Fire Service Coordination Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 19:00 hrs by Chief John Field

**In attendance were the following**: Chief Maccalous, Chief Newkirk, Chief Marques, DC Harmon, DC Preato, Phil Kozlak, Comm. Benadetto, Chief Field and DC Brunoli

**Approval of Minutes**: a motion by Chief Maccalous and 2nd by Chief Marques to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion passed.

There was some discussion on the apparatus plan. Chief Field stated that the Vehicle Advisory Committee had met to discuss keeping old Engine 2, now Engine 5, as a city spare. We would have Engine 3 and Engine 5 as spares. The stipulation would be that if repairs to Engine 5 were $6000.00 or more, a decision would be made by DC Brunoli and the Fleet Manager whether or not to make the repair. Engine 5 is fully equipped. DC Brunoli asked that we call it the vehicle which is replacing Engine 17. Engine2/5 will be kept at the NE Station. If the vehicle is going to be needed, please contact DC Brunoli ahead of time. Deputy Chief Harmon asked if personnel could get some training on the spare engine. We will need to check to make sure it will fit in the station.

There was some discussion on the use of the tanker. If it needs to go out of town the DC or Chief shall be notified. Chief Field will look at the City Vehicle use policy and see how it works for this application. Comm. Benadetto expressed concern that it should not have gone to the Winsted parade as it would have been unavailable if needed. Chief Maccalous stated that it was a one-time thing, and wanted to show our neighbors the vehicle that they will get when they call for mutual aid and stated that it was more readily available in Winsted than if it was left at the fire house. Comm. Benadetto stated he had calls from residents who lived in the Drakeville district who felt they were left uncovered. Chief Maccalous stated that the personnel could have responded from Winsted and compared it to personnel responding from their homes. He felt they could have responded from Winsted in an appropriate time frame. His guys did a lot of work on getting the vehicle ready and took a lot of pride in getting it ready. Comm. Benadetto mentioned that they had an open house to show it off. He brought up the fire at Ron Raymond’s. Chief Maccalous stated that fire was years ago and had no bearing on this situation. Chief Maccalous stated that the tanker was in service and available.

Chief Marques stated that a few years ago they had to respond from the Winsted parade and were able to get out with no problems. They had a better response from there compared to if they had their personnel respond from work or home. The Winsted parade is the only parade where we take everything being that it is so close.

Chief Field will put a policy together for the next meeting. He will look at what the City Policy states. He does know the City Policy states that you need to request permission to take the vehicle out of the City.

Other Policies: Chief Field stated that the BOS Policy Committee would be getting together to discuss some of our responses. He wanted to know if everyone had the disk that was sent. There are many policies floating around and this is so that we will be able to have more consistency Citywide.

DC Brunoli stated one policy that we will be working on is a citywide Fire Police policy. We need to be careful even though we have our PPE on. He reminded personnel of the incident in Canton years ago at a training scenario where a fully protected FP person was struck and killed, even though all the precautions were in place. We want to make sure we have a policy that will provide the response when needed.

Chief Maccalous and Chief Marques stated that they bring policies back to their members when they receive them.

DC Brunoli mentioned that we need to be safe when operating at incidents. He mentioned a vehicle in the water in Burrville where we should have taken more care of our personnel. They should have tied themselves off, used a PFD, and there was no need to try to disconnect the battery with the amount of water flowing. They needed to remove the driver and themselves from the water. Our safety is most important.

DC Brunoli mentioned the use of PPE at the gas call. We must not get complacent as it may seem to others at the incident. Chief Field was the scene’s Safety Officer and the cleanup contractor had their own for their personnel.

Chief Field discussed the camera use policy at incidents and the reason this was put in place. Everyone agreed it was a much needed policy. A State law prohibiting taking pictures of victims at incidents will go into effect on October 1, 2011. This policy goes for training and it needs approval before being used in this format. Goshen Fire had an OSHA investigation due to something that showed up on a social media site.

Chief Newkirk needed a disk.

The BOS wants to look at the animal and lockout policies in the near future.

**Black Helmet policy**: Chief Newkirk stated that at a Training Officers meeting there was discussion that the policy was changing. DC Brunoli stated that there would be no changes at this time, but with the burn trailer coming there may be discussion on adjustments and improvements. Chief Field stated that any changes would need to come back to this forum. Chief Newkirk stated that they usually go with Harwinton Westside to do their live burn training in West Hartford. DC Preato stated that he told Training Officer Hepburn he has some pallets at the airport if he needs them.

**Training**: Chief Field asked how the training coordination was going. Everyone stated that it was going well. Chief Marques stated they have a new saw and wanted to know if we had a prop to practice on. Chief Field stated that the new burn trailer would have many new props to make the training opportunities varied. The Chief also stated the Haz-Mat IQ class would be at the Burrville Fire School due to FEMA being at Fire Headquarters. Chief Newkirk stated he had a few guys in the class. Chief Newkirk wanted to know if the Yellow Helmet training was going to be offered. The Training Officer wants to run the training downtown, every Tuesday night. We would like to use our training officers to do the training. DC Brunoli stated that due to experience levels through the TO we will have guidance from his division.

**Equipment Account Balance**: no report.

Burrville would receive their money from the account to help with the SCBA purchase, TVFD manages the account.

**Strategic plan**: Chief Field stated that we were instituting some of the items in the plan. He stated that the subcommittee from the BRC would be going to Wallingford to talk with their Chief and the Volunteer Chiefs to see how their system had grown. Comm. Benadetto expressed an interest in going also. They will be going Sept. 22. The time will be emailed to those who can go. DC Brunoli stated he was submitting a grant for training as it relates to the Strategic Plan and our goals.

Comm. Benadetto asked about the Eastside. Chief Field explained we were working with Corporation Counsel Ernestine Weaver on 2 different agreements for the Eastside. The appropriate people will see it before going to the Board.

**Correspondences**: None

**Comments from the Public**: None

**Issues from Members**:

Chief Maccalous stated he was having an issue with Scene 7. DC Brunoli stated that Don from Northwest needs to make arrangements to complete the narrow-banding and he could take a look at it then.

Chief Maccalous asked about the computer for the truck. DC Brunoli stated he needs the modem for another vehicle and with the fact that there was spotty service, the computer would not stay up and run at the fire house. We will take care of it in the future.

DC Harmon asked about the siren tones for Drakeville. DC Brunoli said he would check with LCD. He also brought up the Volunteer agreement that his department approved that would allow volunteers in the city to respond to other Volunteer stations to fill out crews. He is just waiting to see where everyone else is with it.

Chief Maccalous stated they sent a few guys to Northfield for the gas leak. We could have used a few more people to make up the crew.

Chief Marques stated that they were in the process of doing their mask fit tests to get their new SCBA in service. Training Officer Hepburn had Jay get the guys in FF 1 taken care of due to the fact they need to use SCBA in class. The Training Officer was going to do it early on drill night. Chief Newkirk asked for them to let him know the time so they could come to training at the correct time. DC Harmon has two XL AV3000 masks he would like to trade for larges.

DC Preato stated he was putting the new rear end in the fire police vehicle and they would call it Utility 48.

Chief Marques has to have Don make some changes to their pagers when he comes to do the narrow-banding. He is also looking for a monitor 5 Charger. Burrville's internet is up and running, so anytime we want to load the program for them to do paperwork on the RMS program they are ready.

Phil Kozlak had nothing at this time.

Comm. Benadetto asked if there were any problems with the tanker insurance and the umbrella policy. DC Brunoli stated he was in the middle and had an email stating that DVFD could not afford the umbrella policy that the bank wanted. DC Brunoli offered to take over the service and insurance of the vehicle if DVFD would like, to help with finances along with the fact the City owns the vehicle. DC Brunoli stated he had discussed this with Comm. Potter but no action has come of it.

Chief Newkirk asked what run number are we using. It was stated that we are using the LCD incident number to track calls at this time.

Dc Brunoli stated that the Cascade System compressor is down and will be replaced. Chief Newkirk expressed thanks for the use of Engine 5 when Engine 17 was down. He also stated that their parking lot would be fixed by the bay area shortly. They will also be buying 2 sheds for some of their equipment.

DC Brunoli asked if anyone needed equipment due to the fact he was placing an order. DVFD needs a smooth bore and sm 30 nozzles, as well as a new gas meter.

DC Brunoli said he is working on the tire chains for the tanker.

Chief Field thanked everyone for their work during the hurricane. He explained the operational plan the DC had set up to cover the City and it seemed for the most part, to go very well. The Chief thanked everyone for getting the ICS 214 forms in. They will help with the FEMA reimbursement process. DC Preato stated it had worked well having the Captain out in the response areas assisting. We all must remember the areas that flood and restrict our response to some areas. Chief Marques asked what District 3 was responsible for. DC Brunoli stated that there were 4 units assigned to emergencies only and he was responsible for them. DC Harmon asked if we should have used a second channel and some people were not sure we would come back after the initial response. The issue was also discussed, but we felt that we needed to triage calls first before committing resources. We should have communicated this to our customers better.

Chief Field thanked everyone for their participation at the 911 memorial.

Discussion was had regarding regional training on the foam trailers and staffing for an extended incident such as the gas leak. Chief Field stated there would be discussions in the region regarding the incident.

Chief Field was talking to Ralph S. from the State regarding the use of funds for dry hydrants to get water up on the highway.

The next meeting will be November 9th at Torrington Fire Department Headquarters

Meeting adjourned @ 20:33 - motion by Chief Maccalous, 2nd by DC Preato.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deputy Chief Gary Brunoli