



## MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DISTRICT 7

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

Chief Robert Parsons, Spencer  
Vice Chairman  
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Chief William Kessler, Uxbridge  
Treasurer  
(508) 278-2787

Chief Richard Hamilton, Millbury  
Secretary  
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### **District 7 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 22, 2019 14:00 Auburn Fire Headquarters**

**Present:** Chairman: Chief M. Belsito, Vice-Chairman: Chief R. Parsons, Treasurer: Chief W. Kessler, Secretary: Chief R. Hamilton; Chief K. Vinson, Chief S. Coleman, Chief B. Hickey, Chief M. Lavoie, Chief P. Normandin, Chief Kochanowski

**Homeland Security:** Chairman Belsito update the Board; We took delivery of most of the Structural Collapse Equipment and Trailer just sorting through and we are in the process of figuring out what is missing or broken. Trailer to be shelved very shortly, equipment placed and in-service. Wide Area Search Training scheduled for 3-days in March. Earlier this month Dive was awarded monies for equipment and training. Jon Martin is scheduling training.

**D7 future training opportunities:** Chief Vinson: Still being worked on. Extensive discussion then took place on training and the new mandates through MFA. Someone won't be able to challenge a program, they will be required to attend the entire program to get certified. Fire Marshal Ostroskey is planning on attending Thursday's D7 Chiefs meeting to explain the new requirements.

**Interstate Mutual Aid:** Much discussion took place on the agreements and liability associated with going mutual aid to other states, routinely to Connecticut and Rhode Island, and the lack of official agreements in most cases. It is possible to activate the state EMAC agreement however the Governor, possibly through MEMA, would need to be notified and approve the response to be covered by the policy. Marshal Ostroskey is attending Thursday's D7 Chiefs meeting, and bringing three others, to discuss the issue. It appears to be a very complicated issue liability wise.

**Outside Audit:** Chairman Belsito: Letter should be here shortly.

**FCAM:** Chief Coleman: OSHA implementation date still February 1<sup>st</sup>. No update on the gear washer program through DFS.

**Tech Team Consortium:** District 7, 8, and 14 Tech/Dive Team—Central Mass Tech/Dive Rescue Team Consortium — At the recent Tech Committee meeting we voted in favor of moving forward with a stand-alone Team (separate) made up of 15-members currently in good standing from either Dive or Tech Team's that could be deployed in-State or out of State for up to two weeks. Team members would have to hit bench mark's for FEMA typing and training. We want to at the very least be considered a FEMA type II Team. Potential member Chief's must be on-board with this right from the get go. Also, members will be required to fill out another application to their current one which is in the process of being created. Brian Sheridan is heading this up. Discussion followed with the requirements for an immunization record for team members. Chief Coleman read a required list (influenza, DPD and TDAP). They had also discussed ID's with medical info imbedded. Next meeting is March 13<sup>th</sup> 1:00 at Hopkinton Fire.

**Cadaver Dog:** An Auburn Firefighter has acquired a puppy that he is in the process of training as a cadaver dog. He is doing this personally and is not sponsored by any department. The thought is that he could work with the dive team, and others. Chief Coleman stated Auburn Fire will cover the Firefighter if they are activated, but can't cover anything else. Further information will be coming.

**9-1-1 Shutdown:** Chief Parsons brought up the recent issue when towns had no 9-1-1 service. The problem apparently happened at 3:00 in the morning and it was very intermittent when everyone found out about it. Dispatch Centers were not notified about it directly, it came from word of mouth through e-mails and social media. The group felt the State 9-1-1 Commission should be asked about this incident and how it could be better dealt with. Chief Normandin will reach out to Rich Fisk to see if he could any assistance to us.

**Control Point:** Chairman Belsito brought the Board up to date on recent activations and potential changes to procedures. Chief Normandin added: On an activation of a special team, if the leader or chief hasn't signed on, the control point can track everything and then give them an update when they sign on Orange. Chief Normandin also brought up the apparatus console, a system for tracking out of service vehicles in the district. He feels it doesn't get used much and felt it was a complicated system. Discussion was held on how that function could happen on the IamResponding system. We currently split a hosting fee with District 8 for that and the run cards, about \$400 a year. The notifications are currently being sent out three systems, which results in excessive notifications to members. Motion: Chief Kessler seconded by Chief Kochanowski: To allow Chief Normandin to develop a plan and bring a proposal back to the next Board of Directors meeting: Unanimous He will also see what types of updates can be done to the IamResponding system. Chief Hamilton will work with him on creating run cards in a different format. There was a discussion on how the activation of a special team is quite different than a strike team or task force activation. While a leader is enroute, it is difficult to watch their phone for information on responding members. The leader can call the control point on orange and they can advise them on what they see on the system.

Motion to adjourn by Chief Kochanowski and seconded by Chief Normandin: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned 15:30