

Berks County Fire Services Working Group

Meeting Minutes March 24,2022

Officers: Chair Colin Hackman Vice Chair Chris Schaeffer Secretary Mike Kline

Attendance:

Zone 1 Matt Brett

Zone 2 Blair Miller

Zone 3 no one in attendance

Zone 4 Colin Hackman

Zone 5&6 Mike Kline Chris Schaeffer Brian Sierocinski

Zone 7 Tom Kemery

BCFA Roger Weidenheimer

BCFPA no one in attendance

BCFTC Jeff Reinert

Berks DES Brian Gottschall, Sean Hart, Michael Smith, Christine Wood

Zone 1

- Question regarding CAD capability. When a dept is dispatched for a resource and that resource is unable to make the response, if a different resource is requested from the same dept that was unable to respond is it possible for CAD just to skip over that dept and go to the next resource?

According to DES CAD is not able to make that determination it can only go by what is on the run card.

Zone 2

- Back in persons meetings have been requested by one of the representatives. No decision made at this time.
- Question regarding Total Visibility program. Is there an issue with supplying your health information in regards to HIPPA.
According to DES If you are willing to supply your information regarding health records there should be no conflict with HIPPA. In the end you do not have to provide an information about personal health.
- Dean Dalious spoke with DEP about the use of Foam and when it is used. DEP would like to be notified.
- A discussion about the foam depts have in stock and its disposal, some states have created legislation requiring foam manufactures to take back foam that has been prohibited for use. The body agrees that fire depts should contact their representatives for help. DES recommends each agency speaks with their solicitor.
- Blair Miller Question to DES regarding QRS response and second dispatch and notifying EMS.
- Total Visibility question regarding who is responsible for maintaining the resource list?
Per DES it is the responsibility of the agencies admin to keep all information up to date

Zone 3

- one representative reached out to Frystown Fire company. They are still interested in being a member of their zone.

Zone 4

- Chair Hackman asked if the pictures that are taken and used for the total visibility ID's can be taken by each agency or do they have to be taken by DES.
DES only provided the picture taking events because back when the program started the working group decided that it would leave the photos up to DES.
A vote was made by the zone representatives to give the authority for each agency the ability to take their own photos for the ID tags if they meet the required guidelines created by DES. Motion made and passed
Phil Salamone from DES will come up with the minimum requirements needed to for the total visibility photos. The plan is to email or scan the photos with the paperwork.
- The Chaplin from company 18 has asked about a radio designator for Chaplin's. Can they use their name along with Chaplin on the radio to contact Berks radio?
Currently DES does not have Chaplin listed as a designation. There is no way to maintain the status of the individual since CAD does not recognize Chaplin.
More information was requested by Brain Gottschall Colin will go back and get more information.

Zone 5&6

- Nothing

Zone 7

- The search for a replacement for the retiring city fire chief has begun. The current recruit class is half way thru. The radio update is in progress.

BCFA

- nothing

BCFTS

- please use the website to watch for upcoming classes. Go to the website to sign up for classes. www.berkscountyfiretraining.org

BCFP

- new point of contact

Forestry

- nothing

DES

- still looking for run card best practices committee.
- Out of county text paging documents went out to the respective agencies
- Schuylkill county joint programming is under way waiting for technical information from Schuylkill county. The Berks County side is ready to go
- Radio updates, updates need to be completed ASAP still some depts. That are lagging behind.
- DES would like to know how the working group feels about the concept of mutual aid partners giving direction outside of their jurisdiction such as upgrades recalls etc. The working group decided to take this back to their respective zones.

Old Business

- Run card committee, anyone interested please contact C.Wood

New Business

- November 2022 meeting falls on Thanksgiving. The meeting will be moved to December 8th 2022

Meeting adjourned 19:16 hours. The next meeting will be May 26th at 18:00 hours via teleconference.

Respectfully submitted
Mike Kline