



Central Vermont Public Safety Authority

"Together is Better"



Minutes of Meeting of February 1, 2018

Board Members Present: Donna Bate, Kimberly Cheney, Michael Smith, Samuel Dworkin

Guests; Bob Sager, Sally Dillion, Will Schwartz, Joe Aldsworth, Paul Cerutti, Steven McKenzie, Caroline Earl.

Meeting called to order by vice-chairman Smith at 6:31

Agenda approval moved by Dworkin seconded by Bate and approved.

Minutes of January 18, 2018 moved by Bate seconded by Dworkin and approved

Executive Director Paco Aumand reported:

a) no payments or invoices to act on.

b) summarized meeting with members of Cap Fire regarding joining the Authority as encouraging, with mutual advantages.

c) Summarized legislative discussions around S 273 noting law enforcement issues with recruitment, pay, retention, and compensation for an entity which has paid for training of an individual who leaves to work for another entity. Stated drop in crime rate is due to failure to report, not due to less crime. VSP wants to continue to provide 911 services, potential that each town will be required to file a public safety plan, Regional Planning Commissions interested in seeing this come about, any planning grants will only be available to regional entities like the Authority.

General Discussion: Earl suggested Authority be engaged with the Chamber of Commerce, Bate urged Authority to publicize its activities and explain need for the budget. Paul Cerutti felt the Front Porch Forum could be useful to do a survey monkey of Town's needs.

Paul Cerutti agreed to seek legal advice (Paul Giuliani) as to who or what are "members" of Capital Fire Mutual Aid for purposes of approving membership in the Authority. He also noted problems with existing communications in addition to known issues about interference by outside users of the same channel. A recent fire in Williamstown (dispatched by Barre) local Chief was unable to communicate with Barre, but Montpelier was able to help. Current system does not allow dispatchers in one center to know what those in another are doing which can lead to miscommunications and improper dispatching. On occasion it can take up to 7 minutes for a Town to get a message through to dispatch. Cerutti stated he would ask Capital Fire to develop data as to present problems and their frequency.

Caroline Earl requested the Authority specify the committees that will be created to develop plan for new membership and who would be on those committees. She recommended dispatchers be considered and questioned if there would be pay for them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 by consent of all.