

# **St. Clair County Fire Chiefs Association**

## **MABAS Division 32<sup>th</sup>**

### **Meeting Minutes – May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

President Feher called the meeting to order at 7:06pm. President Feher introduced the commander of Scott Air Force Base who hosted the May Meeting. The Commander welcomed all attendees to Scott, and expressed his continued support of area fire departments, and the Chiefs Association. He also congratulated Chief Duane Morgan on his upcoming retirement, and thanked him for his years of service.

President Feher asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2003 meeting. A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed.

President Feher gave the treasurers report, which showed a checking account balance of \$28,000.63. Greg Render presented one bill for payment for MABAS business in the amount of \$410.04. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion passed.

Statewide ID System – The general idea is to use the driver's license format, and have one card per emergency responder issued. The state is reviewing the financial impact this would have for it to happen thru the Secretary of State's office.

Technical Rescue – St. Clair County Special Emergency Services has picked up about \$150,000 worth of equipment for trench/confined space rescue. The team is looking at a grant for a vehicle to be able to move the equipment.

Fire Act Grant '03 – Greg Render reported that just under 20,000 grants were submitted to FEMA. Approximately 10,000 should receive a grant this year. 13,000 grants were pulled for review. The future of the grants program is in jeopardy. Departments need to write to Congressman Costello or Congressman Durbin to keep the program going, and to have FEMA continue as the administrator.

MABAS 32 – Our representatives meet with officials from the Missouri state mutual aid group about expanding MABAS further into Missouri. Missouri appears to have legislation in place that already created a statewide mutual aid system, and the fire marshal may be able to sign one agreement to cover all the Missouri departments.

MMRS – Dave Nulsen attended a meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup> at Barnes Hospital. MMRS is looking at a coordinated EMS response for the entire St. Louis region. Only a couple of hospitals from the Illinois side attended the meeting and more cooperation and participation is needed from Illinois agencies.

IFCA – A Recruitment video/CD presentation has been created and is being made available for free for dues paying members of the IFCA. Several departments in St. Clair County have not yet paid their dues. The dues structure for 2003 did change.

Radio System – St. Clair County has committed at a state level, to acquire some of the frequencies for a radio system. President Feher will be attending a meeting in Springfield to look for funding for a new system. The county has hired attorney John Kelly to look at a centralized dispatch center that would be run by a user group. A questionnaire was sent to the fire districts, mayors, and township trustees inquiring their interest. The information received back will be used to notify those departments and agencies that are interested of any future meetings on the various topics that the committee is looking at.

CAD System – Work is continuing forward. The process of selecting a consultant is underway to proceed with the design and implementation phases. The county should have someone in place within a month.

SWIC – Lee Smith advised that the college will have a meeting next week about the training site for the state to approve the engineers. 1.2 million dollars is in place for the site, which should be completed by next year. Lee Smith is now the EMT/Paramedic Coordinator for the college. He is replacing Linda Steinbeck who will be resigning. Les Hawthorne will be an adjunct instructor overseeing most of the EMT/Paramedic curriculum. Registration for SWIC will be changing. For fire department personnel taking classes, do not register with the college. Lee will include registration forms and payment records with future training notices. These are to be faxed

or mailed to Lee who will take care of the registration. Questions or problems with the college should be directed to Lee. The fall schedule will be out soon.

There will be a Firehouse Software class on May 31<sup>st</sup> at Fairview Engine House #1.

Dean Juenger inquired if any departments were interested in joint purchasing. Mascoutah will be looking at large diameter hose. Any interested departments should contact Dean at Mascoutah.

Any department needing UL ladder testing for their equipment should contact John McGuire at Swansea.

After midnight on May 30<sup>th</sup>, Memorial hospital will be relaxing its rules on calling for a medical helicopter, due to the closing of trauma centers from the departure of a neurosurgeon. Swansea Fire Department volunteered to host the July meeting and invited Arch Helicopter to put on a presentation about their procedures, policies, and requirements.

August 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> will be St. Clair County Weekend at University of Illinois in Champaign. Departments need to return the survey about potential classes for planning to continue. Several new classes were discussed and added as possibilities this year.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned.

President Feher call to order the May meeting of MABAS Division 32.

Camp Jackson Fire Department's application was received and approved by the executive committee.

The executive board is looking at a dues structure for MABAS. The initial idea is for \$100.00 per division per year to help with administrative costs.

The board did pass a policy about the purpose of MABAS, and approved a mayday procedure.

A CD based "coloring book" or incident spreadsheet was picked up at the last meeting. Lee Smith is reviewing the book and will have information for all departments in the near future.

A review of the train wreck in Perry County was presented to the MABAS executive board at the last meeting. The lessons learned will be put on the website. IDOL did levy a \$50,000 fine to the Tamoroa Fire Department for insufficient training for Hazmat.

The state law enforcement system will be looking at starting a mutual aid system such as MABAS.

During the recent Agricultural Forum in St. Louis, the St. Louis Fire Department did put the county's haz mat team on alert for immediate response due to the St. Louis team being out of service for the forum. MABAS 32 task force members were also notified of a potential response.

Departments should have received a survey about gas masks and escape hoods.

The next executive board meeting will be in July.

A motion was made and seconded to pay the bills submitted by Greg Render for the last executive meeting. Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.