

***Rutland County Fire Mutual Aid Association, Inc.***

*Minutes of October 25, 2018 Meeting*

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This meeting was held at Danby MT Tabor Fire Department and called to order by President Schlachter at 19:00. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our fallen brothers and sister in the fire service.

**Roll Call:**

*Department members present:* Benson Fire Department, Brandon Fire Department, Castleton Fire Department, Chittenden Fire Department, Danby-MT Tabor Fire Department, Hubbardton Fire Department, Ira Fire Department, Killington Fire-Rescue, Pittsford Fire Department, Poultney Fire Department, Rutland Town Fire Department, Wallingford Fire Department, West Rutland Fire Department.

*Officers Present:* Chief Robert Schlachter, President; Michael Skaza, Treasurer; Heather Ducharme, Secretary.

**Secretary's Report:**

Presented and Passed

**Treasure's Report:**

Presented and Passed

**Mutual Aid Response:**

Clarendon Fire Department – VT Country Store Warehouse fire. (Old Pepsi Plant) Question on cause.

There were 13-14 Tankers and 3 Ladders. Ladder Truck operators should have an idea on where Ladder Trucks should be placed. Tanker shuttle was a little bit of a mess, Tanker operators where not all on the same channel. They were requested to be on V-Tac 1or2. It was a surround and drown with a few re-kindles.

Hubbardton Fire Department- 3 structures involved as well as 3 vehicles. Castleton first on scene and it was fully involved. Water was pumped from a pond down the road. Everything went as well as could be expected.

**Old Business:**

Proctor's water supply drill went well. They laid 1 mile of LDH and were able to operate their ladder as well as they would have with a tanker shuttle.

Castleton's new E-Tools are coming in a weeks.

Clarendon just purchased rescue struts

Reminder - Killington search and rescue are available for anywhere and they do work with the State Police.

Gordon Lunna from Wallingford Fire will be helping us with improvements to our radio system.

We have more old school equipment that is not as efficient. Repeaters would be the first place to start. We need a duplexer. Radio discipline would be important. Departments would be responsible to change over their own radios. Killington would be the first repeater to be done. Probable cost would be \$4000.00. We could change all the licenses at once or 1 at a time. Canada is a factor in this.

Motion made to start the process. Get all the licenses at once and departments would have to reprogram their radios. It would cost around \$4000.00 for Killington and \$5000.00 for all licenses. There will be an additional \$3000.00-\$4000.00 for other towers.

- License 5 sites
- Fund labor and equipment for Killington
- We will spend up to \$8000.00
- Approved

Each department will need to budget \$500.00 for radio changes. In June or July the user fee may increase.

No Change with Sate Dispatch at this time, maybe after election. Keep State Dispatch updated with current information. They are updating their books. They are interested in having people visit. They will be updating their microwaves on 10/30/18 at 10am. There will be some interruptions and may need some backup. Everyone should use open pagers until they are told to go back to normal.

## **New Business:**

Fire Academy update by Billy Jones- Fire Instructure I open and will start in January 2019. The Entry Level Fire Fighter is being reviewed and they are hoping to get a train the trainer going in early 2019. Mike Skaza wants to know what we are looking for if they try to put together an Officer Training Program. 120 hours. What should it look like? Certification course based or just what it looks like to be a Fire Chief in Vermont. This could be done in modules.

Fire School- There will be a meeting on 10/10/18 to select courses. Fire School will be April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Chief Larson from Rutland City may be doing a course. We are hoping to have 15 courses available.

Rutland City Fire Department is putting in a grant for a Platform. Chief Schlachter is looking for a motion to write letter to support the grant. Motion made and second, all approved. A letter will be written.

Chief Schlachter would like to replace his radio. A motion was made for Chief Schlachter to replace his radio and not to exceed \$550.00. This motion was second and approved.

Danby MT Tabor maybe looking for us to do some training with them now that they are starting to open up mines in their area. All are welcome to come and do a walk through.

Next Meeting is January 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 19:00 which will be hosted at Rutland City Fire Department

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and second. This was passed, meeting adjourn 20:33

Respectfully yours,

**Heather Ducharme**

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Secretary