



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 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes November 30, 2017 15:15 Auburn Fire Headquarters

Present: Chairman: Chief M. Belsito, Treasurer: Chief W. Kessler, Secretary: Chief R. Hamilton; Chief M. DiFronzo, Chief M. Lavoie, Chief D. Kochanowski, Chief K. Vinson, Chief S. Coleman

Tech/ Dive Rescue Teams Merge: Chairman Belsito reported there was a meeting with D8 and then yesterday with the state tech rescue board and discussed District 14. He then passed out a letter to each member regarding some of this. The FCAM Board voted unanimously that District 14 needs to go somewhere and the Central Region was the best choice. If D7/D8 agrees to take D14, FCAM will request the funds go to the Central Region, they would change boundaries if possible to make all of D14 in Central. Chief DiFronzo stated that the Police and DPW would also be part of it. Chief Coleman thought we should continue to talk, it may take time to happen. Chief Kochanowski feels Central needs to get extra Homeland money to make it happen. This may only be an issue on the D14 fire portion. Chief Coleman suggests we inform those towns we would be willing to take the D14 Tech if those towns each go to their towns and request a letter to request they change Homeland regions. After further discussion: Motion by Chief Coleman and seconded by Chief DiFronzo: To request the 6 towns in the Central Region (Hopedale, Milford, Northborough, Shrewsbury, Southborough and Westborough) be moved back to District 7 (They all were at one time): Unanimous

Combined D7 and D8 Structural Equipment Funds: Chairman Belsito received a call informing him we had \$43, 358 more to spend on equipment, but needed to be spent right away. He will work with Chief Sullivan to add to the existing list.

Homeland Security Money Requests: Chief Kochanowski asked for requests for the next cycle. It was agreed training should be a priority. A figure of \$200,000 seemed appropriate (for refreshers, an annual joint D7/D8 multi-discipline drill, etc.) Chief Lavoie asked for a class on heavy rescue involving large trucks and similar incidents. It was agreed to include this.

Central Location for D7 Chiefs Monthly Meetings: Chief Coleman spoke with the Auburn Elks. They would be willing to host us, that day and time is generally open. They normally charge \$100 for each monthly meeting, but may waive the fee if we write a letter requesting that. He also thought we

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should work on getting more chiefs to attend. They normally require a minimum of 30 to open the kitchen.

Motion: Chief DiFronzo seconded by Chief Kochanowski: To send a letter to the Auburn Elks requesting they waive the fee for our meetings: Unanimous

Chief Kessler cautioned if the attendance increases we will need to change our by-laws to increase the money to pay for meals (currently there at \$250 max). Chief Coleman suggested that if we do, we should also consider having a minimum attendance to meetings for anyone serving on a board or committee representing the District. It was also suggested we could have a co-pay for the meals.

Upton Air/ Light Truck: Chief Kessler received a call from Upton Chief Goodale requesting the Air/ Light Truck be moved out of his station ASAP. After some discussion: Motion by Chief DiFronzo and seconded by Chief Kessler: To house the truck in Uxbridge right away, and take it out of service until Leicester can complete the paperwork and get into their new station: Unanimous

D7 Future Training Opportunities: Chairman Belsito reported the e-mail and flyer for the Mayday program have been sent out by Chief Coleman. Chief Vinson reported the Griffin program has been booked for April 12th. He also reported the strike team leader program is still in the works. He talked with Alex McCurdy (fdssne.com) regarding an MPO training class. Chief DiFronzo explained the course he delivers. The normal cost is \$185 an hour, but he brings staff and equipment to simulate actual pumping conditions on your own pumper, and has a good reputation. Chief Vinson said they are working on active shooter and stop the bleeding classes. Chairman Belsito stated the MFA is working on a DAT class, as a result of the need at the MOBEX which found a lot of districts lacked that. Chief Coleman reported he is looking to schedule the *Working with the Media* class in the spring.

District Credit Card: Chief Kessler reported that it looked like individual names would need to be on each card in order to open an account. Motion Chief Coleman seconded Chief DiFronzo: To have two cards with the Chairman's name on one and the Treasurer's name on the other: Unanimous

Mayday Policy: Chief Coleman is working on rewriting it. He will send out a draft when it's ready. This would be a district standard that each town could accept if they wanted to.

District 7 PIO: Chairman Belsito working on.

District 7 FCAM Representative: Chairman Belsito reported four chiefs have applied for the FCAM Rep. position; Chief Coleman, Chief DiFronzo, Chief Hickey and Chief Kochanowski. The Chairman has selected Chief Coleman for the position until May 1st, when the position of 1st Vice-President of FCAM goes to a vote, which Chief Coleman is running for.

Retirement Bugle Award: Chief Coleman is taking care of this with a nearby vendor.

Station Names: Chief DiFronzo brought up for discussion 2 items from the radio committee. The first is using a standard call name for the district control point by radio. The term "District 7 control" or "Southbridge District 7 control" were discussed. The general consensus was for "District 7 Control".

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The second was a standard dispatch term for each town. As most towns use “Fire Alarm”, this probably should be the choice. Both items will be brought up to the full body.

Motion to adjourn by Chief Vinson and seconded by Chief Lavoie: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned 14:30