

Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact

October 20, 2022 – Pittsfield Fire Department and remote – meetings.dialpad.com

Chief Jim Morse Presiding

Roll call Attendance Towns: 16 Members: 20 Guests: 4

Call to Order 1900 - Welcome by Host Chief Peter Pszonowsky

President dispensed from normal Order of Business for First Net representatives to make presentations. They gave an overview of the system and the pricing. Coverage is competitive in our area. Suggested that towns apply for a Town discount. Question and answer followed.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Chief Newbery

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

Treasurer's Report – Chief Yale

- Review of the current month's budget with highlights. See full treasurers' report. Motion and second to accept the minutes as posted and reviewed.
- Motion Passed

Training – Captain Mick Costello

- No new activity to report.

HazMat Report Captain Costello

- Hazmat team continuing with the bi-monthly training. Members attended the State HM conference in Laconia.

Fire Marshal's Report –

Tony Booth reviewed the monthly report. Code update classes in November were posted for the 15th at NHFA and the 16th in Bethlehem at the training academy. Carbon Monoxide summit at NHFA on October 29th. The office is working on filling several vacancies.

NHFST & EMS Report –

No representative – no report

NHIAC Report –

James Hines – Explained current project – Flash Point- directed to educate businesses to recognize the sale of potential bomb-making materials.

WEBSITE – Gary Sleeper

Normal activity for the period. Town pages were re-arranged on the site.

Concord Hospital Report –

No report

Dispatch Report – Lead Dispatcher Paul

A new dispatcher was hired – Matt Nelson. Dispatcher Newman submitted a letter of resignation effective the end of 2022. If Towns require radio ID updates dispatch will collect and do a group together as there is a cost for a radio technician to come in and make the changes.

Old Business

Chief Gilbert - CAD replacement – In person meeting with a rep. assigned to the project. Joint meeting with Lakes Region to review questionnaires. They have built a schedule with timelines. Potentially go live next May or June. They will not be converting data from the old system – all new data being entered by dispatch for run cards. Both Crew Force and Mobile options are available. Negotiated no-cost license for Crew Force. Should be an easy transition for towns using tablets. Mobile same as the current system. Will need more information from the State before being able to utilize the closest unit dispatching. The company does have a records management system option. Discussion on potential changes to NFIRS in 2025.

Weare Fire is fully integrated into dispatch. The town is happy with the change-over and service.

Foam Trailer – Going to the final approval stage -Governor and Council. The original plan was for each town to receive Five – five-gallon pails of foam. That may be reduced due to the current cost of the project. The trailer will be housed at Loudon FD.

Discussion on storage of the HM truck – still looking for heated storage space.

New Business

Radio issues especially in Warner and Bradford area. The availability of a 7/8” cable is still a problem. The 1/2” cable was used as a replacement for the project and avoided the use of the helicopter. The Kearsarge antenna is still at ground level awaiting a bracket to re-mount. Simulcast problems in the system – Bruce Ferry – Concord radio tech. determined that the GPS antenna on Oak Hill had failed. Now repaired.

CDL license requirements – Noted that the NHFST All Vehicles class does meet the new requirements but very difficult to get members into the class. Discussion on medical cards and expense of the physicals. More costs to Town budgets in items like the new required Mental Health class.

Ford F-550 motor issue. Epsom ambulance is out of service for an extended period awaiting a new motor. Other towns with a similar problem.

Allenstown reported several new developments under construction with the potential for a significant increase in call volume. Proposing a staffing increase in March of 2022 -two persons 24/7 and taking over ambulance responses.

FDNY’s current Safety Bulletin – First Responder attacks. Discussion on the use of Code word for police assistance. Compact does have a current policy. Questions on policy and use of Code word.

Motion and second to adjourn 20:05

Next meeting – date change to November 10th. Location to be determined