

**THIRD DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
MABAS 24, INC.
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 8, 2007**

DEPARTMENTS PRESENT:

BURNHAM:	Not Present
CALUMET CITY:	W. Galgan
CHICAGO HEIGHTS:	T. Martello
COUNTRY CLUB HILLS:	G. Kasper, D. Rodriguez
DOLTON:	B. Shaw, L. Victor
EAST HAZEL CREST:	B. Vallow
FLOSSMOOR:	D. Hornback, D. Hoiden
GLENWOOD:	K. Welsh
HARVEY:	Not Present
HAZEL CREST:	C. Jackson, B. Grabowsky, J. Grady
HOMewood:	J. Henrici
HOMewood ACRES:	Not Present
LANSING:	D. Gregorovic, J. Baird
LYNWOOD:	R. Eriks
MARKHAM:	Not Present
MATTESON:	Not Present
MUNSTER:	B. O'Brien
OAK FOREST:	L. Alfaro
PHOENIX:	B. Turner
RIGHTON PARK:	Not Present
RIVERDALE:	G. Knoll
S. CHICAGO HEIGHTS:	Not Present
SOUTH HOLLAND:	Not Present
THORNTON:	Not Present
TINLEY PARK:	K. Dunn

RETIRED MEMBERS: Not Present

HONORARY MEMBERS: Not Present

VENDORS: S. Fusco, Reliable Fire
T. Eberhardt, B. Heisner, M. Quinlan, R. Urban,
ComEd
M. Viola, Neidermann
B. Grady, Andres
J. Kelly, M. Sarhage, Air One
D. Foster, NICOR

OTHER MEMBERS: D. Wiessner, ECOM
M. Sikorski, Orland Dispatch

GUESTS: L. Benjamin, ERS Board Up & Restoration
Rich Construction
S. Dralle, N. Healy, South Suburban Hospital

Meeting called to order at 11:30 AM.

Chief Welsh welcomed all members, vendors, and guests.

South Suburban Hospital made a presentation of their Sexual Assault program which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They have seen a rise in pediatric cases. They are aware of and are addressing transportation issues. Victims of Crime will provide ambulance reimbursement. If there are no other life-threatening issues, they are supportive of bypassing the closest hospital. When police arrive, they call the fire department. Communication and education are an issue. If you have any questions regarding ambulance transport, please contact Dr. Heilicser or Steffy Dralle. They can also educate your crews. There is a higher conviction rate because of the evidence collection and exam.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the February 8, 2007, meeting minutes by Chief Gregorovic; seconded by Chief Eriks. Motion carried.

Communications: Cedar Park offers a special burial section for local heroes.

Applications: Holding off pending bylaw revisions. There will be some changes.

The Executive Committee met Monday. So many initiatives are being addressed, we cannot move forward. At the next meeting we will prioritize and focus on one function. We will endeavor to get the initiatives back to the appropriate committees for handling. There are three very active committees, Dive, Investigators, and Canteen.

Committee Reports:

Comprehensive Planning: We are working on one item at a time, four sections of the bylaws have been done.

EMS: We discussed paramedic test concerns at the last EMS meeting. Dr. Heilicser would like us to hold off on any communications until he is able to do some research. We feel IMH should be more proactive. Study sessions are being held.

Legislative: Watch your e-mails for information on house bills. Part-time employees, their well-being, teamwork, the Civil Service testing procedure, and how the house bill might affect staffing were discussed. Chief Henrici made a motion that we lend our support to the stand that the Illinois Chiefs Association has taken; seconded by Chief Vallow. Motion carried. Chief Welsh will send a letter in support of the I-Chief's opposition to this bill and encourages everyone to follow suit. Contact him if you'd like a copy of the letter.

Legal: Nothing to report.

Inspectors/Pub Ed: Nothing to report.

Investigators (Arson): Had 9 incidents, one required a second alarm. They are seeking to make team purchases including masks and accountability tags out of grant monies. They will be using yellow labels. ID tags will be needed to cross the fire line. SOGs re criteria and call out are being reviewed and will be presented to the Executive Board then a general meeting will be held with investigators re new standards and accountability systems. There are two individuals from outside of MABAS 24 who want to become members of the team. Lynwood may have more houses to burn. SSTF would like the opportunity to use the facilities for practical training if possible. They are keeping training and call-out records. The next meeting will be held April 9 in Riverdale.

Dive: Things are moving along. They know what they have to do and are headed in the right direction. If you have an incident, we can respond. We will be reaching out to other towns to get their members involved.

Retirement: We have met with the Executive Board and recommend that members with 10 years of service retiring as a chief will receive a paver brick at the memorial, a badge, and a line pass. Those who do not retire as chiefs will receive a plaque, a badge, and a line pass. Chief Gregorovic made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Retirement Committee; seconded by Chief Dunn. Motion carried. You will be receiving a letter requesting years of service. Please reply.

Utilities: Toni Eberhardt of ComEd attended the mayors and managers meeting Monday

and learned there have been some complaints (maybe from the police side). The Homewood 9-11 center wants to make sure you know they are there, let them know your concerns and give them a chance to address them. They have a team of people willing to work with fire chiefs.

Training: Graduation for the Fall class will be on March 14 at 7:00 at the South Holland Community Center. Any bills must be in to the Committee Chair in time to be reviewed and submitted at the Executive Board meeting. If bills are not in, they are not paid.

Mutual Aid: We are responding to box alarms and going to staging on IFERN. Please advise if there are any problems with this. There are no dead spots we are aware of. There have been some accountability problems with collecting passports. We urge you to reinforce use of the accountability system. RAD-57 was picked up in Peoria (monitors CO levels in the body) and will be housed in the Canteen. There is no policy on use.

There have been some box alarm responses below the minimum requirement of 4-men on a vehicle. There is a real concern with those who sign on to mutual aid but do not comply with the 4-man minimum and lack conformance to radio rules. We are one of the largest MABAS organizations and we have a strong body of organizers. Chief Dunn needs our support. Response times are being looked at and recommendations will be made.

Chief Martello sought clarification regarding components of box alarm cards. Full still response was done by each department. The department who puts you on their box has the responsibility of consulting with you. Originally everyone did their own cards. Over the past 15 years as departments have changed, we have accepted their box card changes at whatever level twice a year. The Committee does not want to assign chiefs to safety, sectors. If you want someone specific or some specific equipment, that is fine, advise of that. Specialty stuff will be refined.

This year multi-agency organizations are allowed to apply for the Fire Act grant. There is slim chance of procuring a vehicle, we feel the next pressing issue is radio communications. We have asked Chief Kolosh to look into this and we propose a committee composed of Mark Sikorski, Dianna Weissner, Bob Small, and Bill from Miner. We need a thought process with a number.

HazMat: Nothing to report. There is a meeting coming up Monday. We will send out minutes.

Canteen: Thank you for taking the calendars. Sales will generate profits. We will start next year's process in April. Fees for out of district use and potential over-commitment problems were discussed. We will come up with a fair process and proper dispatch guidelines to make sure our members are taken care of.

Finance: We talked about fees and assessments last month. Quarterly MABAS 24 billings have been organized, most of you will get an invoice today. Second quarter will be out in April. Our fiscal year is January to January.

1099s being issued on time and accountant advises taxes, if any, will be due in June. Pick up your first quarter invoices and update your information. We need to know if you want to be invoiced for meals. See Chief Knoll or Debbie Hoiden if you have any questions. MABAS division dues have been paid. Orland Dispatch and ECOM will be associates.

Invoices and standard invoices were presented for payment approval. A motion was made to pay invoices by Chief Galgan; seconded by Chief Eriks. Motion carried. Steps have been taken to transfer funds to Great Lakes Bank.

CART/TRT: Things are moving slowly. The Peoria MABAS meeting was discussed. Dave Haywood is the north regional contact person. We are waiting for a decon rig. They want to put a Class 1 generator trailer with light towers on it in each division. Air storage trailers with support trucks were discussed. We will attend upcoming meetings.

Fire Chiefs' Reports:

Chief Welsh: Thank you for your mutual aid with the choking victim.

Chief Hornback: Thank you for your help on the fire that came in. The Volunteer FF Association will write a check for \$500 to the Canteen fund. Sunnycrest is still in operation and contributed an additional \$100.

Chief Turner: Thank you to Chief Dunn and Lt. Applegate for their assistance.

Chief Jackson: Thank you for your help on the box alarm in sub zero weather on Oakwood. Retired A/C Grady, welcome back. They received a Fire Act grant for an exhaust extrication system at two stations. Thank you to Chief Grady for making sure we were successful.

Chief Kasper: Thank you for your help on Princeton Lane with a report of a probable rescue needed. Everyone was safe and sound and worked effectively.

Chief Martello: Received a grant.

Chief Vallow: Starting Monday 171st at the viaduct will be closed for a year.

Vendors' Reports:

J. Kelly: Thank you to everyone who joined him in Peoria.

J. Crocker: Rich Construction Co. offers board up services.

M. Viola: Give me a call.

M. Sikorski: Effective Monday they assumed MABAS 22.

S. Fusco: Change your clocks, change your batteries.

D. Foster: NICOR will be working with training for officers at Flossmoor and will be sending out information about fire school in May.

Unfinished Business: We need direction on the issue of joint or dual membership allowed to departments from other divisions. This issue involves departments with full membership ability, Richton Park, South Chicago Heights, and Matteson. Chicago Heights dropped back to associate membership. If a department wishes to change divisions, they must make a request to both divisions. Discussion was had regarding non-contiguous departments, task forces, and training. Because of past joint relationships and the time that went on, we are reluctant to take a vote until we have all the options before us. We will always send help. We will continue to work with it. There will be an inter-divisional meeting held on March 14.

New Business: None reported.

Good of the Association: Visit our website, HYPERLINK "http://www.MABAS24.org" www.MABAS24.org.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Chief Gregorovic; seconded by Chief Dunn; motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 13:30 Hours.

Next Meeting:

Glenwood Oaks Restaurant
106 N. Main Street
Glenwood, IL
April 12, 2007
11:30 A.M.

Respectfully,

Lisa Alfaro

Lisa Alfaro