



MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DISTRICT 7

Ret Deputy Chief Thomas Nault,
Auburn
(508) 832-7800
Chairman

Ret Chief Roger Belhumeur, Auburn
(508) 832-7800
Treasurer

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

Ret. Chief Jeffrey Wilson, Sutton
(508) 987-6012
Secretary

District 7 Meeting Minutes September 26, 2013 Halligan's Restaurant, Auburn

Call to Order

19:03 by Acting Chair Chief R. Parsons

This being the Annual Meeting, formal attendance was taken and recorded

Presentation – A plaque was presented to Retired Chief Senecal from Sturbridge for his many years of participation in the District.

Secretary's Report – Minutes of various committees have been sent out.

Treasurer's Report – Beginning Balance	\$13,413.25
Deposits	\$ 75.58
Expenses	\$ 2,757.00
Interest	\$.58
Ending	\$10,731.83

Due to Elections, Pat Carnavale from MEMA asked speak to the group and then be excused. He talked about upcoming MEMA classes throughout Worcester County.

The Meeting was turned over to the Elections Committee. Committee Chair Chief Martel reported the following;

There was quite a few nominations for different positions in the District. After the close of nominations the results were,

- **Chairman – Chief Stephen Coleman Auburn**
- **Vice Chairman – Chief Robert Parsons Spencer**
- **Treasurer – Chief William Kessler Uxbridge**
- **Secretary – Ret. Chief Jeffrey Wilson Oxford (I)**
Chief Mark DiFronzo Southbridge

Motion by the Election Committee Chair to cast 1 ballot for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair & Treasurer.

Second – Chief Cloutier

Vote – Unanimous

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

The Elections Committee proceeded to pass out ballots to those meeting the attendance requirements. (Chief of Department or Delegate)

➤ **Election Results – Chief DiFronzo Southbridge elected to the position of Secretary**

There was a brief recess to allow the new officers to be seated and the meeting business to be reviewed.

Chairman Coleman wished to thank the previous E-Board for all of their hard work and efforts. A special thank you to Ret Chief Nault, Ret Chief Belhumer and Ret Chief Wilson for all they have done for the District over their careers.

Committee Reports:

Chief Cloutier – FCAM

- The monthly meeting was held in Manchester –by- the Sea
- FCAM working on an Active Shooter SOG follows guidelines from NFPA
- **Recredentialing** – Applications are now on the web site (FCAM & DFS). Forms are similar to the Chief credentialing. 72 points are needed. There is some confusion on how points are calculated.
- **The next Chief Officer (Deputy/Assistant) are now eligible for Credentialing**
- **Collective Apparatus Program continues. Purchase of Firetrucks/Ambulances available. Small percentage of the sales goes towards the Chiefs' Aide Fund.**
- **PAC Donations are being sought for this year.** Please provide Chief DiPoli of FCAM with current home address. He can be reached via email, available on FCAM web site.

Chief Wilson- Call Chief's Committee

No meeting. Committee has not been very active. Next scheduled meeting Oct 29, 2013

Chief Wilson – State Mobilization

- A meeting of State Mobilization was held on September 24, 2103. In attendance from D-7 was Ret. Chief Wilson (Asst Coord.) and Chief DiFronzo (requested).
- Discussion on Task Force dispatch problem to Princeton. Initial findings indicate Fitchburg used book from 2008.
- “Go Kits” have been designed for all Task Force Leaders/Alternate Leaders. Kits will have clipboard, “thumb drive” with most current Task Forces, pens, etc. Funding is pending from MEMA.
- The dispatching of Task Forces has been suggested to be done and coordinated through MEMA.
- The Task Force Leader Programs are being looked at for some type of Certification
- Anyone needing Strike Team/Task Force paperwork please see Chief Wilson (Leicester)

Chief Coleman – Training Committee

An overview of this years Recruit Class was given. The following recommendations were made;

- **One training class this year**
- **Recruit fees \$400 per recruit for D7 towns**
- **\$800 for out of district recruits**

M Chief Cloutier to set this years Recruit Class fees at \$400/student for D7 Towns and \$800/student for out of District

S Chief Belsito

V Unanimous

- Books – All books for the program will be purchased through the District. Last year there was confusion. Also this year is the new text of the Jones & Bartlett.
- 1st Responder/CPR – There will be a 1st Responder Class prior to the start of the Recruit Program. Dates of the Class – Oct 24 6:45pm – 10:00pm and Oct 26 8:00am – 4:00pm. This is a requirement for FF I/II certification.

Reminder to those sending recruits, complete application along with copy of driver's license is needed. Applications are due by Oct 4. General Meeting with recruits and Chiefs is Oct 15. Program starts Oct Nov 5.

- **So. Worc. County Radio Comm.**

- **Orange Channel** – Problems were identified and repaired. Ragged Hill Project is partially installed. Motorola to do final coordination with the system. Committee is also working on a consistent test of the Orange Channel.
- **Control Point Antenna Project** – It is moving forward. Coming to a final conclusion shortly.
- **Communications Units** – All equipment has been installed in all units. Sutton and Oxford are operational. Southbridge is awaiting training on equipment. Also a Comm Operator class is being developed for training those interested.
- **Portable Radio Caches** – New batteries from Homeland Security are in. All portables will be getting them along with a “tune-up” and system check.

- **Strike Teams** – Chief DiFronzo delivered a training session on Strike Teams/Task forces to communities in the East part of the District. The program was well received.

- **IMAT** – Chief Goodale spoke on the information he has gathered. Most are in agreement of the need. Also all felt training was extremely important. Suggests standardized training model. Also Incident Safety Officer would be a great start. Looking for support to propose class expense to CRHSC.

M Chief Goodale – to present a cost proposal to CRHSC for an Incident Safety Officer Program for the District. Also a letter of support from the District.

S Chief Belsito

V Unanimous

- **Ethics Review Committee** – No Discussion
- **Back Up Control Point Committee** – Northbridge is moving towards single dispatch center. Jan 2014 may be an implementation date. The Committee will have to continue alternative search.
- **Homeland Security (CRHSC)**
 - o **Central Dive Team request for a used vehicle** – After much discussion/debate it was decided to table this for a future request after more information is gathered.
 - o **Upton request for Incident Safety Officer Training** – Discussed earlier
 - o **Request for any other items by October 1st. Tech Rescue Questions** – After much discussion/debate a request for funding of an entire District wide training initiative with District support was suggested.

M Chief Wilson to support the Tech Rescue initiative

S Chief Cloutier

V Unanimous

With all of the work and efforts of Chief Bemis, it was decided for her to present the proposal to CRHSC.

A concern was raised about the inability of Chief Kochanowski to attend the committee meetings.

M Chief Cloutier – To allow Ret. Chief Wilson to represent District 7 at the sub-committee meetings for CRHSC.

S Chief Gannon

V Unanimous

Old Business:

IMC – Chief DiFronzo is working with Lt Kokernal from Sterling on the final phase of implementation. There seems to be a problem connecting with the I.T. specialist. Southbridge does not have full access to the entire program. There was also some discussion in the future to review this product for viability. Ret. Chief Nault reminded all that once the program goes live there will be services fees to pay. It is hoped that these would be split with District 8.

New Business:

Annex A: Dues for FY 2014

- o **Set at \$1000 for every community**

M Chief Belsito to set the dues for all District 7 communities at \$1000

S Chief Nestor

V Unanimous

Correspondence Received:

A card was received from Deputy Fire Marshall Ostroskey thanking all those that paid their respects for his father. It was much appreciated.

Good of the Organization:

- **Upton is hosting the IAFC VCOS Beyond Helmets and Hoses Program. Seats still available. October 19, 2013 8:00am to 4:00pm**
- **Mid State Chiefs hosting a seminar. November 14, 2013. Speaker Ret Chief Dunn FDNY**
- **Worcester Area Chiefs Meeting October 17, 2013**

Next Meeting:

October 24, 2013

Uxbridge ?? To be finalized

Adjourn