

SCSORT EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

May 15, 2001

Board Member

Chief Steven Groves
District Chief Marcus Moore
Chief James Paulett

Members Absent

Annette Petranic
Dr. David Hoover

Staff/Guest

Captain Steve Wood
Sharon Ulman (S)
Michael Oberuch (S)
Lt. Fred Jackson
Dr. Mary Jo McMullen

The meeting of the Summit County Special Operations Response Teams (SCSORT) Executive Board was called to order, by Chairperson, Chief Steven Groves, on Tuesday, May 15, 2001, at 1:40 p.m., in the Emergency Operations Center, 166 South High Street, Akron, OH 44308.

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Groves stated an Agreement was received from the Summit County Emergency Management Agency for the \$54,000 grant award to Summit County Hazardous Materials Team/Summit County Special Operations Response Team. He passed the Agreement around the room for the Board to review.

District Chief Moore made a motion to accept the April 17, 2001, minutes as mailed; Chief Paulett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Chief Groves stated he would wait until the Board has a chance to look at the Agreement before he called for a motion to accept and sign said document.

HAZ-MAT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Captain Wood began the Haz-Mat Director of Operations Report by informing the Board of the cancelled Local Emergency Planning Committee Drill, which was scheduled for Friday, May 18, 2001, at Jones Chemical in Barberton, Ohio. This is the second time that Jones Chemical has canceled. He added this is probably the last time that they would be contacted to participate in a drill.

The training session for June would be a scenario in conjunction with the Akron Fire Department at the First Merit Operations Center. The date of this training session is June 30, 2001.

Captain Wood informed the Board there would be no training session in July.

Captain Wood stated the August training would be a scenario. He was contacted by Twinsburg Fire Department, who stated Van Waters and Rogers Company would be interested in having a scenario drill in September, 2001.

If there were no objections from any of the Board members, Captain Wood stated he would not have a problem with moving the August training to September and have it become an LEPC Drill.

Captain Wood stated if the August Training was moved to September, then August's training would be a Weapons of Mass Destruction training.

Regarding Communications, Captain Wood stated they are waiting for a purchase order from the grant on the radios.

Captain Wood stated the Decon Unit is at R & R Mack. He had spoken with R & R this morning and they told him that the unit would be ready by Thursday, May 17, 2001. The representative from Fabco Power is going to come down on Monday, May 21, 2001.

R & R Mack will go to Stow and pick up the unit to bring to their establishment where it will be tested in front of the Fabco representative to make sure everything is in working order. The unit should be back in service on May 21, 2001.

Regarding detection equipment, Captain Wood stated they are without an O2 sensor. He added parts of this equipment are trickling in so the sensor can be rebuilt.

On the subject of PPE, the air packs, from the WMD Grant, have arrived. Two of those packs have been given to the Bomb Squad. The remainder will be put into service with the Technical Class.

Captain Wood informed the Board that a Domestic Preparedness Equipment Sub-Committee meeting was held this morning. He reviewed what topics were discussed at said meeting.

Dr. McMullen stated there was some discussion at the Domestic Preparedness Task Force meeting, which was held on May 11, 2001, that there may be funding through the MMRS for transportation of items that have been purchased.

Captain Wood reviewed the items on the Blue Sheet, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Captain Wood stated there was one TAT call on May 14, 2001 in Barberton, Ohio. This incident involved a fixed storage tank that was fuming.

Chief Paulett made a motion to approve the Blue Sheet; District Chief Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Captain Wood stated there were openings still available for individuals who would like to attend the Rail Car and Tank Transfer Class at the University of Findlay, which is scheduled for September 18-20, 2001.

For the record, Chief Groves asked how many man-hours were spent on the LEPC Drill before it was canceled.

District Chief Moore stated 30 hours were spent preparing for this drill.

Chief Groves stated there has only been two occasions where a drill was cancelled. He added that in both instances, it was Jones Chemical.

Chief Paulett inquired if a letter should be sent to Jones Chemical regarding this matter.

Chief Groves answered that it might be a good idea for a letter to be sent to Jones Chemical stating if they want a drill conducted at their facility in the future, they must go through with it; no cancellations.

Mr. Oberuch stated that Walt Hower requested a "thank you" letter be written to M & M Towing for the fine job that they did on the "Tanker Up Right" class.

Mr. Oberuch stated someone should present a request for funding of the Oil/Gas Well Course at the next LEPC meeting.

Since Mr. Oberuch and Chairperson Groves cannot attend the meeting, Mr. Oberuch stated he would find someone to present this request.

Chief Paulett made a motion to write a "thank you" letter to M & M Towing; District Chief Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

District Chief Moore made a motion to approve and sign the Agreement to purchase 800 MHz Radios, per the EMA Grant, in the amount of \$54,000, for the Summit County Special Operations Response Team; Chief Paulett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

TROT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Lt. Jackson began the TROT Director of Operations Report by asking a question regarding the minutes. He referred to a section on page four of the minutes, which stated that he (Lt. Jackson) did not answer a question from Chief Groves. He commented that he and others in his office found this sentence to be derogatory in nature and asked if there were any questions that were not answered regarding the loaning of TROT equipment to other squads.

Chief Paulett stated the discussion was halted, regarding the University of Akron students borrowing TROT equipment for training, because Dr. Hoover was not present to put forth his opinion.

District Chief Moore stated that since the last SCSORT Board meeting, the University of Akron has equipment available for training purposes. He added that this issue was brought up again due to the fact that someone from the University commented that permission was given by District Chief Moore to use the TROT Equipment for training purposes. He, in fact, told the students to CONTACT him if they needed some equipment to help with their training.

District Chief Moore stated he would never give anyone permission to use someone else's equipment. The equipment issue was related to the 240-hour class that was held at the University of Akron.

District Chief Moore stated he would request a notation be made in the minutes to reflect the negativity associated with the transcription of the minutes in this section.

Dr. McMullen asked if a motion could be made to strike this phrase from the minutes.

Chief Groves answered affirmatively.

Lt. Jackson requested the Board to amend the April 17, 2001 minutes and strike the derogatory phrase, "Not answering Chief Groves' question, Lt. Jackson . . .".

District Chief Moore made a motion to strike the derogatory phrase; Chief Paulett seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote. Therefore, the phrase, "Not answering Chief Groves' question," shall be removed from the April 17, 2001 minutes.

Lt. Jackson stated the Zone Coordinators meeting was held last week; dates for upcoming Zone Coordinators meeting have been established. He requested that these future dates be published in the next issue of the HazMat Newsletter. All meetings will be on the first Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Regarding Awareness and Operations classes, very specific assignments were made to the Zone Coordinators with a reminder that these classes need to begin very soon.

Lt. Jackson stated an agenda for these classes would be created at the next Zone Coordinators meeting, scheduled for June 5, 2001.

Lt. Jackson gave a brief report on the progress of updating the TROT roster. He added a letter would be sent to the Fire Chiefs asking them to identify any members of their department that serves on the TROT Team and in what capacity.

Chief Groves requested that Lt. Jackson meet with either Mr. Oberuch or Ms. Ulman to draft this letter so the chief know specifically what information we are requesting.

Chief Groves stated he would like phone calls to be made to those departments that do not respond to the letter.

Lt. Jackson stated he would like to state in the letter that after six weeks of receipt of said letter, this roster will be considered complete and final.

Lt. Jackson informed the Board that a Technical Rescue Operations Teams Standard Operation Guide meeting would be held on Friday, June 15, 2001, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Lt. Jackson stated minimal changes need to be made on the SOG. These changes only involve the trench section of the SOG.

Chief Groves informed Lt. Jackson that if changes or modifications need to be made to the SOG, those changes have to be reviewed by the Board.

Lt. Jackson stated since the changes are minimalistic and involve trench operations/procedures, they could be faxed to the members of this Board for approval.

Lt. Jackson asked if we really need to have a full Board meeting in order to approve these changes.

Chief Groves answered if Lt. Jackson can assure the Board members that the changes are minimal, a conference call could be conducted once the changes are distributed to the Board members. He asked Lt. Jackson to make clear what and where the changes occur.

Chief Paulett asked if there is a list of members who have left the TROT Team within the last seventeen months.

Mr. Oberuch answered affirmatively.

Lt. Jackson stated he has the names of 2 members, from the Barberton Fire Department, who have officially left the TROT Team and have completed the necessary paperwork.

Lt. Jackson asked if it is really necessary to have a SOG meeting this year.

Chief Groves responded this decision is up to Lt. Jackson.

Mr. Oberuch stated the HazMat SOG is going to undergo major changes. Therefore, could the TROT SOG meeting be held off until November or December, 2001.

Lt. Jackson stated the greatest benefit of having a SOG meeting would be to achieve a certain degree of team cohesion. He added a "readiness" presentation and an update/review of expectations would also be beneficial.

Chief Paulett stated if the meeting were to be held during the week, then possibly the County Executive could be invited to speak to the team for 2-3 minutes.

District Chief Moore inquired if the “educational” portion of the meeting has already been established or does it need to be created.

Lt. Jackson responded the update/review of team expectations is ready for presentation. He added he would hope the meeting could be at least two hours long.

Dr. McMullen stated if the TROT vehicles were available for the meeting, this would be worthwhile for the team members as well.

A discussion ensued as to what month the meeting should be held; no official date has been set.

Mr. Oberuch reminded Lt. Jackson to include an agenda for this meeting, along with the changes, so the Board can approve it.

Lt. Jackson briefly discussed upcoming training opportunities. He said specific dates and times will be set at the Zone Coordinators’ Meeting, to be held in June, 2001.

The July/August training will involve a rope/swift water rescue; September/October training will be confined space evolution.

Lt. Jackson stated a confined space training would be held in Stow, Ohio on June 21 and 22, 2001, in Stow, Ohio. The same class will be presented on both days. Therefore, TROT team members only have to attend one class.

A workday, to transfer equipment from the light-duty trailer into the new heavy-duty trailer, is scheduled for Tuesday, May 29, 2001 at Cuyahoga Falls Station #4, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Lt. Jackson presented the items on the Green Sheet.

Chief Paulett made a motion to approve the Green Sheet; District Chief Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

District Chief Moore inquired if anyone has been appointed Assistant Director of the Dive Team.

Lt. Jackson stated it was recently announced that Lt. John Carney and Lt. Tom Peddle would be co-directors of the Dive Team.

District Chief Moore asked if either one of these individuals had been notified of this development.

Lt. Jackson replied he had contacted Lt. Peddle via telephone.

District Chief Moore inquired if there is supposed to be some sort of written notification.

Mr. Oberuch stated in the past a letter was sent to the individual(s).

Chief Paulett made a motion to appoint Lt. Carney and Lt. Peddle as Co-Directors of the Dive Team; District Chief Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Chief Groves stated a letter should be sent to these individuals, their chiefs and an announcement placed in the next newsletter.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Oberuch presented the Financial Report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Mr. Oberuch reviewed the TROT Budget. He asked if the Murdoch purchase order was going to be totaled out.

Lt. Jackson stated he would speak with Deputy Chief Moledor regarding the purchase order.

Mr. Oberuch reviewed the HazMat Budget.

District Chief Moore made a motion to accept the budgets as presented, Chief Paulett seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

MEDICAL REPORT

Dr. McMullen began her medical report by briefly informing the Board about her trip to Chicago for the Technical Committee on Hazardous Materials Response Personnel Seminar. She added Chief Eversol, Chicago Fire Department, is retiring. However, he will stay active in both HazMat and Weapons of Mass Destruction matters.

Dr. McMullen stated Med Group would be conducting the physicals again this year. She added Med Group has expressed concern over the blood going to the Akron Health Department. The concern stems with the individual being responsible for delivering the blood to the health department. Med Group would prefer to use a courier system to deliver the blood.

NEXT MEETING

Chief Groves stated the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Tuesday, June 19, 2001, at 1:30 p.m., at the Emergency Operations Center, Akron Municipal Building, 166 South High Street, Akron, Ohio 44308.**

District Chief Moore made a motion to adjourn; Chief Paulett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business to come before the SCSORT Executive Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CHIEF JAMES PAULETT
Secretary

/slu

Attachments

cc: File