

Berks County Fire Service Working Group Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2012

ATTENDANCE

ZONE 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Schegan (46)	Bill Battista (33)	Mark George (11)
ZONE 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Snyder (50)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Schrack (41)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Quell (37)
ZONE 3	Lester Feick (27)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Martin (47)	
ZONE 4	Scot Landis (67)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce Longenecker (79)	Mark Hostetter
ZONE 5/6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Gehman (22) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Fox (34)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Schaeffer (20) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Stevens (17)	
ZONE 7	Tom Rehr (RFD)	Ron Wentzel (RFD)	
BERKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Gottschall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craig Wanner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Flores
BERKS COUNTY FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Weidenhammer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J David Bossard	
BERKS COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leon Grim		
BERKS COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Englebach		
OTHERS:	Nicholas Gammauf – Senior Case Worker for Congressman Pitts		

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Stevens at 1815 hours in the Berks County Department of Emergency Services Conference room, located in the Direct Link Building, Bernville Road, Leesport, PA.

The minutes from the December 8th meeting were approved.

DISCUSSION

700 MHz D Block: Nicholas Gammauf, Senior Case Worker for Congressman Pitts' office fielded questions about the 700 MHz spectrum and D Block. After some conversation it was agreed the stand should be to give D Block to public safety for its use and to not auction the narrowband spectrum. If narrowband is to be auctioned, the fire service has no interest in D Block.

Collapse Task Force: Tabled.

Box Alarms: Tony Flores reported progress is being made to finish up run cards in the access database.

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FEMA Grant: Both the Womelsdorf and Readings regional grant requests for mobile radios were awarded. Work is being done on the procedures for grant money requests. Grants were for dual band 700 MHz/VHF radios.

P25: Brian Gottschall reported there are still issues with the 3 proposed tower sites on the Blue Mountain due to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.

Training Committee: Roger Weidenhammer reported a training schedule and cost structure for training is being worked on and is anticipated to be rolled out shortly. Due to prior county training committees and a donation from the Berks County Chief Association, the training committee has \$26,000 of funding available.

Berks County Fire Training Site: Brian Gottschall reported that Steven Knoll resigned as head of the fire training site.

Berks County Fire Chief Association: Leon Grimm announced the disbanding of the Berks County Fire Chief Association and that its assets were distributed to several organizations.

Zoning Hearing Boards: Brian Gottschall advised all emergency services agencies whose jurisdiction includes a tower site for the P25 radio system to attend their municipal zoning hearing board meetings.

Zone 1: No report

Zone 2: Reviewed Cumru Twp letter regarding box alarm changes. Agreed several issues have merit, however it was decided not make any box alarm changes until New World CAD is implemented.

Zone 3: Voted “no” on pre-alerts on dispatching frequency and agreed to not make any changes to run cards at this time.

Zone 4: Voted “no” on pre-alerts on dispatching frequency.

Zone 5/6: Voted “no” on pre-alerts on dispatching frequency.

Zone 7: No report

Fire Police: J David Bossard will be an alternate to the Working Group on behalf of the Berks County Fire Police Association.

Meeting adjourned at 2030.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday February 23rd, 2012 at 1815 hours in the conference room of Berks DES at Direct Link.

***Berks County Fire Service Working Group
Meeting Minutes***

Respectfully Submitted,
Chuck Snyder, BFSWG Secretary

DRAFT