

LAKES REGION MUTUAL FIRE AID ASSOCIATION
MAY 27, 2004 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held on May 27, 2004 at the Belmont Fire Station.

Meeting called to order at 19:02 hours by President Brunelle.

A Salute to the flag was given followed by a moment of silence for all of our brother and sister firefighters who had died in the line of duty.

ROLL CALL:

There were 18 Members from 9 Communities, with two representatives from the Communications Center and two guests in attendance.

PROGRAM:

President Brunelle then introduced Peter Landry from the Zoll Medical Corporation who displayed and reviewed their different defibrillator products and then answered questions.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS:

C1 was asked to report on Lt. Darling from the Communications Center who has been out for the past few months with a throat infection. In addition to that Lt Darling found out that he had an artery that was 90% blocked and had a stint installed. Everything appears to be fine with him now and he is expected back to work soon.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 25th meeting were read. It was moved by 6C1 and seconded by to approve the minutes as read. The motion passed on a voice vote.

President announced that 23C2 has volunteered to chair the Visiting Committee and Michelle Fullerton from Moultonboro will chair the Social Committee.

TREASURERS REPORT:

There was no treasurer's report.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

CHIEF COORDINATORS REPORT:

As a follow-up to the March meeting minutes C1 noted that he is working with the new ownership of castle Springs to continue the current arrangement we have with them. Apparently departments from outside our system have found out about our situation and are requesting the same deal, which could jeopardize our arrangement.

The grant for the interoperability trailer goes before the Governor & Council next week for approval and no problems are expected. Once we get the check C1 will schedule with the reactivated committee to get the project going. C1 hopes to have the trailer operational by the end of the summer. We will need to find a place to store the trailer once it is completed.

Work continues at all the transmitter sites. We are awaiting delivery on new equipment for both Kearsarge and the back-up site on Belknap. Bristol is still being tested. The Gilman Hill site construction is expected to start soon. We will be on top of the tower rent-free and the back-up power; the tower owner at no cost is providing phone connection and antenna to us.

There have been about 500 mobile radios installed under the radio interoperability program. The installation update page is still not posted on the website, but should be soon. The portable replacement portion of the program will be going out to bid soon with apparently four companies interested in supplying bids.

Work continues on the CAD system with data being entered daily. There are six communities who are completely done, and it is hoped to average about three to four communities being completed. C1 stated that he still hopes to have the system up and running by September 1st.

The statewide task force master plan has been completed. The next step is to coordinate and hold a tabletop drill with an actual assembly of the various units to take place after that. This all needs to take place by June 30th to fulfill the grant requirement with which the project was done.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

6C1 reported that everything the Committee has been working on was covered under the Coordinator's report.

DISPATCHER REPORT:

Lt. Lockwood from the Communications Center presented the Dispatcher Report for this meeting which was prepared by Lt. Faran. He highlighted the calls for service for the two-month period, which totaled 2,795, calls for service. This is an average of 44.4 calls per day, which is below the average for the year. April 19th was highlighted with 115 calls for service due to a very warm, windy day with dry conditions causing quite few brush and forestry type calls.

OLD BUSINESS

It was reported that there is one more Accountability training session left scheduled for the Campton/Thornton area. Over 600 individuals have taken the training with 20 more also scheduled in Alton. The program has been well received throughout the system.

NEW BUSINESS

A question was raised on the status of the mailings for notifications and other items. President Brunelle stated that there hadn't been any recently because other than the meeting there was nothing to report. A suggestion was made to create an e-mail list and send out information that way. It was also suggested in the mailing to promote the LRMFAA website and post information there.

6C1 inquired if anyone had been invited or was aware of the 4th of July in Laconia where there was going to be units recognizing the military, fire and police. Names and patches of departments of deceased members would also be displayed. A few individuals were aware of the plan but it did not seem to widespread exposure.

STANDING COMMITTEES

TRAINING & EDUCATION:

No report.

FIRE PREVENTION:

No report.

FORESTRY:

Lee Gardner, Ranger from District 15, (formerly District 5), gave the forestry report. He noted under a recent restructuring that not only did the districts get redone but that the state had been divided into three basic regions; north, central, and south.

He announced that Eleanor Mardin, a former Lt. in the Plymouth Fire department, has been hired as the new ranger for Rockingham county area.

He requested that everyone please submit reports for any forestry incidents they have big or small. They need to be done accurately and submitted in a timely fashion. They need to be done because they are a big part of the justification to keep the towers up and running.

He noted that they are no longer using the map grid system for fire locating, but are using latitude & longitude coordinates along the Delorme map book because of the new road names from 911. They are using the towers and the old grid system to help in verifying the location.

He reported that the latest fire crew training was held last weekend and despite the weather things went well.

President Brunelle asked if Ranger Gardner would be willing to put on a GPS presentation at the next Association meeting. Ranger Gardner said he would check and see if his schedule would allow and if so he would be happy to do so.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

INTEROPERABILITY TRAILER:

No Report

DISTRICT REPORTS

DISTRICT #1:

No report

DISTRICT #2:

No report

DISTRICT #3:

No report

DISTRICT #4:

No report

DISTRICT #5:

No report

FIRE REPORTS:

None

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 we need to keep attendance up and keep the association moving forward.

The next meeting will be held on July 29th, 2004, tentatively scheduled for Plymouth, starting at 19:00 hours.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:44 hours.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DAVID A. PAQUETTE, SECRETARY