

**THIRD DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
MABAS 24, INC.
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2009**

DEPARTMENTS PRESENT:

BURNHAM:	Not Present
CALUMET CITY:	W. Galgan
CHICAGO HEIGHTS:	Not Present
COUNTRY CLUB HILLS:	G. Kasper
DOLTON:	L. Victor
EAST HAZEL CREST:	B. Vallow, B. Mills
FLOSSMOOR:	D. Habecker, D. Hoiden
GLENWOOD:	K. Welsh
HARVEY:	Not Present
HAZEL CREST:	C. Jackson
HOMWOOD:	Not Present
HOMWOOD ACRES:	Not Present
LANSING:	K. Verkalk
LYNWOOD:	R. Eriks
MARKHAM:	Not Present
MATTESON:	N. Wilkens
MUNSTER:	Not Present
OAK FOREST:	T. Lipinski, C. Sopko, L. Alfaro
PHOENIX:	Not Present
RIGHTON PARK:	Not Present
RIVERDALE:	T. Jarrett, Sr., C. Van Dyke
S. CHICAGO HEIGHTS:	Not Present
SOUTH HOLLAND:	E. [illegible], C. Jacobsma
THORNTON:	B. Kolosh
TINLEY PARK:	K. Dunn
RETIRED MEMBERS:	D. Hornback
VENDOR MEMBERS:	J. Schoon, Miner Electronics T. Eberhardt, ComEd S. Fusco, Reliable Fire Equipment M. & R. Viola, Nederman L. Benjamin & Carmen, ERS Board Up
GUESTS:	E. Moran, First In Consultants

Meeting called to order at 11:35 AM.

Chief Welsh welcomed all members, vendors, and guests.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the May 14, 2009, meeting minutes by Chief Vallow; seconded by Chief Kolosh. Motion carried.

Communications: Fire and Life Safety Educators notified they are reformed out of Inspectors and Public Educators. They have a very active group and have begun the process of raising funds and using them for their materials. They will provide a budget to the Executive Board. We encourage you to use this group and encourage you as chiefs to send representation to their meetings. If you have some older firefighters that want to be active members of the Department, this would be a good place to put them.

Applications: None.

Committee Reports:

Comprehensive Planning: No report.

Legislative: They are in session. There are numerous bills on the floor coming up. There is a lot of activity. They will try to wrap everything up prior to the end of session.

100 Day Book/Bylaws: No report.

EMS: Chief Galgan reported you should have received an e-mail and/or letter from Ingalls by now. They are short of medics until school is done. The other part is regarding psych patients and safety. Chief Gregorovic reported they are very near to computerized reporting. They are working through the glitches. There is a problem with NIMS compliance and certification.

Inspectors: [Inactive. If you are interested in resurrecting the group, please let Chief Welsh know.]

Public Education: Presentation made after the meeting.

Investigators: Chief Kasper reported there have been a couple of call outs. If you have investigators, try to make sure they attend the meeting (17th in Riverdale). We seem to have an issue re responding out on second alarms.

Dive: Chief Gregorovic reported they went to Oak Forest a couple of weeks ago looking for a gun but came up empty. D/C Sopko pulled the box and reported the team did an excellent job.

Chief Welsh reported the Executive Board is communicating re the need from other Divisions for use of specialty teams. It is an ongoing discussion. We will keep you posted.

Retirement: Chief Vallow reported this will be Chief Wilkens' last meeting. Congratulations, we wish you the best.

Utilities: A concern was raised re long response times for fires and live wires down on a truck. Please send dates, times, concerns, to Lisa as soon as possible. Toni Eberhardt of ComEd will promptly get you a response.

Training: Chief Welsh reported Chief Bettenhausen is out of town. He is working on changes to the Academy. A questionnaire will be coming out.

TRT: Chief Lipinski reported the meeting was well-attended. There will be three committees. Hope to have inventory by September and good list of people and training. The goal is to have a quick response built up by January.

Mutual Aid: Chief Dunn reported a question came up at Executive Board: a crew responds with auto aid to another community and in the next moment that community decides to box the call, is it okay for 3 men to go to the call? The minimum response on box alarms is a 4-man crew. His recommendation is that you send somebody to chase. In the next couple of weeks, we will send out our emergency dispatch procedures. It is important to maintain clear and open communications and notify departments of impending issues. We appreciate your help. He will be spending time in Urbana re the impact of FCC 2013 for narrow banding. Alert, September 20 Tinley Park and the Fire Department will host a tribute to Robert Bettenhausen for 57 years of service. He will be retiring as of August 7.

HazMat: No report other than we are clearing all training and getting everything in line for MABAS validation next spring so that we can maintain Level A status..

Canteen: Nothing to report.

Finance: We have some aging accounting billings. Chief Knoll continues to assist Debbie. Chief Dunn will be assuming those duties as prescribed by the bylaws. Chief Vallow and Chief Kolosh were asked to serve on the audit committee with Chief Dunn. When an audit is completed, the next run of financial statements will be sent out to all the chiefs. Invoices and standard invoices were presented to the Executive Board for approval. A motion was made by Chief Kolosh to pay the invoices as presented; seconded by Chief Eriks. Motion carried.

Fire Chiefs' Reports:

Chief Gregorovic: Thank you to Cal City and Munster for coming out to their party.

Chief Vallow: Thanks everybody for our “training episodes” at Homewood Disposal. All went well. Thanks for everybody’s help.

Chief Eriks: We had a fire in a strip mall last night. Thanks for the quick response from our department and Lansing for a quick knock down.

Chief Galgan: Thanks to the Departments that came out, Lansing, South Holland, Burnham.

Chief Welsh: Thank you to the South Holland PD for creating some excitement.

Chief Habecker: Keith Damm is Training Administrator and new Coordinator for the Fire Science program at Prairie State. If you need anything, give him a call.

Chief Lipinski: Thanks for the dive call. It worked out well. Everything went smoothly, even if we didn’t find anything.

A/Chief Johnson: Hazelcrest Lt. Grabowski has retired and will be moving over to Homewood as a chief.

Chief Jarrett: It’s great to be back. We want to thank Lt. VanDyke and his group for their efforts. I think it would serve us well to really get behind this program.

Chief Wilkens: We had a multiple motorcycle accident on I-57. They did a real good job out there. Thanks to Oak Forest and Matteson. Everything worked out real well. It was a good call. Last Tuesday Division 27 had a showcase for all the MABAS assets. It was just for the fire departments and the leaders of the towns. It was held at Crete Monee High School. It was amazing how much space we needed when we started calling for these assets. They will move into a training thing. They had a train the trainer from MABAS radio, went over Starcom, VHB, and Emnet. It opened a lot of eyes as to what they have to take back and how you use these items. Last, July 1 Pat Gericke will be taking over as the chief. They are still working on a new DC. Other than that, thanks for your help and support to Matteson and me over the years. See ya.

Vendors’ Reports: None.

New Business: Chief Vallow raised his concern regarding the current status of the Funeral Benefit Fund. After extensive discussion, Chief Welsh will try to get some written correspondence going on that.

Unfinished Business: A couple of months back, we acquired a Polaris through MABAS. It is in Oak Forest. We talked about doing some additions to the unit because of the possibility it will be placed on box cards for specialty teams. We required \$6,700 to equip the unit. After seeing it with the upgrades, we felt it would be better to go with additional equipment, including a winch, windshield, diamondplate, and a couple of other items. D/C Sopko is working hard on this. We feel it is in the best interest to request the

funds for expenditures including the original amount of \$10,000 which will supply the unit and make it able to supply better service in the field. We would entertain a motion to approve the entire expenditure before we get into brush fire season. So moved by Chief Lipinski, Second by Chief Kolosh. Motion carried. Training is available to us in the month of June. If you are going to use it, make sure you are getting people over to get trained. They are under strict rules. It is not going with unless you have people trained to take it. It is too fast and top heavy. You can train the trainer. There is a powerpoint. We will have a sign-out log. Every department has to have someone attend.

Good of the Association: Chief Welsh reported we have had discussion at Executive Board regarding operations and economical concerns. It has been determined chiefs need to come together and brainstorm relevant topics. We are hearing concerns and the best way to address them is to listen to everyone and take all inputs we can. You will be hearing from the Executive Board and be asked to list your concerns and clear your calendar. Hopefully we can get on the same page and move forward.

Liz Moran delivered an update on the Division/Academy website. She is paying attention to retirement announcements. If you would send a flyer in electronic format, we will put it up on the site.

Lenore Victor reported on the upcoming Illinois Fire Chiefs' golf outing at Glen Eagle. Sunday is registration for Camp I Am Me. Registration for the Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals Executive Support Program is open. We strongly urge you to get your administrative assistants registered.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Chief Lipinski; seconded by Chief Eriks. Motion carried at 12:30 Hours.

Next Meeting:

**Glenwood Oaks Restaurant
106 N. Main Street
Glenwood, IL
July 9, 2009
11:30 A.M.**

Respectfully,

Lisa Alfaro

Lisa Alfaro