

**Capitol Region Fire Chiefs Association (CRFCA)**  
**ESF-4**  
**September 18, 2008 Minutes**

**Location:** South Windsor FD

**Convene:** Called to order at 7:05pm by Vice President William Perez

**Attendance:** William Perez (EHFD), Douglas Whalen (Bradley Int'l Airport FD), Frank Papa (NFD), Jack Farr (RHFD), Chuck Flynn (WFD), James Barton (WPDF), Art Gold (BHFD), Richard Giansanti (SWFD), Larry Skilton (SWFD), Bill Riley (BFD), Roger Nelson (BFD), David Celapinski (East Farmington), Robert Walsh (HFD), Steve Bianchi (WFD), William Perkins (UCONN FD), Don Zessin (EGFD), Bill Lewis (WFD), Chris Hammick (VFD), Dave Czapinski (FFD), Gary Ruggiero (WLFD), Jim Bellamo (CFD), Ray Shedd (MFD) & Michael Varney (EFD)

**Public Participation-** none

**Minutes of last meeting:** a motion was made to accept the July 24<sup>th</sup> minutes (Czapinski/Riley) *approved*.

**Treasurers Report:** Checking account: \$2,245.63, Savings account \$1,543.32 and 6-month CD \$5,046.36. Motion to accept report (Flynn/Skilton). Approved.

**Guest Speaker-** Kerry Flaherty has been contracted by CRCOG to provide a resource list for region #3 ESF-4. Kerry explained his assignment and requested assistance from the chief officers of each department within the region. Kerry will be sending an Excel worksheet out to each agency and would like each department to send it back complete with all of the department's resources. Once this list is generated a copy of the resource list will be available to the region's ESF-4 duty officers and DEMHS web based EOC program.

**Old Business:**

DEMHS coordinating council- the September meeting was on the 18<sup>th</sup> and no minutes were available until next meeting. Mike Varney attended the meeting and reported that items of interest for ESF-4 was a presentation from the Red Cross which is available to anyone, UCONN is developing a pilot program for research & response to homeland security, a link to this site will be submitted. A significant change in the fire department representatives for the coordinating council was the appointment of Jim Trainor from Meriden FD to the coordinating council replacing Bill Austin. CRFCA would like to thank Bill for all of his hard work and dedication to the council while representing the fire service and CRCOG.

CAPTAIN MDT system- Chief Perez provided a full report for the Salamander system with a breakdown of each agency's update. CRCOG (Jim Donnelly) - vendor contract has been rolled out with Sierra 881W modems which will include a new wireless feature. There will be a meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss the MP881. HARTFORD- the new blade server has been installed in Hartford and the initial problems with the firewall have been resolved. TELEPARTNERS- has streamlined the installation process from 12

individual steps to a more concise single step executable. Application documentation has been provided to the Towns. Confirm naming convention for all regional vehicles. IIT-sent updated map DZVD to Lim. East Hartford- installed software on engine, command car and 2-duty cars. Successful test of new installation. Installed fire captain on desktop PC. CAD is running on the test side. Working with Jaffee & TPI to allow remote access to MDT's for both PD & FD

IMT training- there will be continued IMT training within the region and the Red Plan is working toward having a functional type 3 team established in region 3. The State IMT sub-committee is ready to present a draft IMT protocol to the coordinating council for a vote within the next 2-months.

UASI Grant update- The UASI planning group submitted a proposal for \$23,000,000 and received a grant for \$13,000,000. Dan Scace is working with the UASI group to establish priorities for the strategic plan and the 8-goals established for the spending plan. Training funds should be established for ESF-4 staff within this grant program. More information will follow once the goals and funding are in place.

The July 29<sup>th</sup> regional exercise went off with East Hartford conducting a full scale Millstone relocation drill and Middletown conducting a tabletop hurricane drill. The regional EOC was activated in New Britain and communications flowed between all of the events.

TASK FORCE UPDATE- Vice president Perez notified everyone that effective September 13<sup>th</sup> ESF-4 has a duty officer program which is 6-members strong with 2-members performing 2-weeks of duty (1-primary & 1-alternate). The ESF-4 program was given to RICS and ESF-5 duty officers with phone numbers. There should be no delay in notifications for fire related assistance as long as the incident commander provides a clear message of what resources they are looking to receive. If fire related equipment are not requested you will receive a call from ESF-5 asking for what resources you are looking for. If you ask for Specific resources from ESF-4 (Task force or strike team) ESF-4 duty officer will initiate the assignment then call the incident commander to provide the IC with the response that is en-route and make sure additional resources are not needed.

The ESF-4 Duty Officers need the following policies for the duty officer books; Pumper Strike Team policies for #51,# 52,# 55 & #57. The Region has a Tender Strike Team for #54 and there was some discussion that Tolland has a tender strike team already developed but we will need the policy before the duty officers can activate it. Also if there are any other Tender strike teams being formed in the future please provide the duty officers with your policy so we can have them as a resource. The duty Officer program will be looking to have 3- tender strike teams, 3- heavy duty rescue strike teams and 3- aerial strike teams developed for the region sometime in 2009.

Salamander system training- The salamander system is being reviewed by the company and many upgrades are being made to the PDA's and ID tag program. It was noted that the PDA's do not read the ID cards as well as they should and after some testing of equipment that was sent to the company it was detected that some changes need to be made. The changes should be completed by the middle of October and we should be back in operation by November 1<sup>st</sup>. All of the badges that were made with the CRCOG

machine will need to be re-issued and CRFCA will make sure the new badges will get out to all of the departments.

### **New Business**

There will be a task force/strike team 54 and CREPC “Red Plan” presentation on October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Simsbury club house at 7:00pm

The 27<sup>th</sup> National Fallen Firefighters Memorial weekend is scheduled for October 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>.

The yearly dues will be sent out September 1<sup>st</sup>. Dues are \$50.00 and the CRFCA year is from July-June.

CREC Public Safety academy report- there was no one available to provide a report to the Fire Chiefs but it was noted that Wayne Rioux will be looking for assistance from the area chiefs to offer their firehouses for field trips and provide special speaking engagements as the program progresses along.

Secretary/Treasurer Doug Whalen asked if the group would like to have a special holiday dinner meeting in December and a motion was made to have a dinner meeting paid for by the association at the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting scheduled in Newington. (Gold/Skilton) motion passed unanimous.

A replica of the Vietnam wall will be at Rentschler Field the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October, it will be open 24/7 during that week.

DEMHS has secured a contract for the scout and APD2000 meters for repairs; most of the meters were already picked up for repair in the fall of 2007. Contact your DEMHS regional representative for more information. The DECON trailer contract for repairs will be awarded soon. The STOCS boxes awards will have another 25 STOCS boxes awarded this week.

Future meetings – **October 16<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Bloomfield FD**- From 91 take rt 218 west to rt 189, that's Bloomfield Ave. proceed north on 189 to the center of town. Take a right at the second light in front of the Congregational Church. We are next to the church. We have limited parking at the Fire House but people can use the Wintonbury Mall across the street or the Sacred Heart Church behind us.

November 20<sup>th</sup> is Avon FD.

December 18<sup>th</sup>Newington (will be a special holiday dinner meeting).

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Whalen  
CRFCA Secretary/Treasurer