

**BERKS COUNTY FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP**  
**Meeting Minutes – December 11th, 2014**

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**\*Ron Wentzel, Vice Chair Emeritus**

**Other Attendees: NONE**

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, Reading, PA.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as written.  
 Address of DES needs to be updated to Reading, not Leesport.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Forestry: NONE**

**Fire Police: NONE**

**Fireman's Association: NONE**

**Taskforce:**

- Scot Landis presented a 3 year training/certification plan for ETFC. Training will be hosted and prioritized for host/requesting companies. ETFC is awaiting approval for funds to execute training plan. ETFC is looking for host companies for the training.
- Vacant seat on TF from Berks. Chief Lessar from the City is interested in serving. Group approved to have Chief Lessar serve as Berks representative to ETFC and sit as a TF rep on the WG.

### **Zone 1:**

- Ethan Kunkel asked about moving working group meetings to quarterly. Discussion was tabled until January at reorganization meeting.
- Ops Talkgroups: Differing protocols for switching or not switching to Ops by dispatchers. Heard of instances where OIC's were denied an ops talkgroup. Brian Gottschall stated that moving forward, if Ops Talkgroup is requested, it will be assigned.

**Zone 2:** General concensus from Zone 2 is that system is working well.

**Zone 3:** NOTHING

### **Zone 4:**

- Bob Snyder asked if there are new coverage lapses with the changes to the paging system and re-location of some of the bases. They are seeing intermittent pager non-activation, seems to be location based. Bob will be working to narrow down pattern of non-activation.

### **Zone 5/6:**

- Chris Stevens reported that Ashley Neubauer will be the 5/6 representative to the Training Committee.
- Chris Bickings has been appointed to fill the vacated Zone 5/6 spot on the WG.

**Zone 7:** Nothing

### **Radio/DES:**

- Brian Gottschall reported that the 800 IOp hardware is in service now for Montco and Chester. Radio Management application needs to be updated on end user devices (PC's, laptops, tablets, etc). Still working on radio system audio issues originating from DES. Low end rolloff problem.
- EMS WG discussed moving to common language identifiers. Instead of Medic 505-1, for example, they are recommending "Bally Medic 1". The general consensus from the Fire Working Group is that they would only support a change to the EMS ID/Numbering system if it follows the current County policy of migration to Municipal Numbering.

### **CAD:**

- Brian Gottschall reported that on December 3rd there was an infrastructure hardware change to CAD with unexpected issues. DES is working with vendor to remedy issues.
- There will be a "change control" form to update radio assignments/console alias. DES working on form right now. For the time being, email Brian Gottschall with any necessary modifications. Need radio SN #.

### **Training:**

- Bob Snyder reported 529 total certs issues in 2014, and over 10,000 contact hours.

### **Communications:**

- Dean Dalious is now a full member of the Working Group. Zone 2 will assign a new Alternate.

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned @ 20:08 hours. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 29th @ 18:15 hours in the Direct Link conference room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Gehman  
Secretary