

LAKES REGION MUTUAL FIRE AID ASSOCIATION  
JANUARY 29, 2004 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held on January 29, 2004 at the Ashland Fire Station.

Meeting called to order at 19:00 hours by Vice President Maheux.

Salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL: 50 Members from 11 Communities, including two representatives from the Communications Center and two guests.

Chief Weden welcomed everyone to the Ashland station and recognized the fantastic attendance for tonight's meeting.

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS:**

14C1 announced the passing of longtime Meredith Firefighter Brad Sprague.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

32C1 gave a brief update of the Committee's recent activity. To date everything is going okay both operationally and budget wise. The next Board of Director's meeting is tentatively scheduled for March. The SRC has been working on several different issues presented to them and will be reporting back to the Committee on certified firefighters on Mutual Aid calls at the next meeting.

**DISPATCHER REPORT:**

This is being introduced tonight as regular part of the agenda. It will allow a representative from the staff at the Communications Center to update the association of the activities there. Lt. Faran gave a very informative and well received power point presentation on the recent incident activity. The incidents were broken down by volume, time of day, and type of call. Lt. Faran also highlighted some of the more interesting calls.

A motion to approve minutes of the November 20, 2003 meeting held in Moultonboro, as read, was made and seconded and the motion passed on a voice vote.

There was no Treasurer's Report.

**CHIEF COORDINATORS REPORT:**

C1 reported that the due to some interference problems with other users Tecumseh was down while we figure out a solution.

He also gave an update on the Homeland Defense radio replacement program. A majority of the mobile units have been received or ordered. There are 5 installers set up to do installations around the state. The installations will be scheduled on a first come first serve basis when the paperwork sent out to all departments is received back.

The microwave system is pretty much up and online with a few minor problems. We are

expecting that the new antenna on Gilman Hill be constructed in the spring and we will be able to place a transmitter on the top of tower at no charge. This will be a primary back up for Belknap if there is a problem there. A license application for Kearsarge was filed in the fall and we are waiting for the approval to arrive.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### TRAINING & EDUCATION:

14C1 reported that the committee has been discussing topics such as fireground accountability, RIT training, and the 20-minute mark. This is coordination with the items that the SRC has been working on. The committee is working on putting together a pilot program incorporating these issues at an awareness type level, geared specifically towards the direction that LRMFAA would to go in these areas, with expanded training on certain modules being contemplated. The first presentation is scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup> in Belmont.

### FIRE PREVENTION:

No report.

### FORESTRY:

No report

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### INTEROPERABILITY TRAILER:

There has been no change on this issue. We are still trying to find alternative sources of funding through various state and federal agencies.

### MISSION STATEMENT:

As a result of the last meeting a committee was formed to develop a mission statement.

23C2 reported for the committee and distributed a draft mission statement for consideration

by the body tonight. Lt. Faran added that the draft was a result of the thoughts and ideas that were discussed at the last meeting.

12C2 stated he thought the committee had done a great job and made a motion to adopt the draft as presented. Joel Mudgett seconded the motion. A discussion about some of the wording took place, which were mostly semantic, and it was decided that the spirit and intent was appropriate and that changing the wording would not affect them. The motion passed on a voice vote and Vice-President Maheux discharged the committee with many thanks.

### NOMINATING:

2C1 reported that the committee had met and is presenting the following names for consideration:

President – Louis Brunelle  
Vice President – Ed Maheux  
Secretary/Treasurer – Dave Paquette

According to the bylaws we cannot close nomination and vote until the next meeting. Due to the fact of not having elected officers last year, it was moved and seconded to suspend the bylaws and appoint Louis Brunelle as acting President until the vote in March.

The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote. Vice President Maheux then turned the meeting to acting President Brunelle. He took the opportunity to give some background “resumes” on his past service in various fire service and law enforcement associations. He also expressed some of his thoughts and beliefs on how we can become a strong association again and with teamwork and cooperation.

## OLD BUSINESS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

It was noted that more funding from Homeland Defense was being for the radio interoperability was being made available.

12C1 inquired about the interference problem that was mentioned earlier in C1’s report. C1 stated that it was due to the close proximity of another user on that frequency, who is legally licensed to be there, and that a solution has been figured out.

A concern was raised about the timing of broadcasting specifics of an incident vs. generalities during the initial tone. The example given was for a “water problem”. This term has broad meaning and could mean anything from clean-up of a pipe break to water getting to a heating or electrical system, a more life safety critical issue. The statement was made that a tone a “water problem” gets less people responding as opposed to “water coming from an electrical outlet”. C1 gave an explanation of the system in place and why it seems to be working. It was noted that the above mentioned response issue may be more of individual department issue as opposed to an operations issue. C1 stated that he would bring this topic to the next staff meeting for discussion.

## DISTRICT REPORTS

DISTRICT #1:

No report

DISTRICT #2:

No report

DISTRICT #3:

No report

DISTRICT #4:

No report

DISTRICT #5:

No report

23C2 that it might be good to clarify and redefine the districts, if needed, so everyone has a better understanding of what they are and why we have them.

## FIRE REPORTS:

These were discussed during the Dispatchers Report  
REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

It was decided for now that the individual mailings for meetings notices and information would continue.

23C2 suggested that some type of “visiting committee” might want to be formed with two members from each community to visit all communities eventually to view their facilities, just to get an idea on what each community has to offer including equipment.

The next meeting will be held on March 25, 2004, at a location to announced, starting at 19:00 hours.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:50 hours.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
DAVID A. PAQUETTE, SECRETARY