

LAKES REGION MUTUAL FIRE AID ASSOCIATION  
MARCH 25, 2004 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held on March 25, 2004 at the Belmont Fire Station.

Meeting called to order at 19:03 hours by Acting President Brunelle.

Salute to the flag.

Chief Siegel welcomed everyone to the Belmont Station.

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS:**

None.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting were read. It was moved by 6C1 and seconded by C2 to approve the minutes as read. The motion passed on a voice vote.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

The Treasurers report was presented. It was moved by 23C2 and seconded by 6C1 to approve the report as presented. The motion passed on voice vote.

**ROLL CALL:**

34 Members from 11 Communities, including two representatives from the Communications Center. Acting President Brunelle stated that while it would be highly impossible due to the size of our system, it would be nice to get one or two members from each community to attend each meeting. This would not only show increased participation at the meetings, but it would be another form of communication in getting information back to the individual departments.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**DISPATCHER REPORT:**

Lt. Ober from the Communications Center presented the Dispatcher Report for this month. He highlighted the calls for service for the month, which totaled 2,836, by type and quantity, and gave special mention to some of the more amusing ones. He then gave some statistics for the diving accident in Laconia which took the life of Laconia Firefighter Mark Miller. A short slide show in recognition of Firefighter Miller was shown followed by a moment of silence.

## CHIEF COORDINATORS REPORT:

C2 gave the Coordinator's report as C1 was out of town. As a side note to the Dispatch-

er's Report he noted that in 1972 the total calls for service for the year was 971, one third of the total just reported on.

We have finally received great news from the NHOEM. They have informed us that we have been selected to receive some funding to purchase and do some basic work on the interoperability trailer. This will include installing the equipment we received from the DOJ program two years ago. As a side note, C1 was able to secure free upgrades in the software and training associated with the equipment, while he was attending a seminar recently. This has a value in the thousands of dollars.

C2 reported that the microwave system is up and running. The circuits to Blue Job and Belknap are complete. A new transmitter on Kearsarge will be installed as soon as weather allows and that microwave circuit will be cut in. We are still waiting to receive the license to operate the Bristol site. The problem with Tecumseh, mentioned at the last meeting, has been solved.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

6C1 reported for the Executive Committee. They have scheduled a strategic planning session for April 13, 2004. The purpose of this session is to develop some long term goals for the Association. He noted that we have the communications and dispatching aspect to a level that considered to be a model for the industry, but we lack in being able to offer other things to our members. We need to decide where we are going from here due to changes in the fire service including EMS, manpower issues and

volunteer-  
ism.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### TRAINING & EDUCATION:

3C2 reported on the pilot program that the T & E committee had started which included the topics of firefighter accountability, 20-minute mark and RIT teams. The first program was held in Meredith for Moultonboro and Meredith. The session was well attended and after the presentation there were a few adjustments made to the program. The next session was held in Belmont, which was again well attended, and went well. More sessions throughout the system are being scheduled daily. It is hoped to have the entire system trained by November.

3C2 stated that there are about 4-6 individuals doing the training and that they would welcome any one else who wanted to help. You do not have to be a certified trainer to participate. It was decided to include in the next meeting mailing an advertisement to promote participation on the presentation team.

### FIRE PREVENTION:

No report.

### FORESTRY:

No report

## PROPOSED NEW COMMITTEES:

President Brunelle listed some new committees that he would like to see formed to promote the Association and get more participation from the membership. The ones he listed were: Fire Prevention, Forestry, Legislative, Social, Visiting and Programs. 23C2 volunteered to work on the Visiting committee, as he was the one who mentioned at the Ashland meeting. President Brunelle asked for volunteers to help get the other committees started with no volunteers at this point.

C2 noted that it would be better if we could get mailing addresses other than the Chiefs home address so that the information and requests we are sending out has a better chance of reaching the membership. It was suggested that a scheduled calendar of events promoting meeting dates, programs, and future training as some items to be included.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### INTEROPERABILITY TRAILER:

Now that we have received some grant money, this committee will need to be reactivated to continue with next phase of the project.

## OLD BUSINESS

23C2 reported that he is now on the state Fire Standards Training Commission as the representative from state Association of Firefighters. He stated that one important item is that we have now have a lobbyist to represent our interests at the state level where we have never had any before. We are now a much stronger group with a much more strength to get things done and be heard than before. Each county also has representation on the State Firefighters Association executive Committee.

## NEW BUSINESS

It was suggested that a list of the training districts and the communities located in those districts be updated and distributed.

## DISTRICT REPORTS

### DISTRICT #1:

12C1 reported that the district had its meeting the same night as the incident in Waterville so it was lightly attended. The building fire in Thornton was briefly discussed. New equipment that each department had gotten was also discussed.

### DISTRICT #2:

No report

DISTRICT #3:

No report

DISTRICT #4:

No report

DISTRICT #5:

No report

#### FIRE REPORTS:

Vice President Maheux reported on a snowmobile fire that was called in by two juveniles who did not know where they were. Luckily there were other riders in the area who had seen them and could take the department to the fire location.

#### REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

President Brunelle again took the opportunity to get the membership active in participating on one of the committees he had mentioned earlier. He also mentioned that getting some of the permanent full time firefighters to attend the meetings would be great. They are also part of the Association and we would like to see them here with us.

The bills for the 2004 Association dues will be going out in April.

A tentative meeting schedule for the rest of the year was partially set up. The annual meeting will be on May 27<sup>th</sup> at the Communications Center. The July meeting will be possibly held in Plymouth. The September, (9/30), and November, (11/18), locations will be announced.

6C1 stated that in relation to the Castle Springs water supply issue we need to confirm who the district liaisons are and that we need to re-establish contact with the facility to verify the program is still on and get the districts restocked.

The next meeting will be held on May 29, 2004, at the Communications Center, starting at 19:00 hours. This will be the annual meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 20:25 hours.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
DAVID A. PAQUETTE, SECRETARY