



MINUTES
Firefighter Mobilization Oversight Committee
September 12, 2007
State Fire Marshal's Office

Members Present: John Reich, Phill Jolley, Alvin Payne, Ron Osborne, Dusty Owens, Bruce Kline and Tommy McDowell

Others: Jason Pope, Ed Roper, Ken Bell

- Chairman Reich called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Minutes from the May 4 meeting and the August 16 conference call were read and approved.
- Ken Bell presented the US&R Director's report
 - o The crane repair is being handled by the LLR Procurement office and is being paid for with grant money.
 - o The SC-TF1 tractor trailers have been moved inside the Fire Academy fire station.
 - o Worker's compensation and mal-practice insurance continues to be an issue for non-fire service team personnel.
 - o The Task Force Leaders have met several times. The roster contains approximately 150-160 personnel. Several applications are on file; an additional orientation will be conducted this year.
 - o The Task Force conducts team training every other month, and 15 personnel will be going to Kansas for rescue training this month.

Old Business

- The final FY07 budget was presented in spreadsheet format.
 - o Bruce Kline suggested we separate the FFM and US&R budgets since we have new funds coming this fall. He also suggested we plan how to spend the possible excess FFM funds since US&R will have its own budget. Bruce also requested that the proposed US&R budget be sent out. John Reich stated he would send that information to the committee via email.
 - o John Reich added the US&R and V-SAFE proviso funds should be available by the end of November.
- US&R Building Status – the contract has been awarded, State Engineer meeting with architect today, 10 day notice to start, 240 day construction window
- V-Safe Up-date – online application is being developed, peer review panel appointments are not complete, and grading criteria are being developed

- Workers compensation / mal-practice insurance - FM requested a cost estimate, continue to pursue legislative change.
- Two assistant state fire marshals positions have been advertised; 15 applications have been received for each position.
 - o Make up of interview panel for the emergency response manager: Karl Ristow, Bruce Kline, SC-TF1 rep., Lynn Rivers and John Reich
 - o Mick Mayers has requested that Ken Bell serve on the interview panel as the SC-TF1 representative.
 - o Tommy McDowell made a motion for Ken Bell to serve as the SC-TF1 representative, Phill Jolley seconded and motion carried.
- Mobilization Strategic Plan - Karl Ristow still working on this.
- State Fire Project
 - o FY06 – The radiation detection equipment has been received, and we are still waiting on the chemical monitors.
 - Jason Pope presented a distribution plan with several options. Bruce Kline made a motion to accept the distribution plan using Option #1 for the radiation detector. Motion was seconded by Tommy McDowell. There was no discussion and the motion carried. Jason will begin contacting the eligible FD's about the project.
 - o FY07 – The presentations for the State Fire Project FY07 have been completed to all four Regional Counter Terrorism Coordinating Councils (CTCC). The final approval is made by the State CTCC.

New Business

- Ron Osborne stated that of the 50 800 MHz radios purchased for FD's east of I-95, only 12 have been accepted. Several options were discussed. One option would be to issue the radios the county emergency management offices so they could be deployed to the FD's during an incident. Another option would be to distribute to other FD's within the state who would accept them even if they are not east of I-95. Ron will follow up with this issue.
- John Reich mentioned that the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) is offering radio interoperability training provided by grant money. He passed this information to SC CIO's office and they agreed that SC is already offering this training and that we are ahead of most states in this area. The SC CIO's office has received 13 million dollars for radio interoperability. However, John agreed to set up a meeting with NASFM to discuss this proposal.

- John Reich received a phone call from SLED Homeland Security to see if we could use \$150,000 of de-obligated grant funds for SC-TF1. Tommy McDowell made a motion that we pursue these funds for the purchase of an additional tractor to tow the low-boy trailer. Motion was seconded by Alvin Payne. There was no discussion and the motion carried. Ken Bell was asked to get a price quote for the tractor.

Open Discussion

- Ron Osborne stated that the FY07 Homeland Security funding for the WMD exercise program has been cut and several options were emailed to the Regional CTCC members for discussion. Ron stated that without adequate funding, this program could not continue.
- Ed Roper reminded the committee of the proposed earthquake exercise with the Army National Guard that is scheduled for April 2008. The site location has not been finalized yet, but SC-TF1 needs to participate.
- Jason Pope mentioned that \$125,000 for an SC-TF1 readiness evaluation has been included in the FY07 Homeland Security Grant proposal. Jason also stated that he has asked SLED for further information about this but has not received an answer.

The next meeting will be held in Greenville, SC during the State Fire Chiefs' conference. Date and time is yet to be determined.

Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Pope