



Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs

Minutes of the Zone 2 Meeting

Friday, September 10, 2010

Grimsby Fire Department

Participants: Paul Boissonneault, Mike Cain, Larry Coplen, Dave Cunliffe, Ken Eden, Rob Grimwood, Chris Halliday, Geoff Hayman, Rodger Hill, Jim Kay, Mark Mehlenbacher, Kevin McIntyre, Denys Prevost, Phil Ross, Lee Smith, Rick Smith, Bill Thomson, Daryl Whitely, Joe Zambito

Regrets: Chris Cole, Greg Hudson

Guests: Kevin Broughton, OPP, Vincent Liu, OFM, Shayne Mintz, OAFC

Minute Taker: Joanne Miron

1. Welcome

- Chief Grimwood extended a warm welcome to all members and guests and thanked Chief Cain for hosting - Grimsby is a central and therefore convenient meeting place for zone members
- Mike Cain welcomed everyone to Grimsby
- After Chief Grimwood took over as zone rep he sent out a survey asking members what they want at the meetings
 - Education – Updated legislation & WSIB
 - Training – Ideas and effective training
 - Speakers – internal as well as external
 - Roundtable discussion

2. Update from the Fire Marshal's Office – Vincent Liu

- a) Staff Changes in South West -
 - No positions posted within the organization
- b) New 2010 Mutual Aid Plan -
 - Template distributed to all fire coordinators
- c) MFPIA "Opportunities for Improvement" –
 - Continue to determine and document progress on the recommendations
 - Will be addressed and incorporated into the Master Fire Planning process
- d) Sunrise Propane –
 - OFM investigation is now complete
 - Results will be incorporated into the work being completed by the Propane Advisory Team

- e) Operational Planning: An Official Guide to Matching Resource Deployment and Risk
 - o Work continues on the document
 - o Questions from members will be conveyed to Operations Manager
- f) Fire Marshal Retirement –
 - o Fire Marshal Pat Burke retiring November 2010
 - o Open house will be held on October 28th in Thornhill
 - o Successor has not been announced
- g) Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services-
 - o Appointment of new Minister Jim Bradley effective August 18th
- h) Investiture –
 - o Scheduled for September 14th in Thorold
- i) Communiqués –
 - o As stated in communiqué 2010-2 the OFM will cease printing this publications
 - o Communiqués will be emailed to the Fire Chief and will also be available on the website
 - o Persons who are not Fire Chief but are on the mailing list must send their name and email address to claire.rosset@ontario.ca
- j) New Announcements on OFM website
 - o OFM concludes the investigation at Sunrise Propane
 - o 20 lb. Propane Cylinders – OFM and the Technical Standards and Safety Authority Warn the Public of Safety Issues
 - o *Making Waves* at the 18th Annual Fire and Life Safety Educator Conference

Thanks extended to Rick Finnemore for passing on Zone 2 members' opinion re communiqué regarding Ontario Fire College fee increase.

Zone 2 members are not in support of the current hiring freeze at the OFM. Members would like to know what the timeframe is for filling the position of the Fire Marshal.

3. OAFC Update – Shayne Mintz

- a) Lots of activity from Zone 2 at the board level
- b) The Board of Directors will relay information back and forth through Rob Grimwood or Shane Mintz
- c) The OAFC booth at the AMO trade show in Windsor a success
 - o Focus on automatic sprinklers in Residences and Care Occupancies
 - o See website to download the brochures
 - o Met with Ministers of the Liberal party and the opposition
 - o Need to educate public that there is a savings on insurance rates when putting sprinkler system in homes
 - o Light weight construction in new homes a big risk to firefighters
- d) Discussed changes to the cabinet – Jim Bradley the new Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
- e) Sean Tracy (NFPA) received grant money to study basement fire suppression
- f) View the NFPA website for information regarding the antifreeze in automatic residential fire sprinklers

- g) Provided an update on the membership of the various NFPA Committees
- h) Advised group to educate their Councils and planners regarding the new propane regulations. Will need a ½ day education session in October on this topic.
- i) Final fire code Hotel Retrofit requirements come into effect in 2012. Details and sample copy of letter sent to hotel owners are available on the OFM website
- j) The OAFCA/Home Depot Fire Prevention Program is planned for October 10th. Where Home Depots are not located, fire departments may partner with other similar businesses (such as Canadian Tire) to promote fire prevention.
- k) The OAFCA has concerns about the mid rise wood frame construction. If this type of construction continues fire departments will be forced to change their fire tactics.
- l) Discussed the Point Edward and Meaford charges and the importance of training safety plans. Karen Hanna is available for assistance.
- m) Course available from Mark Tevyaw of TSSA on elevator rescue. This 2 day course accommodates 15 people/course at a cost of \$7,000 - \$8,000.
- n) Revisions will be required to guidance note 6-13 as the result of Bill 168 Violence in the Workplace.
- o) Reminder that mid term will be held in London on November 17 & 18, 2010 – review the draft agenda
- p) Oct 1, 2010 the Ontario MTO billing rate will increase

4. CAFC Update – Paul Boissonneault

- a) Will be unveiling the new mission statement at the conference in St. John, NB on September 19 to 22
- b) Government Relations Week scheduled for March 21 – 24, 2010.
- c) Company officers can now join the CAFC. Membership has increased to approximately 1,000 members.
- d) Five key priorities on the 2010 Agenda for Action are:
 - o Improving funding for equipping and training Fire Services
 - o Provide personal income tax incentives for Volunteer Fire Services
 - o Require that all new residential occupancies be equipped with automatic sprinkler systems
 - o Improve emergency preparedness
 - o Establish the office of the Canadian Fire Advisor
- e) The CAFC is investigating hiring a consultant to assist with marketing the association

5. Kevin Broughton, Ontario Provincial Police

A former fire chief for Temagami and currently an identification constable on the Tillsonburg Forensic Unit, Kevin Broughton gave an informative power point presentation on the roles and responsibilities of fire and police at a fire investigation. Will burn a copy of the presentation and distribute to all members via the Zone 2 representative.

6. “Lessons Learned” from the West Lincoln Propane Facility Fire by Deputy Chief Kevin McIntyre

- Clarified that the OFM investigation was not complete and since this incident would probably end up in litigation he would be limited with regards to the information he could share
- Gave a power point presentation which included many good photos on the Superior Propane fire that occurred in West Lincoln on April 1, 2010
- Discussion took place amongst the members as the presenter walked the group through the incident

7. Roundtable Discussion

- Discussed a variety of topics that included presumptive legislation, contract negotiations, MOL charges at Point Edward and Meaford, Section 21 committee, WSIB audits, template for training safety plans, OPFFA status and updates, etc.

8. New Business

- 1) Zone 2 rep will draft 2 resolutions regarding the following topics for the mid term meeting:
 - Maintaining an appropriate staffing level with the OFM to ensure objectives can be met
 - Ensuring the application of presumptive legislation meets the intent of the legislation
- 2) Schedule a ½ day workshop in October hosted by Grimsby Fire Department regarding the new propane regulations. FPOs will be encouraged to attend. Exact date and time to be determined.
- 3) Require host for March 2011 meeting. The original date of March 18th, 2011 conflicts with FDIC so will have to move meeting up one week.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.