

## **November 14 , 2013- Hampshire County Fire Defense Association meeting**

Meeting held at Cummington Fire Station

**Members in Attendance-** Chief Norris, Chief Mottor, Chief Coulombe, Chief Labrie, Chief Forgea, Chief Beldon, Chief Dayhill, Chief Connell, Rich Stefanowicz, DC Douchkoff, DC Carpenter, Chief Hewes, Chief Thatcher

**Treasurer's Report-** The books are at the auditor at this time. President brought them there a year ago to have reviewed given the transition between personnel. This was strictly done as precedural and should be established as practice for the Association.

**Old Business-** Minutes of last meeting presented. Motion by Chief Belden to approve. Seconded by Chief Labrie. Approved by all members.

### **Reports of Committees-**

**Radio-** email from Lindsey will be forwarded. Communications about Hadley fire were discussed. WMLEC is up from 5 towers to 10 towers in Western MA. South Hadley has a portable radio case for WMLEC that needs to go to Chief Anderson in Granby. **Chief Norris will track down and report out at next meeting.** All communities are encouraged to test their WMLEC system. Departments should call Northampton Control to coordinate this testing.

**Training-** Rich Stefanowicz reported out on the Training Committee budget. Spreadsheet has been developed to track students coming through program and what Department they are from. Brian Fey and Mike O'Neil are two new Instructors that have been brought into the program. On average, about 12 Students per class are attending. Talked about adding a ventilation program and foam program to tiered training program for the upcoming months. **Chief Norris will put out to group if anyone is interested in assisting with hazmat training on February 16, 2014 in Chesterfield for the tiered training program.**

**EMS-** no report

**Mutual Aid-** Chief Coloumbe talked about the run cards for the task forces. Looking for Hilltown Chiefs to review the resources and see who is available to respond on these assignments. Looking to review structural responses first and then looking at other running cards for task forces. Discussion followed on moving from three TF's to two TF's. Chief Coulombe will email Chris the TF cards and I will forward to group to review. Once assignments are solidified, Chief Coloumbe will give out the "Go Bags" that were awarded to County on a grant from the Western MA Homeland Security Council. Chief Coulombe currently has these bags. Chief Coloumbe will also try to facilitate a training program in regards to mobilization.

**By-Law-** Will report out on Assistant Treasurer for change in bylaw

**Hazmat-** No report

**Air Truck-** Still in Plainfield. Looking for dates on tanks to see if they need to be hydrotested. Chris will call Sue Brown about proper surplus for Draggers on air trailer. We will look into reassigning them to Cummington, Goshen, Chesterfield.

**Fit-Tester-** One is in Amherst that will be retired. Other one is in South Hadley D2. Granby will have it next.

**CFO Continuing Education-** Chief Mottor spoke with Chief Lozier about GPS training. He is willing to do training for this group. The program is an 8-hour program. Chief Mottor will facilitate after the first of the calendar year.

**Special Committees-** No report

**FCAM-** Meeting schedule for next 14 months are out. 4 meetings will be out in Western MA. December meeting at Log Cabin on December 11<sup>th</sup>. December 2014 will be at Log Cabin. March 2014 will be in Charlton. FCAM looking at adding more to group purchasing such as PPE and hose. Concern across Commonwealth about turn out gear not being more than 10 yrs. old. This is now requirement for all live fire training. Gear rental options for PPE available. Costs \$475 for four months (see attachment). New standard for hose has a ten year life as well. The Town of Warwick has a study going on right now looking at combining Police and Fire Chief positions. FCAM put together a press release for communities looking to combine these positions and provide communities with information on this and what to look for. Reminder about Fire Chief credentialing and the need to get this completed.

**MCVFA-** no report

**Technical Rescue Team-** We will be paying part of the dispatching service. Might be good idea to have this group come and do a presentation to us on their services. Trainers are in Northampton, Holyoke and North Adams. They will need an ALS ambulance for their personnel and rehab if dispatched to your community. We agreed to pay \$200 for the "I am responding" service for this service.

**WMFCA-**

**New Business-** ICS 300 cancelled. Next training meeting will be January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at South Hadley D2.

Executive Committee met Tuesday in Easthampton in regards to the situation in Hampshire County for EMS coverage. The Executive Committee drafted a letter to OEMS and recommended to them follow their respective service zones. Letter was

presented to the group and review prior to being forwarded to OEMS. Discussion followed on service zones and the need to follow all of these plans that have been made a priority.

Hazmat fund currently overseen by the HCOG. Discussion followed on getting money out of the HCOG and possibly put money in a CD to maximize our rate on return on these funds.

New WebEOC training be rolled out. Please attend.

AFG grants out. Please get Chief Norris your demographic information for this grant. Chief Anderson and Norris working on this. This group voted to put in for a mobile live fire training prop. Discussion followed on matching amount and how to fund this if awarded.

New Training Director will be starting at MFA on November 18, 2013.

There will be a vacancy on the Fire Training Council for a career Chief. Commissioner Conant will be submitted as the name to fill this vacancy.

**Good and Welfare-** No report

**Time and Location of next meeting-** Hotel Northampton, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 6PM. The State Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshal will be in attendance.

Meeting adjourned 2040.

Minutes respectively submitted by Chief Norris