

BERKS COUNTY FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP
Meeting Minutes – November 29, 2018

ATTENDANCE:

Zone 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Brett (alt)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethan Kunkel	<input type="checkbox"/> “Open” (alt)
Zone 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dean Dalious	<input type="checkbox"/> Blair Miller	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken Quell (alt)
Zone 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Martin	<input type="checkbox"/> Lester Feick	<input type="checkbox"/> Corey Hauser (alt)
Zone 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colin Hackman	<input type="checkbox"/> Avery Leshen	<input type="checkbox"/> “Open” (alt)
Zone 5/6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Bickings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Schaeffer	<input type="checkbox"/> Eric Fox
	<input type="checkbox"/> Scott Reitnauer		
Zone 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Kemery	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Rehr	<input type="checkbox"/> Brian Thorpe (alt)
BCFA	<input type="checkbox"/> Roger Weidenhammer	<input type="checkbox"/> Leon Grim	
BCFPA	<input type="checkbox"/> Randy Minninger	<input type="checkbox"/> “Open” (alt)	
Task Force	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Landis	<input type="checkbox"/> Corey Heimbach	
Berks DES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Gottschall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean Hart	<input type="checkbox"/> Tony Flores
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Boughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Christina Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Fritz
Forestry 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Derrick Etter		

***Ron Wentzel, Vice Chair Emeritus**

Other Attendees: None

The meeting was called to order by Colin Hackman, Chair at 18:02 hours in the Berks County Department of Emergency Services conference room, located in the Direct Link Building, Bernville Road, Reading, PA.

The September 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes were emailed to the group by Chairman Hackman. There were no changes requested or made.

DISCUSSION

Forestry: No Report

BCFPA: No Report

BCFA: No Report

Training (Landis): Scot Landis asked the committee what everyone’s feelings were is Reading Area Community College became a training sponsor again for fire training. He reported that there has been discussion with RACC about this, but they are skeptical because they are unsure if they will be utilized. This topic remains in the early stages at RACC, but more will be presented at a later time.

East-Central Task Force (Landis):

- There has been a change in funding, and PICC will be doing it as of 1/1/2019
- Scot Landis will no longer be chairperson of the Fire – Hazmat Committee / Training.
- A full scale exercise will be scheduled, but they are waiting on PEMA.

Zone 1: (Brett):

- Asked DES the benefits of the GPS integration in the 700 MHz system. After some discussion, it was discussed that the current benefits are location of lost equipment and a emergency button

activation. The county currently have no intentions for closets vehicle dispatch or apparatus routing.

Zone 2 (Daliou): No Report

Zone 3 (Martin via email):

- The zone is in agreement for the recent Fire Cards that were distributed for evaluation.

Zone 4 (Hackman):

- Asked DES the difference between a Structure Investigation and Structure Fire. After some discussion, a Structure Investigation is the reports of an odor of something burning, but no visible smoke or fire. A Structure Fire is the report of visible smoke or fire in or in close proximity to the building.

Zone 5/6 (Schaeffer): No Report

Zone 7: No Report

DES:

- **P25 Pager Order:** DES continues to work with Unication to correct the firmware that is causing missed and phantom dispatches.
- **GPS Update:** The update process is still underway. Several departments still need to have equipment installed in vehicles. Once all installations are complete, every radio will need to be reprogrammed.

Old Business:

- **Fire Dispatch Cards:** Chairman Hackman discussed the proposed DES Fire Cards that the dispatchers / Calltakers will follow when receiving 911 calls for a fire incident. All Zones are in favor.

New Business:

- **SR6:** A brief discussion was held on the recent approval of SR6 by state legislators. More information will most likely become available.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 19:45. The next meeting is scheduled for 1800 hours on Thursday, January 31, 2019 at the Direct Link conference room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Bickings, Secretary