

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

**July 29, 2010**

## **ATTENDANCE**

ZONE 1	Bob Schlegan (46)	X Scott Yenser (21)
ZONE 2	X Chuck Snyder (50)	X Eric Schrack (41)      X Ken Quell (37)
ZONE 3	X Lester Feick (27)	Bob Martin (47)
ZONE 4	Scot Landis (67)	Bruce Longenecker (79)
ZONE 5/6	Matt Gehman (22) Mike DeTurck (25)	X Chris Schaeffer (20) X Chris Stevens (17)
ZONE 7	X Michael Moyer (RFD)	Ron Wentzel (RFD)
BERKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES	X Brian Gottschall	X Craig Wanner
BERKS COUNTY FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION	Dick Trostle	
BERKS COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION	Leon Grim	
BERKS COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION	X Bob Englebach	
OTHERS:		

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Stevens at 1831 hours in the Berks County Department of Emergency Services Conference room, located in the Direct Link Building, Bernville Road, Leesport, PA.

## **DISCUSSION**

**Box Alarms:** Brian Gottschall discussed a lack of response of box alarms being submitted to DES. Approximately 1/3 of Fire/EMS agencies have submitted their box alarms. DES will begin dispatching officer tones to those agency's that have not submitted their box alarms for updates. If any Fire/EMS agency has any questions regarding the box alarms please contact Craig Wanner at DES.

**Box Alarm Authorization:** DES is waiting for several municipalities to submit their box alarm authorization forms. Craig Wanner stated several authorization forms have been received when fire departments are submitting their box alarms.

**CAD Mapping:** Craig Wanner stated only 3 box alarm outline maps have been received for the new CAD mapping. Box alarm outline maps will need to be submitted

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before the end of the year. Once clarified with the CAD vendor, DES will set a date for submission.

**MASS NOTIFICATION:** After DES received training, all Fire Department Admins will be scheduled for training in the near future.

**KIMBALL REPORT/NEW RADIO SYSTEM:** RFP (Request for Proposal) meeting was on July 6th. All vendors interested have until September 14<sup>th</sup> to submit the RFP's. Once received, Berks will have 30 days to review proposals before awarding a vendor contract. DES expects once a vendor is selected, contract signing will be complete by November.

**Working Group/Mission Statement:** Was presented by Scott Yenser for review and accepted by the Working Group.

**Total Visibility:** Once enough equipment lists are received and inputted, DES will provide a timeline for implementation of the system in the near future.

**Zone 3 TTF:** Zone 3 is creating a Tanker Task Force. Zone 3 has petitioned DES for a separate Zone 3 TTF tone set. Zone 3 will receive a separate tone set for dispatching but it will not be activated for use until Zone 3 provides SOP's/By-law's showing it is operational to DES.

**Zone All Calls:** Regarding who has authority to use a Zone All Call tone. Zone 2 voted to allow any chief officer to dispatch an All Call while Zone 5/6 stated they will allow their Zone President and Vice-President to use the Zone All Call for administrative purposes. Discussion was tabled till next meeting to receive information from Zone's 1, 3 and 4.

**Support Your Fire Company:** The "Support Your Fire Company" program has a web domain of [www.berksfire.com](http://www.berksfire.com) for additional information. In October Commissioner Christian Leinbach will promote the program with the Berkshire Mall being a possible location. No date has been set but county fire departments may be contacted to help assist.

**Radio Project Funding:** Working Group Chairman, Chris Stevens, discussed regional grants and/or having Berks County submit a county-wide grant to help offset costs of radio's for the new radio system. The Working Group will go back to their respective Zones about approaching the Berks County Commissioners to hire a professional grant writer to seek and apply for grants for radios on behalf of Berks County..

The next meeting will be held on Thursday August 26, 2010 at 1815 hours in the conference room of Berks DES at Direct link.

The meeting was adjourned at 2038.