



Clay County Fire Chief's Association

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 14th, 2015, 1900 hours, Ulen Fire Department

1. Call to Order - 1905 hours

2. Public Health Update – Josh Ebert

Ebola issues are pretty much over, but State and Federal officials want us to continue to plan for ebola incidents. He also has a cache of 6 year old N95 masks that they will be disposing of if anyone wants some.

Public Health can do fit testing at your site.

We should update the Head of Household Dispensing Forms and if anyone is interested in remedial training in mass dispensing they can assist with that.

He also discussed issues between Wilkin and Richland Counties having interoperability problems with one being on VHF and one on ARMER. They will be exploring radio communications options.

2a. Moorhead Regional Haz-Mat Team – Ryan Muchow

Handed out a brochure and explained that if the team is needed they need to be activated by the State Duty Officer so the team can cover billing and insurance issues. The team works as a resource on-scene and consults with the Incident Commander but does not take over command of incidents. The team can also come out and show the resources available and discuss what resources they can bring. They prefer to do two or more department together. We decided to demo team resources at the meeting next year in Dilworth. If the duty officer does not authorize the team, Moorhead Fire will work out mutual aid with you.

Bryan and Rick also reminded us that the State Duty Officer must also be called to request the bomb squad or a Deputy State Fire Marshal to do investigations.

3. Smoke Detector program – Bryan Green/Nancy Young

The American Red Cross has a nationwide initiative to partner with local fire departments to install smoke detectors in the area. Red Cross provides staff to assist, the detectors to install, all tools, and a meal at the end of the installs for the department. If interested, contact Nancy Young, Disaster Program Manager for NW MN and E ND nancy.young3@redcross.org (701) 364-1800 x2018. They will also assist with community notification ahead of time, visit with the homeowners during the install, leave fire prevention documentation and leave door hangers if people are not home to offer a scheduled install at a later date. They will also replace batteries in existing detectors.

They can also assist with planning and setting up disaster shelters in your community. Again, contact Nancy.

4. AFG Update – Bryan Green/Lisa Burlage

The grant will only allow purchasing on up to 1 radio and 1 pager per person and one mobile radio per vehicle plus one mobile as a base in your station. The grant does not cover radios for EMS only departments or accessories for radios including cases, speaker microphones, etc.

Lisa and Bryan had a conference call yesterday and she said the computer scoring for the grant would be low if only the rural fire departments are in the grant, but would jump up significantly if Moorhead Fire was also on the grant application. This would put everyone in the grant to a 20% match because of Moorhead's population instead of the 5% match for the rurals, but if Moorhead is in the grant they are willing to pick up up to 15% of the rural fire costs so their match could remain as low 5%, but might be higher. We will have to run numbers to make sure it won't cost Moorhead more so the percentages could fluctuate.

We will need to get radio counts in to Bryan within two weeks. We should know in January if we get the grant.

5. ARMER Update – Bryan Green/Brian Zastoupil

Everything is still on track. A firm quote will be in for dispatch equipment by the end of the year. Law enforcement will probably be buying radios in the 4th quarter of 2016. We should be exploring bulk pricing to keep costs lower for everyone.

AFG grant application in progress as described above for responder radios. An ECN grant for radio infrastructure will be coming up soon. Looking to switch over in the 1st quarter of 2017 if all radios are in, later for fire if the AFG grant is unsuccessful.

Norman county is exploring ARMER now.

6. Drone Search & Rescue – Bryan Green

West Central EMS Region purchased 4 drones for public safety use and one was secured and given to Valley Water Rescue. They are willing to bring it out for any incidents we have in the county and has both visual and infra-red cameras and can fly grid areas using GPS. They will operate it for us. Consider it for search and rescue, wildland and other incidents.

7. Emergency Manager Update – Bryan Green

Empting said there has been discussion about changing unit numbering down the road because law enforcement is running out of badge numbers and there are some inconsistencies and wasted numbers in Fire & EMS. This is just in the discussion phase right now.

8. Training Exercise/Hazmat – Rick Loveland

HSEM crude oil and pipeline class development has been discontinued so MNSCU is developing two four-hour classes (classroom, the hands on) that HSEM will reimburse the costs for and if you pay a training rate for your members, that is reimbursable as well. More info to follow.

9. State & Local Training Updates - Rick Loveland

Sabin FF block is finishing up on Saturday. They were a great group. A new block 1 starts in Detroit Lakes next week and a block 1 is starting in Felton on October 27th. Contact Denise to register. We are the only school that is allowed to do the Firefighter I in blocks of training instead of one full class from beginning to end. If we want to continue this consider a letter of support to the Training Board and/or Commissioner of Public Safety.

The sectional school will be in Detroit Lakes on March 12th & 13th. Mini-flyer is out now and the full poster will be out soon. There are some new classes.

Let us know as soon as possible if you're looking to do live burns. Some new rules are in place including having a multi-page burn plan.

10. Mutual Aid Agreement Amendment – Mark Empting

No action had been taken yet.

11. Chief's Roundtable

Rich Duysen HSEM has \$200,000 available in grants to help fund turnout gear extractors (washing machines). They will fund up to \$10,000 per department and priority will go to departments that will share the extractor with neighboring departments. There are different match levels based on population but $\leq 10,000$ population = 10% grant match.

Meeting Adjourned at 2032 Hours

Next Meeting in Barnesville, January 13th

People in Attendance:

American Red Cross – Jerry Ashin
Barnesville – David Grommesh, Michael Stetz
Clay County Emergency Management – Bryan Green
Clay County Public Health – Josh Ebert
Dilworth – Mark Empting
Felton Fire – Rodney Dahlsad
Glyndon – Bob Chuchna
Hawley – Brad Eldred
Moorhead – Rich Duysen, Ryan Muchow, Chad Stangeland, Jeff Wallin
MSCTC – Rick Loveland
RRRDC – Brian Zastoupil
Sabin – Chad Bryan, Steve Brush
Ulen – Joe Mozley, Lyle Steichen

Future Meeting Dates & Locations:

1/13/16 Barnesville
4/13/16 Dilworth
7/13/16 Felton
10/12/16 Glyndon
1/11/17 Hawley
4/12/17 Hitterdal
7/12/17 Moorhead
10/11/17 Sabin
1/10/18 Ulen