

Capitol Region Fire Chiefs Association (CRFCA)
ESF-4
September 28, 2006 Minutes

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 26, 2006
Location: 75 Center St. Manchester Fire Department

Convene: Called to order at 7:05pm by President William Austin

Attendance: William Austin (WHFD), Douglas Whalen (Bradley Int'l Airport FD), Gary Ruggiero (WLFD), Steve Brown (WLFD), William Perez (EHFD), Frank Papa (NFD), Tom Gill (NFD), Chris Brewer (BFD), Jamie DiPace (AFD), Dave Celapinski (EFFD), Bob Bycholski (MFD), Chuck Flynn (WFD), Tom McMahon (KFD), John Shaw (MMRS), Jay Silver (EHFD), Vinny Palmeri (EHFD)

Minutes of previous meeting: July 27th minutes, passed (Brewer/Perkins)

Treasurers Report: Suspended to October meeting

Old Business:

Salamander technology discussion: there was unanimous approval to look into using the salamander system for regional accountability within the Capitol Region Fire Departments. The CREPC program has some grant monies that can be put toward the purchase of the regional accountability system to provide safety at events within the CREPC region. A sub-committee consisting of Chris Brewer, Doug Whalen, Gary Ruggiero, John Shaw, Vinny Palmeri & Bob Bycholski will put together some information for the next meeting. The group would like the salamander representative to attend the October meeting to go over the salamander system. Some thoughts were to have CREPC purchase the ID system for the region and use a CERT team to go out and ID the area FD personnel. The same CERT team can be put into action at a major CREPC incident and become the accountability staff to assist safety. There should be more discussions at the October meeting where we can go into the needs of the region and individual fire departments.

Training report- Dan was not available to provide a report but there are numerous training programs available in the region. The training reports are listed on the CREPC website, or departments can call Dan Scace for more information.

Dues notice- The 2006 dues for CRFCA were discussed, a motion was made and passed to set the dues at \$50.00.

Task Force discussion- there has been a few incidents in the region that required mutual-aid from the CREPC program. The Towns or Cities that have mutual-aid agreements between Towns or cities should continue to utilize their mutual-aid programs as a first line of assistance. When incidents grow beyond their initial mutual-aid system and require the assistance of CREPC (ESF-4) the ESF-4 representatives or county coordinators will utilize the Task Force concept established in the region to provide additional assistance. The task force concept will provide assistance without depleting resources from Towns or Cities in the region. It was suggested that the 8 task forces design a 1st tier mutual-aid system that will call-up the Towns or Cities within the task force prior to activation of the regional task forces.

MDT update- the CAPTAIN/MDT program for the region fire service is still very active and there have been talks with the vendor. There will be more updates for the October meeting after the committee has had discussions with the vendor. There was some discussion that as long as the grant monies stay in place there may be an opportunity for each CREPC Town & city to receive up to 3 MDT computers for each Town in CREPC use.

EOC upgrades- the \$346,000.00 set aside for regional EOC center upgrades is in the process of purchasing the equipment and providing the upgrades.

New Business:

ERHS advisory council report- FY06 funding will only be available through individual Towns or Cities or placing it into a Regional system. 36 out of 40 opted to go Regional. Projected FY06 regional money is \$850,000.00 with \$450,000.00 going to LEPC. The reverse 911 system went out to bid and there were 8 bidders. The state selected 1 bidder and is in negotiations with the company to offer the program to all 5 DMHS regions. There are additional programs within the reverse 911 that regions, Towns or Cities can use for notification purposes.

Citizen Corp Council group- There will be a conference of the citizen corp. at Mohegan Sun on October 30th. There are numerous citizen corp. groups in the state. There was some discussion of using Fire citizen corp. groups for incidents in the State. There are 5 fire citizen corp. groups in the State of Ct, with Burlington being one in our region. The website for the National fire corps is <http://www.firecorps.org>.

Mutual link report- Task Force 51 was working on this program but there was no report available. It was discussed that there were some issues with Town IT staff while attempting to get the system in place for a trial period.

Interoperability committee nominations- there was some discussions related to the recent nominations of the interoperability committee. Presently, Keith Victor is the CREPC representative of this committee. Further investigation will be conducted by Chief Austin as to where this nomination stands.

Project P, \$200,000.00- To equip and upgrade local fire departments related to training, facilities and enhance response capabilities to CBRNE events. Discussion was to place this money into safety at CBRNE events and purchase the salamander equipment for the regional FD's. This will provide safety at these events and will also benefit the day-to-day events with additional safety measures.

Red Cross Cots- Red Cross has purchased 56,000 cots that could be dispatched anywhere in the United States. In addition there are State and Regional cots available in the region. The CREPC cots have been distributed to the Towns that requested them for their emergency shelters. There will be a tractor trailer filled with cots for deployment if required in the Region.

A person with disability training program- The first class has been completed and after some adjustments the train-the-trainer program will be delivered to the region. The goal is to put 350 people through the class.

Regional hazmat teams- the hazmat teams are looking into putting together a flyer or handout describing the hazmat team and resources throughout the State.

Spring 2007 drill- there is planning for a major regional drill in the spring of 2007. More to follow as information becomes available.

EMS summit meeting- the regional EMS chiefs will have a summit meeting scheduled for October 24th in New Britain

EMS inventory- The regional ESF-8 program has started inventory of the EMS supplies in the region. More to follow

Pandemic Flu drill- The State has received money from the Federal Government toward Pan-Flu training. A drill is being scheduled for February 2007.

Manchester Hazmat drill- there is a scheduled hazmat drill in Manchester for October.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Whalen
CRFCA Secretary/Treasurer