

FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION



**of Palm Beach County, Florida
Incorporated**

AUGUST 23, 2006, 12:00 NOON

MEETING MINUTES

Hosted by: Greenacres Public Safety Department

Location: Greenacres Public Safety Complex

2995 Jog Rd., Greenacres, FL

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER (Bingham) 30 people in attendance

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. SECRETARY'S REPORT (Donatto)

A. June's and July's Minutes (previously distributed by email) - approved

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT (Blockson)

A. Account Transactions and Balances

Savings - \$8,393.29 Checking - \$14.38 Total Balance - \$8,407.67

V. COMMUNICATIONS READ AND DISPOSED OF (Bingham)

VI. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT (Bingham)

VII. ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

A. Training Officer's Association of Palm Beach County – (Capt. Houston Park) - The three area Technical Rescue teams are working together to combine assets for training. The Training Officers have asked all agencies to submit electronic copies of their SOGs. Training Officers are continuing work on County Wide ICS / SOGs.

B. Palm Beach Community College (Val Williams / Shari Turner) - Val advised that the Paramedic Program will be graduating 50/60 students soon. Val distributed several handouts including a "Business Partnership Council Handbook," the PBCC "Corporate and Continuing Education Fall Schedule," and a copy of an article on the "Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education Initiative." Val discussed the elimination of the TABE test as an entry level requirement for Fire Minimum Standards. He stated that the College is looking for alternatives but that the Paramedic Program will continue to use the TABE test. The College is responding to the need for more minimum standards course and has added an additional Day class that will begin in the spring of 2007. That raises the number to 6 Minimum Standards Courses per year. The College will be revising the curriculum for the AS in Fire Science Degree program. The College will be starting a

new Emergency Management Certificate Program in January of 2007 – 8 courses all online.

C. State and County EMS – (Div. Chief Rob Moreland) – F.S. 401 is still under consideration for future revisions. The State of Florida is sending out MCI Kits to each EMS Provider. There are new changes in both ACLS and ECC CPR. The County EMS Advisory Council is reviewing the current EMS Ordinance and Rules and a subcommittee is proposing changes.

D. Emergency Management – (Bob Rehr) - The County Emergency Management Team Meetings have been poorly attended. This is an opportunity for the municipalities and the County to share Emergency Management topics. Emergency Management is looking at the threat of terrorism to local utilities and water supplies. The PBCSO has set up 10 sessions for training on ICS 300 / 400 beginning in October. Chuck Tear reported that PBC Emergency Management is undergoing a restructuring by program. They are aligning EM to be NIMS compliant. Bob Butterfield is planning on retiring soon (November 30, 2006). Ret. Chief Bob Rehr will be over the Operation Section of EM with Everett Vaughn and Sally Waite directly reporting to Chief Rehr. The Operations Section is responsible for coordinating and supporting the response efforts of the numerous partner agencies needed to mitigate the effects of a natural or manmade disaster within Palm Beach County. The Ops Section maintains the County Warning Point (CWP) and operates the EOC Communications Center. The Ops Section also includes EMS and 911. Mr. Tear reported that EM is conducting internal audits of its processes and will be pursuing Accreditation in the coming years. They are developing a 5 year exercise plan and training plan. They have created a new Planning and Mitigation Section and an Administration and Finance Section. The Liaison Section is adding a Public Health Department liaison. Mr. Tear discussed the EMS Grant issue raised by the Fire Chiefs Association and advised that they are currently examining their internal processes and procedures and has asked that the Chiefs Assoc allow him an opportunity to fix the perceived problem. EM has hired a consultant to help them deal with the Pandemic Flu issue and have been working on the Dike Procedure which is now posted on their Web Site. Mr. Tear discussed the monthly TEAM meetings and the move to Emergency Operations Areas (EOAs).

E. American Red Cross – (Mary Blakely) – Mary reported that several families have contacted the Red Cross directly seeking assistance following fires. She wanted to be sure that all agencies were aware that the crews on incident scenes can contact the Red Cross at the time of the event to speed the process of getting assistance to fire victims. Mary also advised that one of the Red Cross' charges is to assist victims of major transportation disasters (NTSB incidents). Mary offered the Red Cross' assistance in the upcoming 9/11 Memorial Service event.

F. RDSTF Region 7 – (Capt Houston Park) – Chief Shorty Bryson has resigned his post as the Chair of the Fire Service Working Group after not getting the support for fire service issues he felt was needed. The position will be filled by the Broward Sheriffs Office and FDLE. Chuck Tear advised that he has met with Chief Bryson on his concerns and wants to ensure that fire service members stay heavily involved in the RDSTF. Capt Park raised the issue of the RDSTF Maritime Working Group and the need for Fire Service Involvement. Chuck Tear echoed Capt. Park's assessment and spoke about UASI funding for fire boats. There was significant discussion regarding a regional fire boat response system modeled after the Regional Hazardous Materials Response System and possibly funded through FIND and Boater Registration fees.

G. Hazardous Materials Oversight – (Dep. Chief Carter) – Chief Carter was not available

H. Local Emergency Planning Committee – (Chief John Johnson) - There was a meeting in August and the next meeting is scheduled for November. A presentation on Africanized Honey Bees was given. The EPA has issued response plans for 402 facilities but security clearance is required to access them. The LEPC is looking at standardizing biohazard testing in the region. A discussion

on State Hazardous Materials certification occurred. The State Emergency Response gave a class on Clandestine Drug Labs and hopes to do another in the south county area. LEPC is working on a statewide cost recovery ordinance.

I. Fire Marshal's Association of Palm Beach County (Chief Jerauld) - Greatly improved attendance has been reported. There is a subcommittee at work looking at common fire codes and regional amendments. The Public Information Committee is looking at a common messaging platform. There will be a class in October on Hood Systems and Spray Booths. PBC Literacy Coalition is putting crews in pre-schools and would like to make an annual event.

J. State Fire Marshal's Office – (Lt. Richard Skeeter Shuler) – No Report

K. Level of Service Committee – (Chief Koen) - There was an emergency meeting held to approve a draft of a letter sent to the communities not yet approved by the Committee.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS / REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

A. 911 Remembrance Committee Update (Chief Ridgeway) - The site will be the Meyer Amphitheater in West Palm Beach. All preparations have been made.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION / MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Palm Beach Fire Rescue will be hosting a training opportunity on November 11, 2006 at the Four Arts Center in Palm Beach. Chief Lasky will be presenting "Pride and Ownership" – contact Lt. Chris Brexel at Palm Beach Fire Rescue.
- B. Chief Fauci discussed Home Fire Sprinklers.
- C. Chief Bingham thanked members for involvement in Fire Marshals Assoc.
- D. Chief Bingham reminded members of the National Society of Executive Fire Officers 18th Annual National Conference November 7-9, 2006 Little Rock, Arkansas.
- E. Congratulations to Chief Tom Wood of Boca Raton Fire Rescue

XI. DESIGNATION OF THE NEXT MEETING PLACE AND DATE

September, 27, 2006 Riviera Beach Fire Rescue

October 25, 2006 Boca Raton Fire Rescue

November 15, 2006 Palm Beach County EOC (Alternate is PBG)

December To Be Announced

Note: Thanksgiving is November 23, 2006

XII. ADJOURNEMENT OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

XIII. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING / 5 BUGLE CHIEF'S ROUNDTABLE