SARATOGA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 31, 2020

7:00 PM

City/Town Representatives present: Bill Crawford – *Ballston*, Patrick Champagne - *Clifton Park*,

Graham Champagne – *Corinth*, Alex Rockwell – *Edinburg*, Kevin Barkley Jr. – *Galway*,

Art Hunsinger – *Halfmoon*, Matt Dunn – *Mechanicville*, Joe Spofford – *Milton*, John Smith Jr. – *Moreau*,

Tom Wood - *Northumberland*, David Houston – *Providence,* Pete Shaw – *Saratoga Springs*,

Brian Myers – *Saratoga*, Tom Rinaldi – *Stillwater*, Bill Morgan – *Wilton*

Present: Commissioner Carl Zeilman – OES, Mike Stanley – OES, Director Steve Gordon – Sheriff’s Department,

Deputy Fire Coordinator - Kevin Barkley Sr., Deputy Fire Coordinator – Les Bonesteel

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm; the pledge was said followed by a moment of silence for fallen brethren.

Art Hunsinger made a motion to accept the June minutes as written, second by Tom Rinaldi, unanimous. (no July meeting)

Commissioner Zeilman

* CAD system
  + GIS/street addressing updates taking place, will also help with the IamResponding
* Radio System
  + working on security updates
  + national interop channels added to Providence, Hadley, McGregor and Spruce –already programmed into portables and mobiles
* Grants for the new FTC building and Mobile Command vehicle - on hold, Governor to possibly release funds in October or November
* Art asked about system shutting down since last meeting
  + Carl - power went out but generator did not start, corrections have been made

Fire Coordinator Tremblay information

* Upcoming State Training
  + NYS Officer Development – Leadership and Supervision Course – Public Safety Building – 37 registered -two classes do to class size
  + NYS Officer Development – Health and Safety – Public Safety Building – 36 registered - two classes do to class size
* In Session
  + Basic Exterior Fire Operations – restarted (class was halted at unit 15) after COVID shutdown – SCBA/Interior Fire Operations will start September 14 as second part of above
  + BEFO-SCBA IFO/FF 1 ( Blended Learning) Started August 24 – 34 pre-registered – split into two classes do to class size
* Building Construction – finishing this week

Mike Stanley

* Street address corrections recently made and you should now be sent directly to the house, apartment or trailer – if any issues, contact me
* Box alarm changes made/in process – if any issues, contact me
  + Art asked about IAR sending us to the wrong address, sometimes out of the County - Mike S. to check into it (possibly “rules” in company settings for IAR)
  + Matt – Where are we at with Cad integration/emergency reporting? Carl – We are doing some testing with a couple of departments. Once testing is complete, we will start bringing more into that system.
  + Joe S. – Will the updated addressing bring you right to the trailer or just to the trailer park? Mike – IAR should plot at the correct trailer in the park. If it does not, that may mean that the addressing information we have is incorrect. Let me know about the issue and if you could provide an updated map, that would save me a lot of time.
  + Patrick - We had a call where we went to the wrong address. Mike –I am familiar with the issue at that location and the town is looking into the address assigned.

Director Gordon – no information to report

* Bill M. – There was a HAZMat call in August to Greenfield where the city was not notified – Steve to check into this

Chairman Plewinski information – no report

Vice Chairman Shaw – no report

* Saratoga Springs will have the state foam trailer the week of September 21-24 and training is open – not sure where they will be, they will be floating with the trailer
* Malta Ridge will have the foam trailer September 23 leaving from station one at 7:00 pm

*Committee Reports:*

* Hazmat – Bill M.
  + Daytime course in Saratoga Springs – open to all HAZMAT team members
  + Greenfield call August 3 - accidental mixing of incompatible drain cleaners – one civilian sent to the hospital
* Mutual Aid - Matt
  + Revised plan to be presented to FAB at next month’s meeting
* Personnel – no report
* Training Center – Bill C.
  + Pump is out of service, would cost approximately $9,000 to repair
  + Burn building repairs have been made
* Legislative – Tom R.
  + A few new bills are being introduced
* Weekly Capital Bulletin is sent out with updates – if not receiving, contact Kelly in OES
* Budget – no report
* Radio - Art
* Rock City has new portables – to be programmed
* We will be meeting a couple of times this month
* Need to rectify the West Crescent dispatching issue, it centers around training – committee to set up a meeting with communications, then we will move forward with updated training.
* Pete – Some inquires have been made as to training that was postponed. Art – Yes, we will be working on setting those up.
* Recruitment & Retention – Art
  + Recruit New York may be cancelled
  + FASNY cancelled the convention
  + Getting ready to go on a social media campaign
  + Pushing for accountability as to where submitted applications are going and who they are being sent to
  + Legislatures passed a bill for a Task Force to be assembled – Governor has not signed it yet
    - Pete - Do Towns/Cities/County have links on their websites?
    - Discussion took place

Guests - nothing to bring forward

Old Business - nothing to address

New Business

* Bill C. – Ballston Lake Chief, Patrick and I were talking – some have been experiencing pager problems starting on June 11, 2020 when the station siren started randomly not activating along with random paging. A radio repair was requested on June 12 and so far, 10 of 38 firefighters reported their pagers not activating for one to two calls then working fine. Chief’s pager did it once and he does not think it is the pagers, although they are using Motorola V’s. They had no problems prior to June 2020. Pittsfield believes that the siren activation problem is an antennae problem, although they did not have any other problems. They think it is a coverage problem. Art – Are there any other departments having these problems? Radio Committee has not heard of this issue prior to tonight. Bill –we just received the letter tonight– when all of the tones changed, everyone was told not to reprogram the pagers; it is not going to matter. I started having problems in Clifton Park and it turns out that there were tones that were causing a conflict because of changes in the county. I removed some from my tones and since have not had any problems, so it could be a tone frequency problem. I can look at the tones set up in your pagers; I don’t think it is anything in the system. I haven’t heard of anyone else having that problem.

Good and Welfare

* Next meeting - 7:00pm September 28 at Paul E. Lent Public Safety Building

Alex Rockwell made a motion to close the meeting, second by Tom Wood.