



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 Chiefs Meeting Minutes January 23, 2020 - 6:30 p.m. Auburn/Webster Elks, 754 Southbridge St, Auburn

Call to Order – 19:00 by Chairman Belsito
Pledge of Allegiance
27 in attendance from 18 Towns/Cities and 2 Organizations
Treasurer and Secretary Report

M – Chief Gauthier: to accept both as emailed

S – Chief White

V – Unanimous

SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATION: Jane Ostiguy, Account Manager for Masterman's, gave a presentation on the products they sell and the services they perform. A folder was given to each town which included the work they do for Auburn Fire and some pricing. They charge the same base price no matter what size your department is. They deal in traffic vests, job shirts, bomber coats, t-shirts and many other items. They embroider and screen-print. If you're getting t-shirts for a benefit, they will charge the same base cost. Once you have an account setup, they will know what you need when someone calls from your department. Can do single pieces with no minimum order, can do embroidery, sew on patches (they do not make patches). They could possibly set up District 7 clothing if we are interested. They also deal in traffic cones and similar items. A vector-based format is used to create logos. There is a \$50 fee to start up digitizing and get ready for screen-printing. They charge about \$10 for a breakaway vest plus any lettering costs.

NEW OXFORD FIRE CHIEF: Chairman Belsito introduced Larry McDonald, the new Oxford Chief, and welcomed him back to the district.

NEW UXBRIDGE FIRE CHIEF: Chairman Belsito introduced Tom Dion, appointed Chief in Uxbridge after serving as interim Chief.

MEMA: Kristen Jerome: Discussed the training calendar, she asked if there is any interest in hosting an ICS-300 or ICS-400 class, need 20 to sign up, let her know (can do a night class if there's enough interest), they have two new hires, she will keep most of District 7.

DCR: Roy Liard apologized for missing the last two meetings, seasonal staff will start March 15th and scheduled to end October 3rd, notifications are starting for VFA grants, contact Roy for any excess property requests or and fire prevention programs, snow cover going away and he will restart daily fire weather, total of 51 fires for 22 acres last season.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- *Training:* Chief Vinson: Nothing new, meeting in the next 2 weeks looking for ideas. Chairman Belsito added there is one opening if anyone is interested.
- *Radio:* Chief Hamilton: Committee discussing upgrades to the orange system, the repeaters are all original and Motorola doesn't support them anymore. A Homeland Security regional grant was the thought and they will check into that. As he stepped down as Chairman of the Radio Committee Gary Fleischer was voted in as the new Chairman.
- *FCAM:* Chief Johnson: The Professional Development Conference is in the first week of March. There is a Statehouse bill that will allow someone to buyback their call service no matter what department they started with. At the next meeting a lawyer will be discussing the Medicare bill.
- *Homeland Security:* Chief Kochanowski: Homeland is funding the ICS-300 and ICS-400 classes (each year). The resource guide is online now (it will replace the hard copies), it will be easier to update. Some extra funds have been allocated to them. Chief Belsito's training proposal should be good to go. He asked the Radio Committee to get a proposal right in for the orange system upgrade. Chief Fleischer is worked on the meter calibration station project.
- *Tech Rescue:* Chairman Belsito: They had a committee meeting, Chief Nord was present, via landline, they want to have a combined training, an 80-hour training. A letter was sent to Homeland and a Project Justification (PJ) submitted for \$89,717 for 16 members. He appears before Homeland February 4th. It probably would be held at Joint Base Cape Cod. The trailer and trench rescue proposal is at EOPPS. They will review all their equipment and its locations.
- *State Mobilization:* Chief DiFronzo: There was a meeting Wednesday, the inventory is complete and Chief Wilson has them. They need to compare the inventory to the run cards. Contact them if you want any changes, they probably will remain the same and will be a quick turnaround. Next, they will look at what we want brought into District 7 for an activation. The State is creating strike teams and task forces and will also have hand crews. Proper credentials and PPE are being discussed. It is up to the IC in the community if the requirements are OK. Some training will be offered to help with credentialing and also on-line training on the entire program is being developed for dispatchers.
- *EMS:* No report
- *Communications Team:* Chief DiFronzo: Nothing new, interest from one new member, if anyone else has someone interested have those members contact them.

OLD BUSINESS

PIO CLASS: Chairman Belsito: Next week they will begin selecting, Working with the Media Class in early April.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY: Chief Grasso explained Sturbridge needs to purchase a new system for accountability and felt it would be helpful to have a standardized accountability system. Chief McDonald stated Ware and Palmer looked into that, they were interested in the Tactron system, makes it more seamless, it's a lot of work putting together. Various systems were discussed

SCBA FIT TESTING: Chairman Belsito: Chief Coleman would like to purchase one or two. Discussion followed and it was mentioned Uxbridge had agreed to offer the use of their machine to the district, Chief Dion agreed. Chief Hickey stated a new machine cost \$12,000. Uxbridge will check if they have all the adapters, any single fit test can be done in Uxbridge. After looking back, the secretary read the minutes from the January 24, 2019: *FIT TESTER: Chairman Belsito had two quotes obtained through Chief Hickey. Discussion took place, Deputy Chief Tancrell explained Chief Dion offered Uxbridge's fit tester for District use. He asked the cost of annual calibration be covered (\$900 per year) and the cost of any adapters needed (about \$200 each), it is mobile.*

M – Chief Vinson: *To use Uxbridge's fit tester and cover the calibration costs*

S – Chief Parsons

V – Unanimous

This motion was amended by Chief Coleman for the district to purchase any adapters needed: Unanimous.

Chief Dion will check to see if it will do the N95 fit testing. (Chief Dion later reported they have adapters for Scott, MSA Firehawk and MSA G1. They are unsure about ISI and have no N95)

NEW BUSINESS

FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT (FIU): Chief Knopf inquired about the responses from the D7 FIU. He wanted to know what guidelines they have, specifically the number of members that respond to an activation. Discussion followed and Chief Silver explained what has been happening on responses.

GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT: Chief Knopf announced the charity softball game held in Charlton raised \$1,600 for Shriners Hospital for Children in Boston. They are hoping to repeat it next year with more members.

N. BROOKFIELD INCIDENT: Chief Holway wished to thank the district and Leicester Fire for sending the air/light truck to an incident at Hanneford's Supermarket in N. Brookfield.

WORCESTER SUPPORT: Chief Fleischer wished to thank the district from the City of Worcester for Chief Lavoie, Deputy Chiefs White and Dyer, and himself, for the support in November during their loss of Lt. Menard and for the coverage during the wake and funeral services.

M – Chief Gauthier: To adjourn

S – Chief Knopf

V – Unanimous

Adjourned 20:00 hrs.

Next Meeting: February 27th in Auburn

Dates to Remember

February 7th Jeff Wilson retirement party, Dudley-Gendron, \$20 pp
February 21st – Jim Barker retirement party, Dudley-Gendron, \$20 pp
July 12th – Muster and parade, Webster, 175th anniversary

**District 7 Chiefs
Meeting Sign-In
January 23, 2020**

Name	Affiliation
RICH HAMILTON	MILLBURY FIRE
Keith Newlands	Millbury Fire
MICKY GAUTHIER	GRAFTON
Mou Pehito	Sutton
Kent Vinson	Douglas
Bill Kessler	Wendell
DAVID WHITE	Northampton
Steven R. Dupre	Northbridge
GARY R. FEISCHER	WORCESTER, MA
Peter Matell	Brookfield
Joseph Holway	N. Brookfield F.P.
Darin Anderson	N.B.F.D.
MARIK D. FRANZO	UPTON

**District 7 Chiefs
Meeting Sign-In
January 23, 2020**

Name	Affiliation
Dean Kochanowski	DUDLEY
Bob Silver	Millbury
JOHN GRASSO	STURBRIDGE
ED KNOPE	CHARLTON
Glenn Johnson	Auburn
Paul Konieczny	Dudley
Brian Hickey	Weston

**District 7 Chiefs
Meeting Sign-In
January 23, 2020**

Name	Affiliation
Ray Liard	DCR
David Messier	East Brookfield
Kristen Jerome	MEMA
Jacob Nunnemacher	Sutton Fire
Scott Bridges	Warren Fire
Adam Lavoy	Warren Fire
Laurent R. McDonald	Oxford Fire