



ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS
Zone 6 Meeting Minutes
November 1st, 2012
Glen Mar Golf Course
9:00am

1. Welcome and Introduction

- a. Les Reynolds, Zone 6 Chair*
- b. Introduction of Guests and New Members*
- c. Moment of Silence – Betsy Sayers*

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion by Art Brown, seconded by Bob Foster.

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes of April 19, 2012

Motion by John Okum, seconded by Bill McGonegal.

4. Treasurer's Report – Steve Knott

Motion by Jay DeBernardi, seconded by Ron Haskins.

5. Educational Component

- a. Guest Speaker – Mike Potvin, Fire Investigation Supervisor, FIRE INVESTIGATION SERVICES: OFM*
- b. Guest Speaker – Graeme Cross, Arnprior Fire Trucks*

6. Business Session

- a. OAFB Board of Directors Report – Terry Gervais*

Executive Director will announce his retirement on Nov. 30, 2012. A Retirement Party will take place on Wednesday night of the midterm. He's been a part of the Board for 9 years.



Midterm will start on the 21st. Presenters include: Fire Chief of Taylor, Michigan: Maintaining Challenges in Michigan; Chris Williams: OFM; Richard Boyes (also been hired as operations officer).

The committee structure for the Executive committee have been selected.

Elliot Lake Mall – OAFC offered assistance.

Automatic sprinklers in retirement homes/nursing homes: Not a lot to comment on, too early to tell what is going to happen.

OPP MTO Claims. Website has clarification. Terry has a copy of the letter sent from the OPP Encouraging fire departments to collect information at fire scene.

Name changes:

- Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs.
- “Administrative assistant” is now the appropriate wording for Ontario Fire Chief’s Secretaries Association.

Labour relations: January 16 & 17, 2013

Intercontinental Toronto: May 4-8, 2013

Golf Tournament: June 10, 2013

Health & Safety is looking at conducting a health and safety seminar. (Mid Feb – March). Possible speakers include Norm Keith, Section 21, etc.

Hose and helmets Program: Is anyone doing it? Teaching it? Perhaps it is a good program for fire departments to look into. Other zones are completing the program. Instructors can be trained to teach the program (Richard Boyes is in charge)

Board meeting will be held next Wednesday before the midterm.

b. Section 21 Report – Terry Gervais

Bunker Gear Notice regarding PPE timelines. The Ministry is looking at any PPE 10 years old or older. MOL may issue orders but until this issue is confirmed they will approve as long as you show that you have cared and sent the suits for maintenance. Bunker gear is only good for 10 years and then must be replaced.



The group met in September and reviewed various guidance notes. The revised notes will be e-mailed to you for your comments. Please take the time to comment on the draft notes. Comments are greatly appreciated.

The group spoke about Eye protection (SCBA) for firefighter mask.

There is a new electrical safety handbook for 1st responders.

Many individuals (including representatives from each of the 3 emergency services) are working on the Ontario traffic manual. The manual will specify issues like who's in charge of the road, regulations for traffic cones, diagrams on how to do blocker trucks etc. When the manual is complete it will be sent out as a Guidance Note.

The OFM is working on getting the Guidance notes in French. Quite a bit of headway has been made.

c. Presentations

The Zone wanted to recognize certain individuals who were members. The individuals were unable to attend so successors have agreed to pass them along. The recipients are:

Jim Whalen
Ron Barber
Peter Boyce
Ted Gretzky

7. OFM Report and Questions -- Tawnya Roberts, *Dan Koroscil*

FPO 301 course is being offered in Eastern Ontario. If you would like to sign up for the course contact your local advisor.

FPO 302 course can be offered but is not common. The suggestion to have the course will be made to the college.

The OFM spent quite a bit of time preparing for Hurricane Sandy. As a precaution staff were assigned to be on call but were not required.

The Communiqué sent out in October included information on no vent gas fireplaces. Please make sure to read the Communiqué if you are having problems in your area.

Smart Meter Issue: A Communiqué was distributed regarding smart meters. When the meters get pulled off it causes damage to the base. If you are at a fire don't let anyone take the device if you think it played a role in causing the fire. Contact FIS. ESA doesn't have any authority to take the meter. Meters should be shipped into Midherst and investigators will look at it. You will need to send the meter, the meter base and the part where it connects.



OFM will bring the issue forward to ESA to notify local hydro companies.

By-law section in Essentials manual, if you want an electric version contact your local advisor.

8. Members Only Session

a. Round Table Discussions

Bob Foster – Merrickville-Wolford

The fire department is working on an Automatic Aid agreement with North Grenville.

Paul Hutt – North Grenville

The fire department is in the process of ordering a new pumper/tanker. Joint training has begun with Merrickville-Wolford.

Renny Rayner – Brockville

The city is in the process of contacting OPP for costing. The city continues to look at cost recovery. Looking into a user fee by-law for businesses.

John Koenig – Greater Napanee

The fire department is implementing a fleet replacement program. Looking at the possibility of sharing of light vehicles. Looking into a dry hydrant program.

Kevin Donaldson – Stone Mills

CO 401 course taking place November 24, 25 and December 1, 2 (dates to be confirmed) there are opening available for other fire departments. The fire department is currently taking part in a County-wide recruit training program. 18 applicants are set to write the exam.

Terry Gervais – Greater Napanee

County-wide training program will take place 2 times a year (once in the fall and once in the spring). Sharing instructors is good. Pierre will send training curriculum to Ian.

Currently working on an Association agreement.

Going through GM structure reorganization and someone to look after health and safety, emergency management, works management etc.

The fire department was very busy in July & August.

Gene Thompson – Deep River

In the process of negotiations – arbitration is scheduled to take place in January 2013. Fire Department master plan (draft) is almost complete. Public education division bought a fire extinguisher trainer. OPP and Deep River police are going through costing.



Guy Longtin – Renfrew

Fire Department is taking part in negotiations – also looking for a residency clause. Having trouble with TNT pressure pumps for extrication (Low pressure – so far there have been 4 issues this year).

Steve Knott - Petawawa

The fire department should receive the new tanker by end of January 2013. Fire Prevention volunteers went to schools. Purchased a Bullex simulator which provides training for fire extinguishers. Smoke alarm program is proving to be very successful in the community.

John Okum – Arnprior

The fire department is in the process of ordering a new truck from Arnprior Fire Trucks. Believes that Arnprior Fire Trucks is a very good company. New truck should be delivered by the end of February/ early March.

Corporate restructuring is taking place (this includes the fire department). A new volunteer Deputy Fire Chief's position has been filled. Currently working to fill the Captains position.

Betsy Sayers – Greater Madawaska

Township has experienced their 4th CAO in the last couple of months. Summer storm caused 300,000 trees down in the area. Over 200 houses/cottages were damaged by the storm. Also experienced a drought and there was a fire ban on for the majority of the summer.

Les Reynolds – Carleton Place

The last little while has been very quiet for the Fire Department. Rod has been working hard on a training program.

Rod Black – Carleton Place

The fire department was the recipient of \$5,000.00 from Enbridge to purchase training materials.

Bob Gareau – Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards

The fire department just finished the Fire prevention program.

Scotts are available to any fire departments interested. Collective agreements are now in place.

The Fire Chief has been working on JEPP grants. One fire hall is being expanded into a full emergency operations centre (alternate EOC).

Communications need to be improved.

Gary Seed – Elizabethtown-Kitley

The fire department is in the process of training 12-14 new firefighters. A total of 38 applications were received. The fire department purchased 30 new SCBA's and 60 new air bottles. The Fire Department in partnership with Enbridge distributed 178 CO detectors during Fire Prevention Week.



Chris McDonough – South Dundas

A new chassis was purchased and is now in service. The tank was retrofitted. A volunteer has been hired for public education – the fire department has been getting huge demands for public education.

Hired volunteer for public education. There was a very large demand for more public education. The fire department is planning on hiring 8-9 new recruits. They will start training as soon as possible.

Pierre Sabourin – Clarence-Rockland

The fire department and bylaw department have moved into a house beside the municipal office. A new recruitment process will begin very soon. Looking to recruit and train 12-15 new applicants. Looking for information on solar panel training, has anyone done any training or know a good training program for solar panels?

Mario Villeneuve – Casselman

The fire department has had a quiet summer.

Alain Hupe – Clarence Rockland

The fire department partnered with Enbridge on a project called 'Project Zero'. 232 CO/Smoke alarm units were distributed.

Steve Fournier – Perth

Perth Fire Department distributed 178 combination smoke alarms during Fire Prevention Week. The fire department is looking at purchasing a new pumper. Perth Police are being replaced with an OPP contract. All dispatch and radio operations will become part of Lanark County.

Greg Saunders – Drummond/North Elmsley Tay Valley

The fire department has hired 7 new firefighters. The Fire Prevention Week contest and activities were very popular. A request has been made in the 2013 budget for a Fire Prevention Officer. A new junior firefighter program has commenced at both fire stations. Each station will start with one student. Student must be 16-18 years of age.

Paul Cameron – Drummond/North Elmsley Tay Valley

The new pumper was delivered. The pumper includes a 5-man cab and was purchased at Eastway. The pumper is working well so far. The fire department has been busy with Fire Prevention Week and smoke detector blitzes. The fire department has not had any formal training on solar panels but firefighters did attend an awareness session



Bob Machan – Mississippi Mills

Very busy with grass fires this summer. Quite a few of the fires were in very remote locations and it was difficult for the fire department to get access to them. Would like to see a Fire Prevention Officer he hired on full time.

Art Brown – Mississippi Mills

The fire department was very busy this summer. An agreement is being drafted with White Lake to help cover the area/training etc. A new pumper/tanker has been included in the draft budget. The fire department participated in fire prevention week and went and visited all the schools. Almonte will be hosting the broomball worldwide championships.

Bill McGonegal – Beckwith

Two new truck bays are being put on the fire department in the spring. Four new recruits will be hired onto the fire department in 2013.

9. Adjournment