SARATOGA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 31, 2022

7:00 pm

***City/Town Representatives:*** Bill Crawford – Ballston, Graham Champagne – Corinth, Kevin Barkley Jr. – Galway, Robert Williams – Greenfield, Art Hunsinger – Halfmoon, Pete Shaw – Malta, Tom Wood – Northumberland,

David Houston – Providence

***Excused***: Aaron Dyer – Charlton, Patrick Champagne – Clifton Park, Kevin Krogh – Milton, Brian Myers – Saratoga, Tom Rinaldi – Stillwater, Bill Morgan – Wilton

***Absent***: Alex Rockwell – Edinburg, Billy Winslow – Hadley, Matt Dunn – C/O Mechanicville,

John Smith Jr. – Moreau, Joseph Dolan – C/O Saratoga Springs, Don Baldwin – Waterford

***Present:*** Mike Stanley – OEM, Dr. Mike McEvoy – OEM, Director Steve Gordon – Sheriff’s Office

***Guests:*** Kevin Barkley Sr. – SCES, Stan Delong – SCEMS/SCFOA

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, the pledge was said and a moment of silence was observed for fallen brethren.

On a motion made by Bill Crawford, second by Kevin Barkley Jr., the minutes of the September 26, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mike Stanley

* With Carl’s departure and until a replacement is found, the Sheriff has assumed oversight of the office. We are using a team approach and I will be serving as the team lead. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to contact me.
* Channel expansion project up North, in the works, hopefully early next year, should help issues in south as well.

Fire Coordinator Tremblay

* State classes – likely starting after 1/2023
* Fire Alarm Class - 6 hour class
* Sprinkler System Training Class – 6 hour class
* Incident SO
* Tactical Fireground Simulations
* Traffic Incident Management System/Highway IM
* Principals of Construction
* State Classes running
* Fire Officer 1 Module Series – Started September 12 @ FTC
* BEFO/Interior Fire Ops – Started September 7 @ Wilton Fire
* Fire Training Center
* Still waiting for funds to clear for the grant. Starting to get price information together which was requested and received from vendors.
* FTC municipal water project is in service.
* Training Center Operator is still awaiting Human Resources approval.
* Meeting with a welding contractor on 10/18 to review additional work needed.
* Miscellaneous
* Mutual Aid Plan status – changes being made, in the works.
* Add HazMat, Radio Plan including frequency and line codes (?), Arson Control
* Various inventory and resource lists
* Fire Investigation Unit calls: October (2), Total as of 10/31 – 64 for 2022
* Recruitment Project brief:
* 29 individuals have shown interest in various agencies

Dr. McEvoy

* I have brochures with me for the APX900 radios, about half the cost of 1500’s.
* Undersheriff is getting prices on different models with features.
* Working on Spring EMT courses – if you want to sign up, contact me.
* Boosters available at pharmacies, if you know of any home bound residents that are unable to get one, contact me and I will see what I can do.
* Tomorrow morning at 9 am an IaR will be going out to EMS regarding peer support team.
* RSV cases – large amount in big cities, result of COVID and wearing masks and lack of natural immunity.
* Flu cases – expecting high numbers due to wearing masks and no natural immunity.
* Red lights and sirens – Saratoga County involved in a national project.
* Ballston Lake Ambulance – response times high in Clifton Park, Charlton and Ballston – staffing changes being made, issue discussed in public forums.

Director Gordon

* Toys for Tots convoy – November 13, Ballston Spa High School line up.
* Until Carl is replaced, we are taking a team approach and working with Mike Stanley on projects.
* Electric vehicle fire questions - looking at software companies for CAD, we are splitting off from multi-county sharing – will pursue electric vehicle concerns when separation is complete.

Chairman Shaw

* No information to bring forward

Vice Chairman Rinaldi information

* No information

Committees

* Hazmat – Kevin Barkley Sr. – per Chief Dunn
* Drums, once received, will be available for transportation of materials at lithium ion fires.
* HazMat programs – State is making changes.
* Mutual Aid
* No report
* Personnel
* Tower Operation Position – concerns expressed, as this still position has not been fulfilled.
* Fire Training Center – Bill Crawford
* Pigeons still in tower.
* Work has been done on the burn building.
* Ed – I have a contractor giving me an estimate on additional repairs, temporarily closed until all repairs

 are completed.

* Legislative
* No report
* Budget
* No report
* Radio – Art Hunsinger
* People are concerned about the cost of new radios.
* Recruitment and Retention – Art Hunsinger
* Firefighter for a day
* Five departments participated
* Only six people came
* Consensus was it was a good idea
* Next year - maybe mall parking lot for more exposure in June
* 140 people reacted to facebook post
* Good media coverage – waiting on data

Old Business

* No old business to address.

New Business

* No new business to address.

Guest – Stan Delong

* Radio/paging reception in Ballston Spa – no longer as good as it had been previously, discussion took place. Mike S. - County looking at infrastructure – testing and replacing antennas as needed.
* Firematic annual dinner meeting - Friday December 2nd
* The association presented Peter Galanty, a Wilton businessman, with a plaque recognizing his donation for planting a tree near the burn building providing shade.

Good and Welfare

* Tom Rinaldi had knee surgery
* The next meeting will be Monday November 28, 7:00 pm at the Public Safety Facility.

On a motion made by Tom Wood, second by Bill Crawford, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Cook

Office of Emergency Management