

**BERKS COUNTY FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP**  
**Meeting Minutes – December 12th, 2013**

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Zone 1</b>		Matt Brett		Ethan Kunkel	x	Scott Yenser (alt)
<b>Zone 2</b>	x	Eric Schrack	x	Dean Dalious		Ken Quell (alt)
<b>Zone 3</b>		Bob Martin		Corey Houser		Lester Feick
<b>Zone 4</b>	x	Scot Landis	x	Bruce Longenecker		
<b>Zones 5/6</b>	x	Chris Stevens	x	Chris Schaeffer	x	Matt Gehman
		Eric Fox				
<b>Zone 7</b>		Ron Wentzel	x	Stephen Serba		Tom Rehr
<b>BCFA</b>		Roger Weidenhammer		Leon Grim		
<b>BCFPA</b>	x	Bob Englebach		J. David Bossard (alt)		
<b>Training</b>	x	Bob Snyder				
<b>Berks DES</b>	x	Brian Gottschall	x	Tony Flores		Matt Stairiker
		Craig Wanner	x	Todd Boughter	x	Christina Wood

**Other Attendees:** Nelson Lopez, DES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Stevens at 18:18 hours in the Berks County Department of Emergency Services multi-purpose room, located in the Direct Link building, Bernville Road, Leesport, PA.

The minutes of the October 2013 meetings were approved as written. No meeting was held in November.

**DISCUSSION**

**Forestry:** NONE

**Fire Police Association:**

- Bob Englebach reported that the Training Committee and Tony Riccardi put on a presentation for Municipal Solicitor's regarding Fire Police and municipal responsibilities @ the Berks County BAR Association.

**East-Central Task Force:**

- Scot Landis reported that Taskforce Training/Drill is coming to Berks on April 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be a 2-day event labeled "Coal Cracker 2". Friday will involve hospitals and decon evolutions, and Saturday will involve actual "rescue" scenario/evolutions.

**RIT Consortium:** NONE

**Radio Advisory:** NONE

### **Training Committee:**

- Bob Snyder reported that the website is being constantly updated. A letter will be sent out as a reminder of things that the committee is doing. Overall, the training committee is reporting progress on all fronts.

### **ZONES:**

- Bruce Longenecker inquired about “Storm Mode” and the changes to dispatch that are made during these events. DES staff explained that dispatch modifications are made during large scale storm events. Forthcoming Radio SOG’s will address and clarify in more detail. Currently, the modifications that are made by dispatchers are that Accidents with unknown injuries are not having Fire/EMS agencies dispatched in order to not overtax resources during high volume times.

### **CAD:**

- Scot Landis asked about cross streets and CAD utilizing unmarked alleys and streets. Brian Gottschall reported CAD sees and uses all streets and alleys that are defined in GIS. Any issues/updates or problems should be reported to the Watch Officer for entry into their “GIS Log”, a dedicated log book for updates and problems with GIS mapping.

### **P25:**

- Brian Gottschall reported that he attended a meeting with Zone 2 members recently. Eric Schrack reported that the information was well received by the Zone.
- Union site – site work complete, antenna and line installation ongoing
- Albany site – shelter has been set, tower being constructed, targeting end of year for completion.
- Bethel site – shelter being set this week, tower to follow, targeting end of year for completion.
- Turnpike site – shelter has been set
- Longswamp site – this is the “long pole” of the towers. Due to weather and construction delays, it is not expected this site to be completed by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Runcards:**

- Tony Flores reported that the meetings with agencies regarding runcards is underway, approximately half way completed. Runcard mapping to the new system has dedicated resources in DES for this purpose. Target date for cutover is March 1<sup>st</sup>, with April 1<sup>st</sup> being a fall-back date. MCI runcards were brought up by the group, and it was reported that DES will work on them with the existing runcard project.

### **BCFA: NONE**

### **FH Software:**

- Todd Boughter reported that the County FH Software server will be shut down, and all agencies that were still sending information to this server were notified to report directly to the State FTP site. Agencies were given the state FTP login information.

### **County Bridge Weight Limit Ratings:**

- Brian Gottschall reported that PennDOT District 5 had not yet finalized the process for issuing custom permits to fire departments, allowing exemptions to the new weight limit restrictions. Information that should be collected by departments in the mean time are axle weights, axle spacings, GVWR ratings, and actual vehicle weights. For agencies on the fringe of Berks County who provide mutual aid to other counties/PennDOT districts, please contact the

PennDOT district that your mutual aid run area encompasses.

<http://www.dot.state.pa.us/internet/web.nsf/RegionalMap?OpenForm>

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @ 1815 hours in the Direct Link conference room. This will be our annual reorganization meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Gehman  
Secretary