

DRAFT NOT APPROVED

Minutes for Hampshire County Fire Defense March 2016 - Easthampton-Tandem Bagel

Attendees:

Amherst,	Belchertown,	Cummington,	Chesterfield,	Easthampton
Granby,	Goshen,	Hadley	Hatfield,	Huntington
Northampton	SHFD 1,	SHFD 2	Southampton	Middlefield,
Pelham,	Plainfield,	Ware,	Williamsburg	Westhampton
Worthington	DCR,	MSP/Fire Marshal's Office.		MEMA
Eversource	Other: CRS			

Meeting called to order at 1815 hours

February Minutes – Approved Unanimously

Treasure report – Chief Coulombe reported the following funds;

Haz Mat Account -\$54,866.39

Monson Savings - \$10,253.00

Florence Savings-\$30,144.00

T. Coulombe reported he received a bill in the amount of \$250.00 from Montague Webworks for hosting of website -

Motion to pay by Russ Anderson

Seconded by Sue Labrie

Passed Unanimously

Secretary – No Report

MEMA - P. Carnevale Reported EMD Quarterly Meeting this month at New Springfield Campus of Mass Fire Academy. There will be a morning and evening session and invitations will be sent out

Eversource – Public Officials Meeting coming up in mid April

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Radio – L. Stromgren reported on Life Flight possibly changing policy on radio communications with departments. Possibility of changing to VTAC Channel for communications with all departments. State Police may do the same thing however they have requested holding off until MIFOG comes out. Will have final info at next meeting.

- T. Coloumbe discussed Task Force Radio Cache and will work with T. Bock on programming of mobile radios for Task Force.

-T. Coloumbe suggested that we get inventory of radios from community's and also suggested that we decide on a travel channel/Ops channel and make them all the same. Mobiles easier however portables will be more difficult.

-L. Stromgren recommended the possibility of VTAC 14 as it is the same across the country

D. Mottor stated radios need to have identifiers programmed in and discussed Worcester County Comm. Plan which is color coded for VTAC Channels. Stated we should reach out to Worcester County to get copy for review

Training- D. Nichols reported that we have 17 registered so far for the Hampshire 6 program starting in April. Also reported that UL Class has 20 Registrations for April 2 class at the Marriot in Hadley. We would like to get 50 signed up so please send out flyer to anyone who might be interested and get folks to sign up

T. Coloumbe provided info regarding Mass Fire Academy class on Mayday and RIT Review and also ICS on the 30th. SIM to be scheduled later.

D. Nichols reminded group about scheduling Mass Fire Academy classes and D. Mottor and M. Spanknebel announced impact classes they are hosting. They will ship out schedule of classes if anyone is interested.

EMS - No Report

Mutual Aid- T. Coloumbe reported that mobilization to Westfield went well but there was one issue with a cancelled group. Suggested we send an email out to Chiefs asking if their community is capable of standing up a crew of 4 for structural and 3 for brush task force assignments and also task force leaders who are available during the week and weekends.

Bi-Law Committee - No Report

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Hazmat- No Report

Air truck –B. Forgea reported that he contacted Plainfield FD and that the air truck was deployed on December 22, however no active use and it was found that all of the air bottles are out of date for testing. B. Forgea suggested that we should consider turning truck over to Plainfield and it can become part of Hilltown and then their responsibility.

T. Coloumbe agreed with giving up trailer as Westover is alternative and always available for use.

R. Anderson made motion to give vehicle to Plainfield FD unless they did not want to take it then it would be declared surplus with any benefit to go to HCFDA.

D. Mottor Seconded.

Discussion continued and was decided to send letter to Plainfield first to ask if they wanted equipment. R. Anderson rescinded his motion. Secretary to draft letter.

Fit Test – In Goshen. S. Labrie reported that equipment broken and parts missing. Tester to Hatfield Fire next.

CFO- No Report

FCAM – D. Mottor reported that FCAM met threshold for rebate for apparatus and ambulances and that communities who purchased will be receiving \$600.00 rebate. Turnout gear going back out to bid and looking for people to assist with specs. April meeting to be held in Ware and D. Mottor also discussed concern of Houston Galveston vs. MAPC for equipment purchase and recommended buyer be aware if using HGAC.

Mass. Call/Vol. – Regional meeting next Wednesday the 16th in Bernardston.

Tech Rescue- No Report

WMFC- Legislative Breakfast well received and attended. Next month's meeting at Blue Bonnet on April 28th at 6pm.

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SAFE Trailer - S. Labrie reported trailer still in storage at Berkshire Hardwoods and then to Hadley in April.

MSP – No Report

DCR – G. Loud reported Pelham tower to be manned hopefully by 20th of March and second position will start hopefully on the 27th. Also has position available so if you know of anyone interested have them go to mass.gov site for employment info.

Roxanne Savoie stated that the VFA grant is due by April 8th and final closeout documentation for previous grant is also needed.

Will start sending out daily fire weather and class for the day between 10-1030 hours and also predictions for following day by 17-1730 hours.

Chief Celino requesting that if you have a brush/wildland fire to please provide as accurate acreage info as possible and also to go online and request local forecast if handling larger fire for accurate weather info.

DFS – No Report

Old Business- None Reported

New Business - C. Norris reported on HCOG Oversight Committee. Budget this year ok, next year our half and EMS half to communications equipment. Going forward with tower site buildouts to voting systems (Mt. Lincoln, Skinner) so all can communicate with one another. Currently looking for grants to support project and B. Forgea working with legislators to provide funding.

C. Norris also reported that Springfield Academy Call/Vol. FF I/II program starting in July.

Possible discussion to be had with Marshal on Special Ops equipment such as cascade/light truck.

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New Business (Cont.)

D. Mottor asked committee to consider rehab trailer be declared surplus. T. Coloumbe made motion to declare trailer surplus and allow Easthampton to purchase for price of \$3300.00.

S. Labrie seconded motion

Approved unanimously.

D. Mottor announced pump testing coming up during the week of August 23rd. Locations of testing to be Easthampton, Granby and Holyoke for overflow. Cost approximately \$330.00.

T. Coloumbe recommended that we look into bringing ISO training to Hampshire County next year as substantial changes have occurred and program is more performance based than equipment based.

D. Mottor/T. Coloumbe discussed Home Base online program providing awareness of returning servicemen. Western Mass to send out information and link to page and secretary to send out link.

FCAM REP position currently being vacated by Chief Anderson was discussed and the secretary read into the minutes a letter from T. Nelson – Association President recommending Chief Tom Coloumbe for the position. C. Norris stated that in the best interest of the group that he was withdrawing his request to be considered for the position.

B. Forgea made motion to accept T. Coloumbe as FCAM Rep for remainder of Chief Anderson's term.

S. Labrie seconded motion

Approved unanimously.

Discussion on future meetings and whether we need to adjust time of meeting to get more chiefs out to the meetings. Suggested we do paper survey or survey monkey by email to see what chief's feel is the value of the group.

D. Mottor requests that we reach out to new chiefs and chiefs who have not been in attendance to get them to be more active in the group. Recommended peer pressure to get them to come.

T. Coloumbe suggested and discussed review of active and inactive chiefs and potential of adjustments to fee schedules. Suggested creation of membership committee.

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New Business (Cont.)

D.Nichols suggested having something in hand to have them fill out with specific questions. Also to put together a flyer to handout clearly explaining the Association and what funding goes to. B. Forgea, D. Nichols and T. Coloumbe to start process of reaching out.

Secretary to check on email list to ensure message is getting out.

April Meeting to be held at Barstow's Dairy Store in Hadley

Meeting Adjourned 2007 hours