



Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) Zone 6 Meeting Minutes

Face-to-face, Carleton Place Arena
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
9:00am

Participants: PAC Chairperson – Pascal Meunier, Casey Cuddy – Addington Highlands FD, Jeff Crawford – Arnprior FD, Rick Desarmia – Arnprior FD, Rob Bowman – Augusta FD, Bill McGonegal – Beckwith FD, Renny Rainer – Brockville FD, Ghislain Pigeon – Brockville FD, Jordan Genrick – Brudenell-Lynock-Raglan FD, Dave Joy – Carleton Place – Ocean Wave FD, Brian Wilson – Clarence-Rockland FD, Bruce Donig – Cornwall FD, Pierre Voisine – Cornwall FD, Greg Saunders – DNWTV FD, Brian Moore – Edwardsburgh-Cardinal FD, Jim Donovan – Elizabethtown-Kitley FD, Rob Serson – Greater Napanee FD, William Bell – Lanark Highlands, John Doucet – OFM, Bob Gareau – Killaloe-Hagarty-Richard FD, Corwin Quade – Madawaska Valley FD, Dave Hartwick – McNab-Braeside FD, Mark Urquhart – Merrickville-Wolford FD, Bob Machan – Mississippi Mills FD, Miles Greer – Montague FD, Eric Kohonen – North Frontenac FD, Jim Andrews – Ottawa Fire, Kim Ayotte – Ottawa Fire, Paul Hutt – Ottawa Fire, Gerry Pingatore, Ottawa Fire, Trevor Choffe – Perth FD, Steve Knott – Petawawa FD, Guy Longtin – Renfrew FD, Steve Fournier – Rideau Lakes FD, Bruce Armstrong – Russell FD, Randy Normandin – Smiths Falls FD, Cameron Morehouse – South Dundas FD, Dave Robertson – South Glengarry, Gilles Crepeau – South Stormont FD, Jeff Thompson – Stone Mills FD, Jonathon Wilker – Whitewater FD

Regrets: Domenic Côté – Alfred-Plantagenet, Gary McRae – Chalk River, Don Trylinksi – CNL, Mario Villeneuve – Clarence-Rockland, James Feeney, Fred Stephenson – Loyalist, Tobias Hovey – Nation, Terry Gervais – South Frontenac, Jeff Thompson – Stone Mills

Guests: John Doucet, Fire Protection Advisor, OFMEM; John Robertson – Fortlog Services

Minute Taker: Stephanie Tuffin

1. Welcome and Introductions –

- Chief Meunier welcomed attendees to the spring 2018 PAC Zone 6 meeting.
- Rick Chesbrough was presented with a plaque from PAC 6 to commemorate his retirement after 31 years in the service.
- Moment of Silence for chiefs who have passed away was led by Brian Wilson.

2. Adoption of the Agenda –

- Moved by Brian Wilson
- Seconded by Miles Greer



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3. Adoption of Previous Minutes –

- Moved by Mark Urquhart
- Seconded by Dave Joy

4. Agenda Additions – None

5. OFMEM Report and Questions –

- John Doucet, Fire Protection Advisor, OFMEM, presented a programs and activity update:
 - Ontario Fire College (OFC) calendar and application to courses is available. Attendees were reminded to be aware of deadlines for applications. The OFC has been doing upgrades to the facilities and equipment. Regional and online training is being developed and expanded, with the addition of new Learning Hubs and adjunct instructors.
 - Reminder that all Communiques issued by OFMEM are available on its website.
 - Expansion of the Ontario Naloxone Program to Fire Services was discussed.
 - The group was reminded that public education information is also available on the website. Topics include carbon monoxide (CO) detectors, Wildfires, Smoke Alarms and Holiday Safety.
 - Fire safety education planning will take place in February, March and April.
 - Fire Safety Inspection Order and Fire Safety Planning Seminars are ongoing. Call Tawnya Roberts (613) 570-8296 for more information.
 - Part 1 Tickets and Entry Warrants workshop is ongoing.
 - Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection and Emergency Management are ongoing. Contact John (705) 279-4551 for more information. It was noted that the OFMEM is looking at revising the “essentials.” Municipalities can be added to the potential “essentials” host list by using the Advice and Assistance Unit email.
 - To date, there have been 15 fatalities in the province.

6. Treasurer’s Report –

- The account balance was discussed, noting there are some outstanding invoices for plaques.
- A reminder was issued for chiefs who did not cancel their meeting acceptance that they would be charged the \$40.00 meeting fee regardless. Last year, 16 members did not show up, which cost Zone 6 extra in catering fees.

7. “Supporting Leaders” Presentation –

- John Robertson of Fortlog Services spoke about the importance of self-care in emergency services.
- Attendees were reminded that everything comes from the top; they need to model self-care if they want their firefighters to do the same.
- All were encouraged to find at least one person who can be their go-to support, and reminded that mental health is now a part of the chief job description.



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- For more information, contact John at 613-799-1050 or email john@fortlog.org

8. OAFIC Update –

- Deputy Chief Ayotte, Ottawa, and OAFIC Board Vice President presented an update from the OAFIC.
- The impact of the proposed fire regulations were reviewed. It was noted that Chief Ayotte was a member of the provincial Fire Safety Technical Table, on behalf of his municipality.
- Chiefs were encouraged to voice their comments to the Ministry, whether positive or negative. Comments should include the costs associated with the proposed changes because that is one of the biggest concerns. The group was reassured that all departments, not just small, rural and volunteer, were concerned about costs.
- The grandfathering and internship programs were explained, with the group being encouraged to echo OAFIC's remarks on these issues in their comments to the Ministry.
- Timelines for training was also discussed to be an issue for many departments.
- It was noted that the OAFIC has improved communications with its members through emails and search features on the website. Members are encouraged to check in with the OAFIC office if they are not receiving regular emails.
- The 2018 OAFIC Conference was discussed, focusing on addition of new workshops.
- It was noted that the OAFIC's general meeting and elections has moved to its November Midterm Meeting in 2018.

9. AMO Webinar –

- It was shared that AMO hosted a webinar Attendees that explained municipal positions on the draft fire regulations. AMO would like to see several amendments to each regulation.

10. Round Table Discussions – All members in attendance had an opportunity to give an update or highlights of activities in their departments.

- **Russell F.D.:** Would welcome any advice and assistance from other departments on meeting new proposed regulations.
- **Arnprior F.D.:** Training has been a challenge, but benefits are worth it. Has same concerns as everyone else about costs associated with proposed regulations.
- **Cornwall F.D.:** Proposed regulations are positive and Cornwall will move forward and meet the challenges.
- **Rideau Lakes F.D.:** There has been a change in leadership, but department is moving forward, and working on getting all of their stations on the same page. They will be getting a new pumper this year.
- **DNETHV F.D.:** Training is going well; firefighter buy-in is good.
- **Perth F.D.:** Firefighter I training is going well.



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- **South Dundas F.D.:** Same concerns as everyone about the cost of training associated with the proposed regulations. Their new tanker is in.
- **Petawawa F.D.:** The budget has passed, which will provide funding for training and a bush truck.
- **Renfrew F.D.:** Just finished negotiations, which went well.
- **South Glengarry F.D.:** It has been an average year. Their focus will be on getting buy-in for the proposed regulations.
- **Whitewater F.D.:** First meeting for Chief Wilker. Thanks to everyone for the opportunity to meet other area chiefs.
- **Lanark Highlands F.D.:** Support during difficult changes is appreciated. Morale within is holding maintained. Goal will be to settle everything down and perform at the highest level possible.
- **Ottawa F.D.:** It has been helpful to have a consistent flow of information from reliable sources as changes occur. Improved communication is appreciated. They have the same concerns about the proposed regulations as everyone else. Chief Pingatore said that three topics were of particular concern at the OAF's Large Urban Committee meeting: fire-medical pilots, bargaining, and the proposed regulations. Ottawa agrees with pay rates regulations in principle because fire service is not regulated. Opportunities for Mutual Aid agreements were discussed. Ottawa has 13 pieces of auto extrication equipment to move along. Contact Paul Hutt if interested.
- **Clarence-Rockland F.D.:** Getting new rescue boat and two new stations. Their department will be a training centre, so welcome suggestions on specific training needs from everyone.
- **South Stormont F.D.:** Proposed regulations are a challenge, but they are looking forward to meeting it. The new budget has been passed.
- **Cardinal-Edwardsburgh F.D.:** The budget has been passed, with funding for training and PPE. Recent response to 401 incident highlighted need for PTSD training. Local church has started a PTSD program.
- **Augusta F.D.:** Echo comments about proposed legislation, with particular concern about timelines being tight. Expressed hope that OFMEM would support regional/in-house training. They are working on plans for a new station.
- **Montague F.D.:** Budget has been passed and they will be tendering for a new truck. New recruit program for Lanark County has been very good and encourages other counties to consider similar programs. Reach out to Chief Meunier for more information about the program.
- **Beckwith F.D.:** Budget has passed and they have a pumper on order. Things are going well and they have a good training plan.
- **Madawaska Valley F.D.:** New tanker for this year and budget expected to be approved in June.
- **Brudenell-Lyndock-Raglan F.D.:** Pumper-tanker is on order. They have concerns about how proposed certification regulations will affect small departments.



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- **McNab-Braeside F.D.:** Budget has passed. Tender for pumper-tanker is coming. Things are going well.
- **Merrickville-Wolford F.D.:** Appreciative of Pascal's email updates. The proposed regulations are achievable if everyone works collaboratively.
- **Elizabethtown-Kitley F.D.:** Same concerns as everyone, particularly grandfathering process. New pumper this year.
- **Brockville F.D.:** Thanked Chief Meunier and Deputy Chief Ayotte for everything. They support the proposed regulations with a few tweaks. They are hoping to become a composite department and are facing challenges with scheduling. They have a need for a new rescue truck and to replace SCBAs.
- **North Frontenac F.D.:** Same concerns as other departments. Their Fire Master Plan will be presented to council in June. There is a new Wellness Centre in the area. Twelve firefighters are leaving the department.
- **Greater Napanee F.D.:** Department is working through changes and is concerned about financing them. Chief is looking for help with wage comparables.
- **Addington Highlands F.D.:** They have issues with the training timelines in the proposed regulations. Having trouble finding volunteers who are physically able and able to commit time.
- **Carleton Place F.D.:** Things are good. They have been proactive with training and thank MMFD for recruit program hosting. Changes expected with retirement of Les Reynolds.
- **Mississippi Mills F.D.:** Echoes sentiments of other departments about proposed regulations. Buy-in has been great as training continues. Recruit training is good and we have good people doing good work.
- **Chief Meunier:** AS&E has improved with turnaround times. MMFD has a Front Mount and a Tanker for sale. Reach out if interested.

11. Items for Discussion –

- None.

12. Resolutions for Submission –

- None.

13. Closing Remarks –

- Luc Thibeault, Battleshield Industries, was thanked for providing lunch.
- Members were encouraged to send in guest speaker suggestions the next meeting.
- The next meeting was scheduled for September 12, 2018, but the location is to be determined.

Chief Meunier adjourned the meeting at 1:23pm.