

FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Elk River Fire Department Station #2
 13073 Orono Parkway
 Elk River, MN 55330

P	Bob Johnson <i>Chair</i> Insurance Federation of MN	A	Don Smiley MN State Fire Chief's Assoc. (MSFCA)
P	Kip LaMotte Fire Marshals Assoc. of MN / International Assoc. of Arson Investigators-MN Chapter	Call In	Chris Parsons MN Professional Firefighters Assoc. (MPFF)
P	Rick Loveland MN Professional Fire Fighters Assoc. (MPFF)	P	Mark Rosenblum MN State Fire Department Assoc. (MSFDA)
A	Sue Iverson League of Cities (arrived around noon)	A	BJ Jungmann <i>Vice Chair</i> MN State Fire Chief's Assoc. (MSFCA)
P	William Goede League of Cities	P	Ed Hoffman MN State Fire Department Assoc. (MSFDA)
Call In	Jim Fisher MN Assoc. of Townships	P	Robert Hawkins Commissioner Designee

Guests: Bruce West (SFM), David Schliek (MSFCB), Steve Flaherty (MBFTE), Pete Fisher (MNTF1), Brian Piserck (MNDNR), Tim Oland (MNDNR), Todd Manley (MNDNR), Joe Neuberger (HSEM) and Sherry Munyan (MNFAC).

Call to order 10:00 a.m. – Chair Bob Johnson

Acceptance or additions to today's agenda

- Approval of June 7, 2017 minutes as written
 - Minutes approved as written

New Business

- FSA Balance - State Fire Marshal Bruce West
 - The balance collected for FY17 was \$13,310,636.47. The additional funds that could be one-time appropriated out would be \$310,636.47.
 - Gear Washer Grant update

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- \$300,000 was awarded and departments that submitted for the grant spent all the funds.
- Three additional grants were issued, due to bids coming in lower than departments had submitted.
 - Rick Loveland asked if there are other departments or people sharing the use of the gear washers at the departments. Bruce West, SFM will follow up on who from the region has come in to take advantage of the extractor.

Old Business

- Rail & Pipeline Safety Law and Statewide Team Update– Joe Neuberger (HSEM)
 - The equipment has been purchased, received and dispersed to the teams.
 - We are continuing to do the awareness training and beginning to offer refresher training with the emphasis on pipeline safety.
 - RFP's for the teams have been sent out and the deadline for requests was last Friday. The deadline for questions was this past Monday. We will be answering the questions on Thursday with a close date of next Monday for the RFP's.
 - We had a listening session with fire chiefs in June and the biggest discussion was regarding the access process through the duty officer not working adequately enough. We are working with the duty officers through the BCA to try to make calls quicker through the duty officers.
 - We are actively working to find funding for trucks and hoping to purchase them in late 2018. The CAT equipment committee is researching what they want in a standardized product, so over the course of the next five years they will be similar.
 - Assist Commissioner Robert Hawkins asked who would be receiving the trucks. Joe Neuberger, HSEM, commented they are looking into that with the teams of where the need is greater.
- MAD Study Updates – Bruce West, State Fire Marshal
 - Fire Marshal Division Fire Service Study – Bruce West, Fire Marshal
 - The report was distributed out to everyone and we will meet with the leadership of the major fire service organizations to discuss the information that was reported. The Executive Summary will summarize the 177 pages of the report for everyone to review.

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- The report reflected more online training/virtual reality training and we are working toward those goals.
- Steve Flaherty, Executive Director MBFTE, commented that the funding recommendations were to stabilize the “per fire fighter award” allocations and the base budget increase will help maintain that request.
- 2017 Legislative Session Final Decisions on Fire Safety Account
 - We are in the first of the two-year biennium, the SFM received \$300,000 additional funding to be at \$6.274 million, the MBFTE received a 30% increase in the base budget to be at \$4.265 million, Task Force 1 received \$500,000 and MART received an additional \$60,000 increase to their base budget to be at \$250,000.
 - Hazmat teams will receive \$850,000 annually.
 - Representative Neuberger requested additional one time funding of \$675,000 to fund as follows: \$100,000 Moorhead, \$125,000 St Paul, \$225,000 for Duluth and St Cloud.
 - CAT/ERT two years funding for FY18 & Fy19 will be \$1.525 million.

Other Business

- Presentation Request (Per committee approval only, please refer to committees presentation policy and guidelines)
 - Task Force 1
 - One-Time appropriation request
 - Mark Rosenblum is looking for clarification there is no room in the budget for base budget increases, so the only appropriations we can do is the one time appropriation of the \$310,000. Can we do one-time appropriations now or when would that be allowed?
 - Bob Johnson, Chair, commented that there is no room for base budget increases and we can either make a recommendation or not for the additional funds at this time. Marshal West commented the committee can wait to make decisions on the funds at a different meeting, but then it gives less time for the spending of those funds.
 - Assistant Commissioner Robert Hawkins would like to stick to the policy and they would get a

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chance to present at the next fiscal year meeting when there would be more money available. We worked hard to develop a strategic plan and policies to give us guidelines to stay within and think we should maintain them. Rick Loveland commented the original proposal would need to be withdrawn, as we cannot make any decisions on base budget funding as that is a legislative decision. Chris Parsons agreed with Rick Loveland, but we do need to be flexible also and would like to allow the one-time request proposal.

- Bob Johnson, Chair, would like to see how many would like to hear the presentation with an addendum to this as we are opening up for others to do the same, but their original proposal would be ineligible.
- The committee has decided to adhere to their policy and not hear the presentation. The presentation can be presented at the appropriate meeting for next fiscal year.
- Discussion on Presentations (One time appropriation requests with on base funding increase request)
 - HSEM
 - \$663,038 Funding request
 - Rick Loveland commented until there are actual numbers on the equipment and other needs we need to hold off on this request. It is an important need but we need true numbers to make the decision. We are also limited on the funding we have to appropriate.
 - MBFTE
 - DNR Funding Request (Todd Manley)
 - Virtual props request
 - Funding request \$385,450
 - Bob Johnson, Chair, asked if there would be additional expenditures to maintain this request.
 - Todd Manley, DNR, commented that any new updates would be included in the

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purchase of the software program. There may be additional cost in training, if there was a need to do that. Bob Johnson, Chair, asked if the staff and all the funding is in place to do this program. Todd Manley, DNR, commented they have specialists in place to train on this program. This portable system can be moved around the state. We can train wildland and structural firefighters on this system. This online technology is being requested around the state. Bob Johnson, Chair, asked if this could be done with \$270,000. Todd Manley, DNR, commented that he is not sure this could be done with a lower amount of funding than requested.

- Rick Loveland mentioned this would be a great statewide investment.

- SFM

- Services Planning Grant Program

- Funding request \$250,000

- Bob Johnson, Chair, asked where do you see this shared service grant today and where do we see it going. Marshal West commented there are departments that do not have the budget or individuals to keep the department going. The training study has reported departments training together and this program could be shared between the departments. There are departments merging from the lack of firefighters, so this grant could help keep departments working together.
- Mark Rosenblum commented it would have been nice to see this program changed in the beginning to share this program between departments.
- Rick Loveland would like to see some legislative or commissioner input on combining departments when the services are not being met.

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- Marshal West commented it is difficult to recruit and retain firefighters, but we are not going to go into a community to tell them what to do. It is up to the community to make a decision.
- Assistant Commissioner Robert Hawkins commented that career and POC departments looking at a five-year plan are discussing the shared services and re-districting.
- Rick Loveland would like to motion that we fund the \$250,000 service grant program with a second motion from Kip LaMotte. Motion carried.
- Recruitment & Retention Study (MADD)
 - \$32,670 Funding request
 - Mark Rosenblum would like to see the study funded to give that program closure. The legislature did ask for a report after that program was completed and the study would give them the report and closure to that program.
 - Mark Rosenblum motioned to fund the MADD study on the recruitment & retention program. Assistant Commissioner Hawkins Second the motion. The motion carried.
- Task Force 1 – Pete Fisher
 - Increase of base funding in even years \$752,500 to total \$1,252,500
 - Increase of base funding in odd years \$832,500 to total \$1,332,500
 - The committee has decided that there is no room in the budget for base budget increased funding, as that is a legislative decision. This proposal is ineligible for a one-time appropriation request.
- 2018 Meeting Calendar Approval
 - Motion made by Rick Loveland to cancel the September meeting. Motion carried.
 - Ed Hoffman motioned to approve the 2018 calendar, Rick Loveland second the motion. Motion carried.

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Public Comment

No public comment

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 10:55 a.m.