

**BERKS COUNTY FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP
Meeting Minutes – September 24, 2015**

ATTENDANCE:

Zone 1		Matt Brett		Ethan Kunkel		Scott Yenser (alt)
Zone 2	X	Ken Quell	X	Dean Dalious		
Zone 3		Bob Martin		Lester Feick		Corey Hauser (alt)
Zone 4		Bob Snyder				
Zones 5/6	X	Chris Stevens	X	Chris Schaeffer		Eric Fox
		Chris Bickings				
Zone 7	X	Tom Kemery		Tom Rehr		
BCFA		Roger Weidenhammer		Leon Grim		
BCFPA	X	Bob Englebach		J. David Bossard (alt)		
Task Force	X	Scot Landis		Michael Lessar		
Berks DES	X	Brian Gottschall	X	Tony Flores		Matt Stairiker
	X	Todd Boughter	X	Christina Wood		Jon Fritz
Forestry 17		Joe Sherman				

*Ron Wentzel, Vice Chair Emeritus

Other attendees: None

The meeting was called to order at 1820 hours in the Berks County Department of Emergency Services conference room, located in the Direct Link building, Bernville Road, Reading, PA.

The June 25, 2015 meeting minutes were approved as written.

DISCUSSION

East-Central Task Force:

- 1006 Core class being run at Boyertown Area Fire & Rescue. Students from different classes in other counties will be allowed to test with the BAF&R students at the fire training site. Total of approximately 20.
- Funding has been approved for a Trench Tech class. The class should be full and will be held in Luzerne County, with testing at HACC.
- Two Atmospheric Monitoring classes will be held, one in Schuylkill County and the other in Northumberland County. Task force monitoring assets currently are located in those two counties.
- Advanced Line Systems class for water rescue will be held. The task force is reaching out to assets within the region that could be deployed by the task force if needed.
- A Safety Officer class will be held sometime in spring 2016. It is believed this will be a full class.
- Possibility of a TEKS class for the summer of 2016.
- From the Fire/Rescue Committee, the Schuylkill air monitoring teams are requesting replacement of their meters, which are no longer supported by the manufacturer. The Executive Board approved the purchase of four (4) new meters out of the seven (7) requested.

BCFA: Nothing to report.

BCFPA (Englebach): The association is requesting a remedial radio-use training session for the county's fire police, stating that some of the agency trainers are no longer with those agencies. Brian advised the association to go back to their individual agencies and speak to the persons tasked with training personnel or find another reputable individual who received the train-the-trainer training for a remedial session. Brian further requested the association collect any and all issues/concerns/questions from the fire police so that they can be specifically addressed.

Forestry (Dean): Air assets will be unavailable for the fall 2015 brush fire season.

Training (Bob S.): Nothing to report.

Zone 1: Nothing to report.

Zone 2: Cody Rahn will now be an alternate member to the Working Group.

Zone 3: Nothing to report.

Zone 4: Nothing to report.

Zones 5/6: Nothing to report.

Zone 7: Beginning to make some radio changes that RFD and DES had discussed. Also beginning to try out some speaker/mics with the recessed PTT button.

DES: Individuals and/or agencies who are using "unconventional" pagers or customized house systems should consider all possibilities when having issues with the paging system either not activating pagers or not activating house systems. Examples: non-Motorola pagers, systems using antennae that aren't made for the VHF spectrum, TV co-ax cable being used to connect antennae to an inside scanner or house alerting system, location of said equipment inside a building, etc.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1933 hours. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2015 at 1815 hours in the Direct Link conference room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Stevens, Chair