

FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

January 2, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 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	P	Don Smiley MN State Fire Chief's Assoc. (MSFCA)
P	Kip LaMotte Fire Marshals Assoc. of MN / International Assoc. of Arson Investigators-MN Chapter	P	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)
P	Mark Windschitl League of MN Cities	P	BJ Jungmann <i>Vice Chair</i> MN State Fire Chief's Assoc. (MSFCA)
P	Lisa Laliberte League of MN Cities	P	Ed Hoffman MN State Fire Department Assoc. (MSFDA)
P	Jim Fisher MN Assoc. of Townships	P	Robert Hawkins Commissioner Designee

Guests: Steve Flaherty (MBFTE), Margaret Koele (FSAC Admin), Kevin Reed (HSEM), Joe Kelly (HSEM), Jon Kahnke (Waseca), Pete Knaeble (Task Force One) and Larry Freund (DPS CFO)

Call to order – Chair Bob Johnson 10:02 a.m.

- Acceptance or additions to today's agenda
 - Addition to the agenda:
 - Jon Kahnke, Waseca FD will be the new MSFDA representative, effective March meeting / replaces Mark Rosenblum
- Approval of September 5, 2018 minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes as written, motion carried

New Business

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- FSA & Firework balance - State Fire Marshal Bruce West
 - \$860,000 was credited to another agency in error and will be corrected in mid – January / updated totals will be forwarded out once they are received
 - Larry Freund, Chief Financial Officer
 - \$2,095,712 is recommended to keep in the reserve account after the budget amount is dispersed
- Gear Washer and Dryer grant update
 - \$600,000 received for the grant
 - 166 applications for \$1.7 million in requests
 - 73 departments received a washer/dryer unit
 - The FSAC would like to know how many departments have a washer & dryer unit from the grant program, how many are sharing the units, and the location of those that received a unit to see if they are scattered around the state
 - Determination is by number of fire calls, population, repeated requests and current inventory of the departments
 - Marshal West will get a report together for the committee
- FY2020-2021 budget items discussion / 2019 Legislative update
 - Lockridge Grindal Nauen / Ann Lenczewski will now be the legislative lobby representative for the MN Fire Service groups
 - The committee would like to have them attend the next meeting for introduction
 - Kip LaMotte is on the MNFAC committee and getting email updates on legislative issues on a regular basis
 - DPS Commissioner has not been appointed as of yet
 - BJ Jungmann commented about if there are any base budget increase recommendations to bring over to the new representatives
 - Marshal West commented that the group may want to look at the \$675,000 that was transferred over to the Emergency Response Teams, it was originally taken from the general fund, but the last two years was taken from the FSA without the knowledge of the committee being asked
 - Mark Rosenblum commented that more discussion can be done on base budget increases with the added firework sales funding into the account

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- BJ Jungmann would like the committee to come together on discussions of any base budget increases before it is taken to the capitol to discuss with representatives
- BJ Jungmann would like to know more about where HSEM is with funding the transition from more ERT and CAT teams to response teams
 - Kevin Reed (HSEM) - We are not in favor of continuing the 4 year ERT concept and use teams that are in the area and have teams train together
 - HSEM believes they can fund the CAT/ERT within the budget of \$850,000 that is allotted for them for the Hazmat Teams
 - Rick Loveland asked if that \$850,000 would be enough to have multiple teams train together that have not been doing that
 - Kevin Reed replied that is part of the discussion that will be at this year's TAC meeting
 - The equipment (trucks) discussion has been handled and the RFP will be back by the 10th. That will be the big money piece going forward in the next five years and how the three groups (FSAC, general fund and HSEM) work together to complete the project
 - There is Rail & Pipe funding to help with the training needs, along with looking at multiple options, and not just FSAC funding as the only one
 - BJ Jungmann asked if the teams are on board with this process or is that just HSEM's perspective at this point
 - Joe Kelly (HSEM) replied the teams seem to be on board with this process. When doing meetings around the state and talking to the Chiefs, they are agreeable as well
 - There are 11 state Hazardous Materials Response Teams. St Paul is the big one as they have it in statute to be ERT. We do not

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have any plans to grow the number of ERT's. In the meetings we have been doing the Chiefs seem to be in support of the process

- BJ Jungmann commented that HSEM contracts with the teams and how does that work, are they re-negotiable or are we set with what that number is for the next period of time
 - Kevin Reed (HSEM) responded the contracts are set for five years and every five years we RFP, which is the current process
 - If something changes with the FSAC funding we will amend the RFP
 - We are currently in year two with three years left on the contract
 - BJ Jungmann asked if \$675,000 is under contract and separate funding from the \$850,000
 - Kevin Reed (HSEM) replied, yes that is separate JPA funding and Moorhead has some direct funding from the "Rail Safety" account
 - Chris Parson asked about legislation passed a year ago from one ERT team to go to four ERT teams, what is the plan going forward and how will they be funded
 - Joe Kelly (HSEM) replied that legislation did not appropriate more ERT teams, it only appropriated more funding for three other teams to operate as ERT for a certain period of time
 - Chris Parson commented that the funding that was appropriated for Duluth, St Cloud and Moorhead to train CAT to ERT teams was only a two year commitment that is ending on June 30th, 2019. So what happens

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when that funding is done to those teams

- Kevin Reed (HSEM) commented that they still have their CAT contract, what they lose is the additional funding for the ERT training under that particular contract
- The challenge within the departments as we talked to St Cloud, is keeping the training to that ERT level. Chief Wrobbel had commented at one of their meetings that the challenge is different training needed to be CAT or ERT teams and how does that fit into a department budget
- It is hard to support paying that much money when looking at the runs and nobody is going anywhere, creating a challenge to HSEM. Discussions are currently happening in the St Cloud area regarding this topic
- Bob Johnson, asked where the \$675,000 had gone
 - Kevin Reed (HSEM) replied the funding when to Duluth, St Cloud and Moorhead
 - BJ Jungmann added it was to take the CAT teams to a higher level of ERT. The funding helped supply additional staffing and training
 - Kevin Reed (HSEM) replied that \$100,000 went to Moorhead from the Rail Safety Account in addition to the funding they received from the \$675,000

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- BJ Jungmann commented are the Chiefs aware this funding is ending this fiscal year
- Kevin Reed (HSEM) commented that Duluth and St Cloud do know it is ending as we have had discussions with them
- BJ Jungmann asked if they were supportive of the funding ending
 - The committee will need to discuss if there should be continued funding for this program training
- Kevin Reed (HSEM) commented that they do have a plan if there is a decision to change teams from 11 to a lesser number
- Bob Hawkins commented that requests for equipment for HSEM was pushed forward at this point, but things could change based on a new DPS Commissioner appointment
- The committee would like to hold a special meeting February 21st 10:00 a.m. in St Paul
 - Mark Windschitl will check with St Louis Park if can meet there, otherwise Margaret Koele will find a location near St Paul
- The committee agreed to send a letter of thanks to Commissioner Dohman for her support on behalf of the FSAC

Public Comment – No public comment

Old Business - No old business

Adjourn 10:59 a.m.