Fire Advisory Board Meeting Minutes 8/16/2012

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bush at 1900 hrs.

Member's and guest present: Adrian Bush, Robert Kerr, Jeff Hammond, James Houmiel, Gary Lutz, Ron Streeter, Jerome Wilson, Dale Gardner, Scott Edkin, Dan Basford, Lonney Scott, Rick Coller, Augie Weiss, George Brouse, Joe Gilbert, Tom Popham, Vincent Ferry, Joe Gallagher.

Member's excused: Bob Crowe, Brian Sullivan, Bob White, Frank Burns, Craig Laplante, Joe Finnegan, Scott McRobbie, Jim Lowery.

Chairman Bush asked if everyone had viewed a copy of the minutes from last meeting. No other discussion. Motion made to accept said minutes by Ron Streeter, 2nd by Augie Weiss.

Chairman Bush asked Emergency Services Director Joe Gilbert for a report on matters from his office. Director Gilbert reported on the policy regarding automatic dispatch of fire investigators. He stated a change in the policy had been directed and dispatchers will no longer auto dispatch investigators. He quoted the GML 204D which states the responsibility for determining fire cause and determination is on the authority having jurisdiction, incident commander when request for investigators are needed. He stated his office (911 center) will respond to any such request once the incident commander or representative places the call.

Director Gilbert also asked that incident commanders be aware of the need to stay on scene and assist county fire investigators and not leave the scene until determination or other actions are taken, once again reminding them of the law.

Jeff Hammond asked Director Gilbert if dispatchers would wait till primary apparatus and any mutual aid is dispatched before toning out investigators. The answer was yes. Apparently there have been cases in the past where tones for investigators interfered with response operations.

Director Gilbert went on to say the ICS 100,200 training scheduled for August has been postponed because of a paperwork problem. Training to get rescheduled.

Chairman Bush asked Dale Gardner to report on the training center, fund raising effort for the new live fire simulator project. Mr. Gardner reported on use of the facility, stating 600-800 hrs of training had been conducted there this year. He also went on to say other law enforcement, homeland security, department of corrections had interest in using the facility. Mr. Gardner went on to discuss efforts to secure letters of support from all county departments, towns, and villages. Letters of support are valuable when applying for grants.

Handouts showing a sample fund raising card were passed out. County printing office is to prepare the mailings. Only certain parts of the county will receive the mailings as a test market.

Discussion followed on fund raising for the new fire simulator. Mr. Gardner mentioned several options to include county support as a funding stream, loan options, USDA, IDA, political sources. A power point, picture presentation on the new fire simulator foundation was given. Question and answer period followed.

Joe Gallagher mentioned the idea of changing the name of the Fire Training Center to Public Safety Training Center if more and more outside agencies start to use the facility.

Discussion on the 2% loan fund was held and it was felt the language in the law disqualifying agencies other than fire departments, fire district from such loans should be changed to include 501c3 not for profits and other training related organizations.

Chairman Bush welcomed and congratulated newly appointed Deputy Coordinators Lonney Scott and Gary Lutz.

For the good of the order a motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Hammond 2nd by Vinney Ferry. Meeting adjourned 2040 hrs.

Respectively Submitted Robert E. Kerr