Worc County.

A Steering Committee was formed with Dep. Chief Normandin, Dep. Chief Dion and Chief Nestor participating. Please fill out the survey that was emailed as precisely as possible. These numbers will be used to create a database for potential needs.

Training Opportunity

June 9-12 the MFA Maze Trailer will be in Charlton. It is available to all. A schedule can be created for time and use. Please contact Captain Knopf in Charlton if interested.

Adjourn

M Chief Cloutier
S Dep Chief Normandin
V Unanimous

8:45pm

Next Meeting: March 27, 2014 – Dudley