



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 June 24, 2021 - 6:30 p.m. Auburn/ Webster Elks, 754 Southbridge St, Auburn

Call to Order – 19:10 by Chairman Belsito
Pledge of Allegiance
22 in attendance from 17 Towns/Cities and 1 Organization

Treasurer and Secretary Report

M – Chief Gauthier: to accept both as emailed

S – Chief Normandin

V – Unanimous

MEMA: No report

DCR: D7 Warden Liard: 124 fires in District 7 so far this year, fire towers get staffed on Class 3 days, no drought in Central Mass, nationwide expect to get busy, if interested in excess property (starting to open up after the covid) email Roy, Smokey program starting up again.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- *Training:* Chief Vinson: No report

- *Radio:* Chief DiFronzo: 800 MHz radios almost ready, donated ACU-1000 ready to install in FC1, suitcase radios repurposed for current use. Chairman Belsito asked about using the D7 Orange channel on Zello, Chief Coleman suggested having the Radio Committee make guidelines for its use and who is authorized to transmit on it.

- *FCAM:* Chief Coleman: No report

- *Homeland Security:* Chairman Belsito: per Chief Kochanowski; he chose Chief Hickey as his alternate.

M – Chief Parsons: To support Chief Hickey's appointment

S – Chief Gauthier

V – Unanimous

- *Tech Rescue*: Chairman Belsito: Getting trailer ready, Tech Rescue horse incident in Sutton went well
- *State Mobilization*: Chief DiFronzo: Meeting this morning, report of drill should be out shortly, during the last two activations inventories were not up to date, working on our run cards in the fall, draft of response policy and PowerPoint sent out to everyone, per Chairman Belsito asked everyone to review it over the summer months and send any responses to Chief DiFronzo, it will be discussed at the September meeting.
- *EMS*: Chief Normandin: Most of Covid EMS policies have been rescinded, except first responders can drive an ambulance, the hold the wall issue was discussed.
- *Comm Team*: Chief DiFronzo: Training held last month, discussed changes, possibly redo hierarchy, final plan in the fall, will have a process to appoint.

OLD BUSINESS

MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE: No report

BYLAW CHANGE TO MEETING SCHEDULE: Change to be voted at the annual meeting. Chief Coleman suggested the bylaw committee should meet to discuss any other changes

DISTRICT RIT INITIATIVE: Chief Coleman: Just finalized, 3 levels, 64 hours of training, he will send the proposal to everyone, explained the workings of it, will sit with training committee to figure out how to pay for it, possibly use the model the recruit training used and pay instructors a set rate, will look at members on the RIT training held last time, maybe 1 or 2 classes a year.

NEW BUSINESS

SAFE TRAILER: The trailer stored in North Brookfield will need a place to go for a year or so while work is done at their training facility. They will take it back after that. Chief Parsons offered to store it in Spencer.

WORCESTER COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD: A meeting is being set up with the D7 Chiefs and the retirement board. Chairman Belsito asked if a day or night meeting would be better. Chief Coleman suggested a day meeting, as the issues do not affect call chiefs or call firefighters. He felt it should be done soon. Chairman Belsito will ask for some dates.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE: Chairman Belsito asked for chiefs to serve on the nominations committee, as there will be elections at the September Annual meeting. Chief Martell, Chief Vinson and Chief Coleman offered.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Legislative breakfast for Districts 7, 8 and 14 – September 29th in Shrewsbury
(If any Chief gets overlooked on the invitation contact Chairman Belsito)

GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION

Captain Lapierre inquired if anyone has a good retention program that they have used. No one did, it is a common problem in many departments.

M – Chief Gauthier: To adjourn

S – Chief Cantara

V – Unanimous

Adjourned 19:50 hrs.

Next Meeting: September 23rd at the Auburn/ Webster Elks

**District 7 Chiefs
Meeting Sign-In
June 24, 2021**

Name	Affiliation
DAN SANTOS	W. B. F. D.
Peter Martell	Brookfield
Jim Bain	East Brookfield
David Messier	East Brookfield
RICH HAMILTON	MILLBURY FIRE
MATT BELWITZ	SUTTON FIRE

