



MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DISTRICT 7

Chief Stephen M. Coleman Jr., Auburn
Chairman
(508) 832-7800

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

Chief William Kessler, Uxbridge
Treasurer
(508)-278-2787

Chief Mark DiFronzo, Southbridge
Secretary
(508)-764-5430

District 7 Meeting Agenda April 22, 2015 Sturbridge Host Hotel - 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order – 1907

Secretaries Report

M Asst Chief Meskus to accept as sent/emailed
S Chief Parsons
V Unanimous

Treasurers Report

M Chief Parsons to accept as sent/emailed
S Asst Chief Meskus
V Unanimous

MEMA Update

Area 3 / 4 Director Carnevale advised the group that there are several meetings scheduled across the region to go over the reimbursement paperwork for the Jan 23. He strongly encouraged DPW Directors and finance Directors to go. The State does have an appeal in for the other storms. The Federal Government has 90 days to respond.

Emails have been sent for upcoming quarterly EMD Meetings.

Still looking to see if there is an ICS Interest at night? (24 hr program)

There is an IED/Bomb Threat program 6/23 Spencer

Reminder that there is a GPS Unit from Homeland Security. Please contact CMRHSC as soon as possible if interested.

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

DCR Update

They have been successful in hiring additional seasonal help. This help will be to supplement the staff so as the W Brookfield tower will be up as often as possible.

Warden Liard asked if everyone was receiving the morning emails on the predicted fire weather. This brought up a discussion of the need of the County Band Announcement during the afternoon. The afternoon announcement provides the information of how the day is classified. It was decided to discontinue the County Band message in favor of an Email.

There has been a new Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner hired. Direction of the agency has yet to be determined

There have been some recent requests for the District Warden to assist communities in citing people for open air burning misuse. Warden Liard is not sworn in to issue citations. He wasn't sure why he is not sworn, and has asked the question but received no response. He thought perhaps a letter of support to State Warden Celino may be helpful. Looking.

M Asst Chief Meskus to have the Chair write a letter of support to have the Fire Wardens sworn to issue citations and be sent to Chief Celino.

S Chief Parsons

V Unanimous

Additional discussion on citations was continued in relation to the District looking into a District Hearings Officer. This would be helpful to small communities who do not have a hearings officer.

Committee Reports:

- Training Committee

Recruit Class has 23 students left. Class average is an 80. The Live Burn training sessions are coming up.

Still looking for Group photos from previous classes to put into the slide presentation as this is the last D-7 Recruit Program we will run.

Committee met to discuss other trainings. They are not sure what's going around the district. They are looking to set up a district calendar for all to see what's going on and start to understand what the District needs are. They are also suggesting any EMS trainings also be posted.

Under consideration is having an all-day event leadership and officer development program. The approximate cost is \$3500. After discussion, they will looking into trying to schedule something in October. It was also decided that some type of fee for the program be charged to help offset the costs. As we know, we can't continue to do programs at no cost as we do not have the budgetary resources.

Chief Kessler was speaking with the MFA Director and he is willing to come to a future meeting. He will see what dates work for him. The MFA is looking to revitalize the Impact Series of programs for district delivery and this would be a great opportunity for him to understand what some the needs are.

- **Radio Committee**

There has been a lot going on as far as communications goes.

The Strike Team Drill went well. A few issues were identified.

- Teams should be calling Team Leaders not the Control Point. This message needs to get out to the line officers. If a unit does sign on the air looking for the Team Leader and there is no response, continue as dispatched. Try again in a few moments, if there is still no response then try the Control Point
- Manifest Forms – please use the triplicate forms. It was noticed some communities are making copies of the Manifest. We need all departments to use the forms issued which are in triplicate. If there is a community that needs forms please contact Chief DiFronzo or Chief Wilson.

During the discussions of manifests, it was discussed on standardizing the Strike Team cards. There seems to be a lot of new equipment in the District that currently is not on cards. It was also identified that there seems to be no similarity between strike team cards. For example, a brush card from the west does not have the same type equipment as a brush card from the east. Chief Coleman will schedule a meeting of the E-Board to develop a standardized response card for each type (structural, brush, disaster). Upon completion of the standard cards, strike team coordinators will go back to their areas and fill in what they can.

Tech Drill went well. A lot was learned and problems identified. An After Action Report will be developed to identify where we need to make improvements.

FC 30 went to Hopkinton to assist at the Boston Marathon. It was staged at Hopkinton Fire and available if needed, there was no specific assignment.

The Sutton Comm Unit went to Northbridge to provide assistance during the funeral service of Cpl Dawson. Millbury's Rescue also assisted.

Backup Control Point is still on hold. The committee plans on keeping the options open until a center can be identified that will meet our needs.

The Radio Committee Chair along with the officers of the radio committee will work on developing a report on the past events and lessons learned.

- **FCAM Update**

None

- **Homeland Security**

GPS Devices – A reminder to all communities that CRHSAC is issuing each community a GPS device. You must attend a training session on its use. Those are scheduled for June, but no actual dates are set.

- **Tech Rescue Committee**

Drill went well. After Action meetings are upcoming with final report to follow.

There was some damage to equipment. There were monies put into the budget request to replace these.

An equipment list is being developed as well. These items will be purchased with the remaining dollars from the grant

A reminder the Tech Awareness meetings are upcoming. They start at 6:30pm.

Monday May 4, 2015 - Sutton

Monday May 18, 2015 - Oxford

Monday June 1, 2015 - Spencer

- **Call Chief's Committee**

No Meeting / No Report

- **State Mobilization**

No Meeting / No Report

- **EMS Committee**

An Email has been received on an EMS reimbursement bill. There was limited information looking for support. Chief Martel to follow up and provide additional information.

The Intermediate transition program has started. There are 11 students. Ricci Hall is the trainer/coordinator. Things are going well at this point, positive feedback has been received from those taking the program. Those communities that still need to pay, invoicing to come from the District shortly.

Old Business:

Don Wicher EMS Association – (no update)

Working with the Media Training – Well attended and the reviews were positive. If there is an interest, it may be run again.

New Business:

New NFPA Ambulance specs are under review. Please contact you ambulance dealer to see how to comment on these proposals. One of particular interest is the change in cot fasteners. The current fasteners are not acceptable. The only 2 accepted methods are the Stat trac system from Ferno or the Powerload system from Stryker. These range from \$10,000 to \$30,000. Please make an effort to review and add comments.

Good of the Organization

Nothing to report

Next Meeting: May 28th - Douglas Fire Department

M To Adjourn Dep Chief Normandin
S Chief Parsons
V Unanimous

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