

Berks County Fire Service Working Group Meeting Minutes

February 22, 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)	Ken Quell (37)
ZONE 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephen Serba (RFD)	Ron Wentzel (RFD)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas Rehr
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	J David Bossard	
BERKS COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION	Leon Grim		
BERKS COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Englebach		
OTHERS:			

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 January 26th meeting were approved.

DISCUSSION

Box Alarms: Reported all municipal box alarms have been implemented into CAD with the exception of 3 municipalities which need to adopt SOG's for use of the "station" moniker. When complete all box alarms will be implemented.

P25/700MHz: Reported that D Block radio spectrum will be given to emergency services but as a give back, emergency responders will need to vacate T-Band but that will not affect Berks County.

Berks County Fire Service Working Group Meeting Minutes

Berks County applied for a Narrowband waiver through the FCC to go past the January 2013 implementation target date. Currently progress is behind in its critical path schedule due to regulatory requirements at several tower sites.

RMI is scheduling radio procurement order meetings with emergency service organizations. However, RMI has reported several conversations when trying to set up meetings that "there is no rush". In order to move forward with radio procurement and take advantage of the FEMA grant for mobile radios, there is a time constraint for all to be completed. There has been no established date of when procurement orders must be completed but it will be determined in the near future. If an organization/municipality does not have their radio procurement order complete by that date, they will not be able to take advantage of county discounts as well as the FEMA grant for mobiles.

The original speaker mics recommended by the county, PMMN4062, have been experiencing problems in the field when they get wet. The county is now recommending the PMMN 4065 model which is more durable and of higher quality but at a slightly lower cost.

Brian G announced the county, in the near future, will be sending to all municipalities the promissory notes for their review, completion and return to the county through resolution. Presently the dollar amounts owed is left blank as RMI is still working on getting the radio procurement orders completed.

Training Committee: Roger Weidenhammer reported the training committee has a website of www.berkscountyfiretraining.com. Some classes have already been scheduled and additional training will be posted in the near future.

Berks County Fire Training Site: Brian Gottschall reported the county has posted the position for a replacement for Seven Knoll.

Zone 1: Reported that Bill Battista has stepped down and that Zone 1 is looking for a new rep. Zone 1 also asked for All-Calls to be used when the CAD goes down or when Berks 911 goes into storm mode.

Zone 2: No report.

Zone 3: Reported they are sending a letter to North Heidelberg Twp Zoning Hearing Board asking for approval of the North Heidelberg tower site..

Zone 4: No report.

Zone 5/6: No report.

Zone 7/RFD: Asked for dispatcher additional information to responding apparatus to be shortened. Reported that on several occasions apparatus was on location while the

Berks County Fire Service Working Group Meeting Minutes

dispatcher was still providing additional information which interfered with tactical communications.

Fire Police: Reported 4 of 5 fire police tower sites have been narrow banded.

RIT Consortium: The Working Group was given a copy of the RIT Consortium's recommended Standard Operating Guidelines. It will be on DES website for everybody's review.

Meeting adjourned at 1945.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday March 29, 2012 at 1815 hours in the conference room of Berks DES at Direct Link.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chuck Snyder, BFSWG Secretary

DRAFT