

Fire Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2019 7 PM Meeting was called to order Chairman Finnegan

Members Attending: Chairman Finnegan, Director Denner, Bob Kerr, Adrian Bush, Larry Whitton, Scott McRobbie, Rick Rusaw, Erik Johnson, Jeff Hammond, Chris Sherwin, Donald Brown, Mark Bomyea, Bob Crowe, Don McCarthy, Joe Gallagher, Art Howie.

Excused: Nicole Harris, Tom Miller, Vincent Ferry, Tom Popham, Larry Denesha, Pat Obrien, Kevin Crosby

Chairman Finnegan asked for feedback from October meeting minutes. No comments or concerns. M/M Eric Johnson, 2nd Rick Rusaw to accept minutes. Carried.

Chairman Finnegan turned the floor over to Director Denner for updates from his office. Director Denner updated the group on dispatch statistics for November. 9,283 calls. Fire Calls – 532 EMS – 1532 Sherriff – 1622. Director Denner stated the dispatch center can now take text 911 messages
Total calls handled year to date 97,715

Update on the tower project: Towers going up in Hammond (Feb) Waddington (May) Gouvernor (June) MidState is the contractor.

Director Denner stated he attended a meeting in Albany regarding flooding. State is concerned with spring runoff problems and lake levels. He said there is a state resource called NY RESPONSE that has equipment for assisting with flooding.

Next topic was the Bass Master Tournaments and Part 18 requirements for dealing with crowds in excess of 5,000 people. Permits now are required. Volunteers from Fire, EMS are not as likely to participate in the 2020 event unless being compensated.

Director stated the county has had its share of funerals lately but over all things went pretty well. Bob Crowe mentioned using standby crews from outside our county when trying to cover stations during funerals or other events rather than stretch local resources to thin. Chairman Finnegan mentioned the need to close Rt 11B down for Bob White services instead of limiting traffic. It was mentioned there are complications at the state level when closing off roads. Bob Crowe also stated there is a need to make notifications within 8 hours of any LODD not 24 Hours.

Director Denner stated he had a good District Deputy meeting. District 3 candidates being considered. Car 7 number to be retired. Physicals for Deputy Coordinators was discussed. The group all agreed there should be physicals. For those in other departments they might already be getting physicals. A committee to be formed to address the issue as no policy or procedure is in place.

The upcoming Leadership Conference was mentioned. Comments from the group were last year's conference was poorly attended. It was mentioned the office was given short notice regarding the conference. This year the cost to attend is \$110.00.

Director Denner stated he continues to get visit from Chaplins regarding county response. The group agrees there is a need but should be by invitation not automatic response. Suggested a SOP be developed with contact information of Chaplins could be contacted if needed. Critical stress debriefs still need to considered.

Update on county Fire Investigation Team. Recent concerns with juvenile fire setters, local investigators and law enforcement need to work together. Recent mattress fires directly related to juveniles. 4 members of the county team taking Pro-Board classes to become certified NYS Investigators. Class being held at North County Community College.

Bob Kerr gave short report on training center. It has been a busy year. New fall protection railings and ship ladder have been delivered with a spring installation. Stated a search for a new co- operations person is underway. He asked for suggestions from the group. Bob mentioned the need for a public relations person to help with safety messages alerts etc.

Old Business: Director Denner stated the Haz Mat Team is getting together. Looking to get equipment updated. Dave Zohlsdorf staying on a team leader. Haz Mat Tech refresher and full Technician classes coming up. Work on going with consortium.

The rehab policy was discussed and it was agreed it is no longer in draft form and should be sent to legislature for implementation. The Fire Officer Best Practices policy also needs to be resurrected. New Decon procedures also need to be looked at and implemented.

New Business: Director Denner stated there were 4 vacancies on the Fire Advisory Board. 9 applications were presented for filling the vacancies. Discussion followed regarding what districts should be filled first. Review of the districts lead to John Lashomb, Tom Conklin and Donald Brown being recommended for appointment to the board.

For good of the order Chairman asked if anyone had any other business to discuss. No further comments. 2045 hrs M/M B. Crowe 2nd R. Rusaw to adjourn. Carried.

Next meeting Feb 20th 7 PM