

HCFDA

OCTOBER 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Location: Easthampton

Meeting Called to Order: 1804 hrs.

Meeting Adjourned: 1902 hrs.

Motion made and seconded to accept minutes from September meeting. Vote in the affirmative.

Motion made and seconded to suspend the Treasurer's Report. Vote in the affirmative.

Motion made and seconded to suspend old business in order to allow meeting guests to speak. Vote in the affirmative.

Mike Mazza, and Joe Gura, MSP/Fire Marshal's office, introduced MSP Trooper Mark Reidy as the new Fire Investigator for Hampshire/Franklin Counties. Trooper Reidy will work out of the Troop B barracks.

Patrick Carnevale, MEMA Region 3 & 4 Director spoke on:

The overall positive response to the Easthampton microburst.

The possible use of drones in emergency response and recovery.

Russ Anderson asked about the possibility of MEMA contracting for drone use. Mr. Carnevale stated he would look into the issue.

He reminded the group of the need to contact MEMA early during an emergency event.

Bob Barry, MEMA Region 3 & 4 Local Coordinator, spoke on:

Upcoming ICS 300 course in Ware.

Upcoming ICS 400 course in Springfield.

Upcoming PIO course in Springfield.

Informed the group that the EMPG awards would be announced in the coming week.

Motion made and seconded to extend an invitation to the MEMA representatives to become permanent guests at our organization's meetings. Vote in the affirmative. The MEMA representatives accepted the invitation.

Old Business

Russ Anderson will contact the C.O.G with regard to our organization's Hazmat funds.

Reports of Committees

Communications:

Lindsay Stromgren reported on the monthly Interops meeting and updates to CMED.

Communications cont.:

David Keefe commented positively on the communications and communications during the recent Notch rescue.

Lindsay Stromgren added that the WMTRT does not have V-TAC channels installed on their radios and the channel should be added.

Hampshire County radio list has been updated.

Any radios with WMLEC should be checked to make sure the frequency is up to date due to the WMLEC upgrade completed during the summer of 2013.

Request made that Chris Norris send a reminder to members to upgrade their radios with the U-TAC and V-TAC frequencies.

Training:

Continuing Education: Gordon Graham will be the speaker at next year's program.

Positive feedback on the Basic 6 program.

Next evolution is at Westover ARB, 11/2/14.

Feedback has pointed to the need to spend more training time on certain items.

Suggestion made to create an evaluation form.

David Mottor reminded the group of the need to fill the NFPA-1 orientation course slated for Western Mass.

David Mottor also commented on the improved quality of the DFS sponsored Senior Fire Officer Forums.

Russ Anderson stated that the DFS sponsored "Impact" courses were being retooled.

RA also stated that the FF 1 – 2 Program would begin 2/28/14 and finish June 2015.

RA stated the Fire Academy is still looking for a director and that it could be an educator.

EMS: No report.

Mutual Aid: No report.

Bylaws: No report.

Hazmat: New trucks are on schedule. Ultimately four response vehicles will be located in District 4.

Air truck: No changes.

Fit Tester: Recommendation made to explore acquiring a new unit.

FCAM: Nominations are open until December 15, 2014.

The FCAM bid process will be expanded to PPE and SCBA.

The mentoring program has been successful and a reminder that to avail yourself of FCAM legal services you must be active in FCAM.

September meeting in Western Massachusetts was the highest attended meeting.

Recommendation to make every attempt to make the December meeting at the Log Cabin.

Reminder from the Marshal to call early for the ISU.

Mass Call/Vol: No report.

Technical Rescue: Concern raised that the Regional Team is posting reports on Facebook.

WMASS Chiefs: Planning to meet with other area Chiefs' associations.

The Big E and Dalton will not charge for the use of their venues.

Attempting to schedule evening meetings.

SAFE Trailer: No report.

New Business

Russ Anderson – The Fire Marshal says we will have use of the of the Springfield burn building.

All turnout gear will need to meet the applicable NFPA standard. We will be allowed to use our own instructors as long as they meet the applicable NFPA standard. Otherwise we will need to hire DFS instructors.

CFSI: No report.

Good and welfare: NA

Next meeting: 11/13/14 in Ware.