

BERKS COUNTY FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP
Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2014

ATTENDANCE:

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

Other Attendees:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Stevens at 18:19 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 February 27th, 2013 meeting was approved as written.

DISCUSSION:

Fire Police Association:

- Bob Englebach reported that the Association voted to move the fire police numbering system back to follow the Fire Department numbers. Captains and Lieutenants will be plain language (FP Capt. 85), with other fire police using their “200” numbering system. The cutover date for Fire Police switching to this will be April 30th, 2014.

East-Central Task Force: NONE

RIT Consortium: NONE

Radio Advisory: Meeting is next Thursday.

Training Committee:

- Bob Snyder reported that the currently offered courses are receiving a good response. Bob announced they will be offering a “Mod 5” class, formerly known as “Firefighter II Prep”, in preparation for the FFII Test, which will move up a few weeks. The City is also working with the Training Committee to schedule an Educational Methodologies class, and subsequent Fire

Instructor I Certification testing. Departments should continue to monitor the Website for additional classes offered and for any changes.

- Bob also noted that the Forcible Entry training simulator is awaiting parts for repair.

ZONES:

Zone 1: Discussed and approved FP change back to Fire Department numbering.

Zone 2: No representative present.

Zone 3: Nothing to report.

Zone 4: Discussed and approved FP change back to Fire Department numbering, also discussed and approved 20 minute “mark” topic, requested Fire Commissioner numbers change back to Fire Department numbers also.

Zone 5&6: Discussed and approved FP change back to Fire Department numbering, also discussed and approved 20 minute “mark” topic.

City: Nothing to report.

P25:

- Brian Gottschall reported that the Longswamp site has been “topped off”, and electrical is complete. The County has handed over the last of the physical sites to Motorola.
- SUA’s are still outstanding for Fire Departments in the County. The following agencies are still missing SUA’s as of March 31st, 2014: Amity FD, Bernville FD, Boyertown Area Fire and Rescue, Brecknock Township FD, Central Berks FD, Cumuru Township FD, Friendship Hook and Ladder FD, Frystown FD, Gibraltar FD, Hamburg FD, Hamburg Forestry, Keystone of Boyertown, Kutztown FD, Liberty New Berlinville FD, Lyons FD, Marion FD, Mohnton FD, Monarch FD, Mt. Penn FD, Port Clinton FD, Reading Airport Fire Brigade, Robesonia FD, Salvation Army Canteen, Seisholtzville FD, Shoemakersville FD, Township of Spring FD, Walnuttown FD, Wernersville Hospital, West End Fire Company Stowe, West Reading FD, Womelsdorf FD, Reading Fire/EMS.
- Field User Radio SOP’s: Electronic draft will be available by April 11th for WG representatives to discuss with their zones. Special meetings may be needed to get input back to WG by the next meeting.
- New Radio system cutover date: Scheduled for 1st week of August.

CAD/Runcards:

- Tony Flores reported that the runcard entry and testing is on track for the end of April. Cutover date to new runcards is scheduled for Wednesday April 30th, 08:00 hours.
- Tony also reported that there were 15-18 mapping solutions that need resolution due to multiple municipalities being listed for these areas. Maps of the run areas will be available online for agencies to review.
- Special responses: Map overlays will be generated for special responses, where the dispatcher will be able to “pin” or query the location in the system to more accurately generate special response dispatch.

BCFA: NONE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 24th @ 1815 hours in the Direct Link conference room. The only item on the agenda will be discussion on the proposed Radio SOP’s.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Gehman
Secretary