



**MINUTES**  
Firefighter Mobilization Oversight Committee  
*October 15, 2009*  
*State Fire Marshal's Office*

**Members Present:** John Reich, Ricky Platt, Karl Ristow, Wendell Wilburn, Alvin Payne, Phil Jolley, Joe Palmer

**Others:** Jason Pope, Dan McManus, Libby Hardwick, Ed Roper, David Reed

- Chairman Reich called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Minutes from the June meeting were read and approved.
- Dan McManus presented the US&R/Mobilization report. (See Attachment 1)
  - o Karl Ristow made motion to accept report, seconded by Alvin Payne, motion passed.
- Libby Hardwick passed out the budget update.
  - o Karl Ristow asked about the sustainment plan for the U&SR team. John Reich commented that LLR/Division of Fire and Life Safety will support this resource and further added the long term answer is funding from the S.C. General Assembly.
  - o Wendell Wilburn made motion to accept the budget report, seconded by Karl Ristow, motion passed.

**Old Business**

- John Reich gave a Homeland Security Senior Advisory Council (HSSAC) update. He stated HSSAC is concerned with the sustainability of established teams/resources funded by grants. The cost/benefit model will be applied to future projects.
- Dan McManus stated that Project Seahawk will not be receiving any additional federal funds and that SLED Homeland Security grants will be used instead.
- Dan McManus also presented the mobile command post options. There was discussion on how many of these units already existed in the state as well as funding options for the purchase of this type of unit. No action was taken on this.

### **New Business**

- Karl Ristow asked about creating box alarms assignments and/or automatic aid. Karl also made the motion to draft a letter to be sent to the governor making him aware of the funding issues facing the US&R team. Motion seconded by Wendell Wilburn, motion passed.

### **Open Discussion**

- There was none.

The next meeting will be held on January 21, 2009 at 10:00 in the Fire Marshal's Office.

Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted with one (1) attachment,

Jason Pope

## Attachment 1

Firefighter Mobilization and State US&R Program  
*Assistant State Fire Marshal's Report*

October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### US&R Task Force One

Status: Deployable

Task Force One is currently available for a modified Type I deployment with

- 115 Active members strong, spanning 35 Departments and agencies
- In addition we also are supporting the following membership status'
  - 16 Coming off probation
  - 9 on 6 month leave
  - 8 invalid MOU's
  - 8 resignations
  - 5 senior advisors
  - 14 new members from last orientation (08/08)
  - 13 due for interviews on 10/16/09

Totaling: 174 members

### Meetings & framework:

- Assisting with the State Terrorism plan
- Assisting ESF 4 & 9 annual rewrite
- Met with CJA Director and Special Team Leaders to discuss training evolutions for 2010
- US&R/FF Mobilization attended the 2009 Firefighters conference
- Also meet with Aeronautics Division, CIO Office, SLED, Fusion Center
- Ken Bell officially retired and was awarded a Firefighter Mobilization Service Award

### US&R Training/Prop development

- Construction has begun on the new US&R training grounds
- During Phase I the entire western portion of the property will be redone. The Double T's will have new blanks poured, cleaned and surrounded by crush and run.
- The bridge collapse simulator will be the last of the three in this phase to be completed but is underway none the less.
- The 12,000+ square foot (and growing) dynamic building collapse prop (rubble pile). This prop will feature five - 48' connex containers (totaling 15,300 cubic feet of rescue scenario's), 200 tons of crush and run and a maze of 320+ feet of concrete piping.

### Equipment Cache

- Continual problems with US&R Suburban's
- ALL Type I cache has been re-inventoried for 2009 and entered into new tracking software.
- Western Shelters (Replacement insulation has been received). Onsite inspection was completed by a WS representative and determination will be made as to the replacement of the rest of the contaminated material.
- New building is coming together, we have no major problems but it is slow going

- Equipment placement and process' are being instituted for a 5-10 year timeline

#### Training

- 2009 Full Operational Readiness Exercise will be November 10, 11, 12, 2009.
  - *I will describe in detail at the meeting*
- Monthly Logistics Days and odd monthly training continues to be a success

#### Canine Program

- 6 Canines with Handlers
- 3 additional Handlers w/ no canines
- We purchased 3 new K-9's different ages and different breeds
- Recruited senior handlers with previous experience

#### Staff

- Thomas Blackwell & Bill Alexander have become an invaluable asset to the program
- David Reed has been hired to replace the day-to-day operational support of our program and assists from everything from administration and procurement support to site development and cache logistics.
- The three additional operations personnel are hard at work with the training prop area and additional facilities and maintenance work

#### Communications

- This still remains the teams Achilles heel.
- I have written a new justification on 09 DHS grant

#### South Carolina HART Program

- 18 Aviation Rescue Specialist have received the proper Technician Level Training
- 90% of aviation equipment purchased will be paid for by grant monies
- Full SC NG support on every level, equipment, training, prop development
- MOU Signed by SC NG, SC EMD & SC DLLR
- Quarterly training is already scheduled for 2010 (we need your help!)

>>>End US&R Report<<<

**Mobilization Coordinator's Report**  
**October 15, 2009**

1. To date, we have **240** registered fire departments with over **5,400** personnel.
2. SEMS quarterly training has begun for F&LS staff. The next scheduled training is October 20 at 2:00 in the Fire Marshal's EOC.
3. The SEMS program has been successfully moved to LLR's server. Since the beginning, this program was housed on EMD's server due to several connections with other EMD programs. Those connections were no longer needed.
4. The Mobilization Coordinator spoke at the Southeast Regional Disaster Summit on October 2 in Clemson, SC. This event was sponsored by Anderson County Emergency Management.
5. Assisted in the equipment procurement process for the SC-HART program.
6. Developed the mobile command unit proposal for submittal to the committee.
7. Attended an Air Branch meeting at the Aeronautics Division on September 21.
8. Assisted with the programming of 8 multi-band radios for the SC National Guard for use in the SC-HART program.
9. Worked with the State CIO's office on a plan to assign portable repeaters to FD's for use during disasters.
10. Served as an evaluator for the Piedmont WMD Full-Scale exercise on October 13.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel B. McManus, ASFM