

Scituate Fire & Rescue Engineering Board

P.O. Box 123, North Scituate, RI 02857

Minutes – October 27, 2014

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:09pm at the North Scituate Fire Department

The following members were present:

Station 20: Chief Adam Hebert and Deputy Chief Ryan Adams

Station 40: Acting Chief John Chevalier

Station 60: Chief Peter Cugini

Secretary/Treasurer: Kerri Dexter

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from September 22, 2014 accepted and approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Accepted and placed on file

4. Old Business

Training:

- None to report**

SOPS:

- None to Report**

Communications:

• VHF Radio Status

o Audience member David Gaiewski reviewed the issues with the radios/pagers to the rest of the board as discussed in previous meeting.

o Acting Chief Chevalier showed and discussed the coverage maps that were done in 2007. States there has been no change in topography and our system is performing better than what coverage maps show.

o Audience member Chief Mark Ellis stated that the current portables were introduced in 2006, suggest battery changes and that an incorrect PL was programmed into one portable.

o Audience member David Gaiewski stated equipment may have reached its prime and may need service. Since the narrow banding, issues have arisen. Going toward only 800 or only VHF will not resolve issues. A solution is needed.

o Acting Chief John Chevalier stated the issues we need to figure out is if it is when talking in or the talking out to fire alarm.

o Audience member Chief Mark Ellis mentioned the problem spots in town are crazy corners and the high school boiler room referring to the 800 radios.

o Discussion of the infrastructure with the state and 800 radios during natural disasters

o Chief Adam Hebert stated there are major concerns with the VHF system and need to work on what we can do now with hearing transmissions and what information to go to the town with.

- o Acting Chief John Chevalier stated adding receivers will be expensive, however, beneficial. The town used to have two transmitters, but after lightning strike it is set to transmit at the Chopmist hill spot. Repeater was not fixed at the station. Pros and Cons discussed about transmitters.**
- o Chief Peter Cugini added that there are issues when talking radio to radio more often than truck to fire alarm**
- o Acting Chief John Chevalier questioned the possibility of members of departments not using the portables correctly.**
- o Discussion had about using the talk around feature on portables.**
- o Audience member Chief Mark Ellis added that the direct frequency may not be listened to at fire alarm.**
- o Chief Peter Cugini stated hiring someone to come out and look at system**
- o Audience member David Gaiewski suggested having a professional come out and look at systems and possibly present to committee who will pay for it. Suggested that radio straps not be used and put radios in pockets of gear.**
- o Discussion had about coverage maps, possibly having an engineering firm come out to survey, and letting the Fire Suppression and EMS committee know of these issues.**
- o Long term goal will be proposal to the town and Short term goal will be using the talk around channels 2 and 15 to see if there is any improvements and re-visit issues at next meeting.**

Other Business:

- **Run Card**

- o Chief Hebert stated there were no second due apparatus on run card for all stations.

- o Mark Anderson asked for clarification on run cards

- o Updates made by all departments on first due and second due apparatus in their districts with Chief Ellis and Deputy Chief Greenway participating in discussion as audience members.

- o All Chief's signed off on run card changes and this copy will be given to Chief Randall by Chief Hebert.

- **Other**

- o Hose Bid closed today 9/22/14.

- o CNS was the only bidder

- o Chief Hebert asked for stations to come up with how hose will be labeled

- o Acting Chief Chevalier stated adapters will be needed when relay pumping for 4in to 5in hose.

5. New Business

- **Rescue Replacements**

- o Chief Hebert states he met with Jasparo and the spec's for Rescue 1 & 2 were given to him

o Acting Chief Chevalier stated a revised spec will need to be given to Jasparo and should be given in a few days.

- SAFER Grant

o Due to the passing of Chief Donald Campbell, Greg will now be the Paychex manager and Chief Hebert signed a signature card at the bank to have his signature on the Grant Account.

o Discussion on whether to move forward with reapplication of another SAFER grant.

o Discussion had about resubmitting personnel responses for the remaining months left for the grant and not using the same personnel responses from the previous month.

6. Reports

A. Station 20:

- None to report

B. Station 40:

- None to report

C. Station 60:

- Chief Cugini stated himself and Deputy Chief Keith Brown will be stepping down as Chief's in November 2014

The next Engineering Board meeting will be held on Monday

November 24, 2014 at The Hope Jackson Fire Department at 7:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52pm.