

**Capitol Region Fire Chiefs Association (CRFCA)**  
**ESF 4**  
**February 21, 2008**  
**Meeting**

**Convene:** Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President William Austin

**Location:** Avon Fire Department, Avon CT.

**Public Comment Period:** No comments

**Attendance:** Bill Austin (West Hartford); Steve Bianchi (Windsor); Don Zessin (East Granby); Robert Cross (CTANG); Bill Riley ((Bloomfield Center); Roger Nelson (Bloomfield Center); Art Gold (Blue Hills); Bill Perkins (UCONN Med Ctr); Gordie Harris (DEMHS and Wethersfield); Tom Lapierre (Newington); Frank Papa (Newington); Jamie DiPace (Avon); Tom Gill (Newington); Chris Schroeder (Newington); Richard Giansanti (South Windsor); Mike Eremida (East Hartford); William Perez (East Hartford); Jim Bellamo (Cromwell); James Barton (Warehouse Point); Carmine Centrella (CRCOG); Jack Farr (Rocky Hill); Rich Frohock (New Britain); Don Zessin (East Granby); Richard Austin (Warehouse Point); Mike Varney (Ellington); Thomas Ronalter (New Britain); Robert Walsh (Hartford), Gary Allyn (West Hartford); Peter Vernesoni (ESF-9)

**Minutes of previous meeting:** January 24, 2008 meeting minutes were approved. Motion to pass by Doug Whalen and seconded by William Perkins

**Treasurer's report:** Treasurer's report submitted by Doug Whalen shows checking account balance at \$\$4,682.23 and savings account balance at \$6,335.45 for a total of \$11,017.68. (1) Bill for \$300.00 was received for the yearly website (crfca.com). Motion to approved report and bill by Art Gold, motion seconded by Bill Riley. Motion was approved.

**Old Business:**

- DEMHS minutes from January 10, 2008 were distributed and not discussed. No other reports under old business were available.
- William Perez advised the group that the pilot towns are rolling out their CAPTAIN system and will begin testing within a month. Once the pilot towns remove any bugs that are in the system it will be opened to the other towns in the region and will go live with the regional CAPTAIN system
- The Capitol Region will be putting together an "all hazards" IMT training class that will be a 6-day training program with limited seating. The capitol region would like to get a mix of agencies not just fire departments, please pass the word out to other Town agencies (health, public works, police, etc...) that would want to be a part of the Capitol Region Incident Management team program. If anyone is interested in attending this program there is a prerequisite training program that can be taken on-line, further information to be available at the March meeting.

## **New Business:**

- There will be a FREE 1-day Hazmat IQ training program for fire officers at the East Hartford Public Safety complex on March 21 & 22. The training will consist of size-up, arriving on scene, risk assessment, clothing and simplifying hazmat. Capitol Region Fire Officers are encouraged to attend one of the 2-days for an excellent training program on Hazmat. CROG will be sending out information and sign-up opportunities. Class size is limited to 30 people.
- Avon Fire Department is purchasing some LDH hose and wanted to know if anyone would be interested in putting together some orders to get a better price. Call Jamie DiPace at Avon FD for more information.
- The Statewide credentialing committee meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month and will be putting together an ID tag that will be recognized statewide for emergency scene access. Salamander system is the tagging system that is being reviewed as the tag of choice since there are so many first responders that already have the system in place.
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a congressional fire service dinner in Washington DC. If anyone is interested in going contact Jamie DiPace for more information.
- William Perez spoke briefly about the Task Force response with EMS assistance. A recommended guideline was distributed for each taskforce

**Guest Speaker:** Carmine Centrella CREPC regional planner started the SWOT analysis for ESF-9, ESF-10 & ESF-4. There was some good discussion related to the three support functions and a draft SWOT analysis will be sent out to staff for review. ESF-9 is Search & Rescue, ESF-10 is Hazardous Materials and ESF-4 is Fire. Some of the discussion that came out of the SWOT analysis was to have CRCOG sponsor some CORE firefighting classes out of the fire academy to help the volunteer towns. There was some discussion to market the ESF-4 programs in the region to see if that can promote recruitment in the region. Attached to the minutes are the draft SWOT analysis forms.

**Next Meeting:** March 20, 2008, 7:00 pm at the South Windsor Fire Department

**Future Meetings:** April 17, 2008, Newington F. D.; May 22, 2008, Wethersfield, F. D.; and June 19, 2008, at Bloomfield F. D. – Company 3.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Douglas Whalen**

**Secretary/Treasurer**

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