

Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact

June 15, 2023 –Concord Fire Department – and remote access

Chief Jim Morse Presiding

Roll call Attendance Towns: 18 Members: 27 Guests: 1

Call to Order 1900 - Welcome by Host Chief John Chisholm

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Chief Newbery

- Motion to dispense with the reading of the May minutes. Motion and second to accept the minutes as posted and distributed.
- Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report – Chief Yale

- Reviewed monthly expenditures. Motion to accept as posted and distributed.
- Motion Passed

Training – Captain Mick Costello

- Registration for the Loudon F/F I class is almost full.
- The opportunity for instructors to attend a Loudon train the trainer for State Instructor is August 8th. Certain prerequisites must be met.

HazMat Report Captain Costello

- Reviewed a Team response to Lakes Region for a propane incident. Reviewed an unknown substance incident at Concord Federal Building. Discussion on hazmat training class in Maine for ammonia releases.

Fire Marshal's Report – Marshall Toomey

- Discussed the 2021 Fire and Building codes and builders' concerns about energy improvements and solar and battery storage.
- Foam take-back program – Proposal going to Governor and Council soon. The proposed collection point for the Capital area will be at the NHFA.
- Electrical vehicles- a working group established and working on developing some possible solutions.
- NFIRS – Some website problems with FTD. A temporary solution is to email all reports.
- Classes – fireworks class at NHFA next Monday
- Fire fund – The State budget fixes the funding problem. Two positions at DHHS licensing will be moving to NHFMO.

NHFST & EMS Report –

No representative – no report

NHIAC Report – Jim Heinz

– Suspicious Activity training video to be available. A one-hour course that can be applied to EMS con-ed hours.

WEBSITE – Gary Sleeper

Chief Gilbert reported normal visitor activity to the site.

Concord Hospital Report –

No representative. No report

Dispatch Report – Kevin Nugent

- Rapid SOS – agreement reached with cell carriers for accurate GPS data to improve caller location.
- Pro QA – medical information currently in beta testing with NH E911 call center.
- What Three Words grid system is working well to help locate missing hikers. Currently working on integrating with Tyler CAD mapping.
- Reception and Transmission issues continue with the loss of Plausawa. Please consider the use of mobile radios and cell phones.
- For winter training please consider having members and chiefs visit the Dispatch center.

Old Business

Tyler CAD replacement - Chief Gilbert– Working on interfaces. Making good progress, the program is at the trial-and-error phase. Training is scheduled for June 28 & 29. CAD training is scheduled for June 20th. Continue to work on a list of specific capabilities – Ice, Water.

Plausawa Tower. Discussion on the new temporary tower at the site. The new tower will not be as high as our prior one was. The new date is June 26 for completion. Discussion on temporary backup plan – running T-1 line up to the location. This would be a \$20K expense. Continued discussion on the poor radio communications all over the East side and the possible impact on the upcoming NASCAR race in July. If the Plausawa link to Oak Hill becomes functional then the simulcast will be back to functioning.

Deputy C-2 position – Chief Blanchette distributed copies of the posting. Discussion on the history of the proposed new position. Concerns were expressed about the lack of information on the proposal. Chief Yale discussed how the position was included in the current budget. Discussion on how the Executive Board had expressed to Chief Gilbert years ago that they would get an assistant. **Motion** and second to post the deputy position next Monday. Roll Call vote 17 yes and 1 nay. Motion Passed. Discussion continued about the pay scale and the budget for next year.

Explorer Academy – Still looking for instructor help.

New Business

NASCAR Loudon July 14,15,16. Chief Blanchette – expressed concerns about poor radio communications with the loss of Plausawa Tower. Explanation of the proposed traffic pattern changes and the impact on Rt. 106, 129, and I-393. Concerns were expressed about the Monday morning plan with exiting traffic.

EMS incidents – Chief Yeaton. Due to multiple incidents on the East side six ambulances were tied up with transports. The chief took the initiative to move the Tri-Town ambulance to Epsom for coverage. Discussion on the second EMS incident and starting mutual aid immediately. Chief Gilbert suggested that Towns place the second ambulance OOS if not staffed so that the backup town is dispatched immediately.

Communications Committee. – Chief Gilbert – Several members have expressed interest in the committee. The current simulcast system is 10 years old. Chief Gilbert recommends that President Morse appoint a committee and that the compact hire a consultant to guide the committee and produce an RFP. The estimate for a new system is 1.5- 1.8 million dollars. President Morse will review the current committee membership and replace those who have left the organization. Chief Gilbert would like the committee to get started on the work this summer. **Motion** to spend up to \$50K from the Capital reserve account on a consultant. Roll call vote – 18 yes and no nays. Motion passed. Chief Gilbert is to meet on June 20th with a consultant.

Next meeting –Location – Hillsboro- September 21, 2023

Motion and second to adjourn at 20:20