

**METRO FIRE AGENCY
SPECIAL OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP**

**June 21, 2006 – Meeting Minutes
Fire Station #31**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Warren James, Midvale City Fire Department
Dave Lee, Midvale City Fire Department
John Harris, Murray City Fire Department
Jeff Ellis, Murray City Fire Department
Joe Beard, Midvale/Murray City Fire Department
Geoff Feldman, Sandy City Fire Department
Tim Norris, Sandy/Midvale City Fire Department
Blain Daimaru, South Salt Lake Fire Department
Shane Conrad, South Salt Lake Fire Department
Ben Kluger, South Jordan Fire Department
Troy Darger, South Jordan Fire Department
Marc McElreath, West Jordan Fire Department
Kris Romijn, West Valley Fire Department
Bruce Myler, West Valley Fire Department

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Geoff Feldman

BUSINESS

Training

Open water rescue training is scheduled for July 19, 20, and 21, 2006. The training will probably occur at Murray City Park. Murray City Fire Department is coordinating this training and will coordinate times and locations for the different MFA companies. Specific details will be e-mailed to the Special Operations Work Group members as soon as they are finalized.

Trench Rescue training is scheduled for September 20, 21, and 22, 2006. West Valley Fire Department (Brent Hobbs) is coordinating this training. An adequate location is still being researched. Specific details will be e-mailed to the Special Operations Work Group members as soon as they are finalized.

Radiation response and detection training is scheduled for November 13, 14, and 15, 2006. INEEL will probably provide this training and Kris Romijn with West Valley Fire Department is acting as the coordinating point for that group. As details become available Kris will report them to the group.

Dr. Steve Joyce with the Salt Lake Metropolitan Response System (MMRS) has invited members of the Metro Fire Agency HazMat teams to attend the **2006 Radiation Roundup on July 18, 19, and 20, 2006.** The MMRS will cover the cost of the training. Registration is

online at <http://www.inl.gov/conferences/radiationroundup/> Contact Audrey Sweazey with the MMRS after registration so that she will have an accurate count of attendees from the MFA.

Other Business

Battalion Chief Potter with Murray City Fire Department has requested assistance from the Special Operations Work Group at a **fund raiser for a not-for-profit organization “Angel Hands” on July 8, 2006 from 11:00 to 15:30 at the Murray City Park.** They need a HazMat unit and personnel for a show and tell activity. Murray Fire Department will take HM81 to the park and Murray, Midvale, and other agencies if available will have one HM Technician there to demo the truck and equipment. Please let BC Harris (MCFD) know if you will be able to send someone. This is a great opportunity for the MFA to pull together to support an important cause.

Sandy City has moved their heavy rescue to ST34.

Kris Romijn reminded us that West Valley has a bomb squad that is available for each of the Metro Fire Agency organizations. Please take some time to visit with the police chiefs in your organizations and let them know that the MFA bomb squad is provided by West Valley Fire and Police. There have been some circumstances of the police departments arriving first and requesting other bomb squads instead of West Valley.

The Metro User's Group is meeting to develop a common play book for each of our agencies. Even with this playbook the VECC CAD cannot recommend/dispatch HM and TRT units the way that we want. There is hope that the August '06 release will be able to better meet our needs. In the mean time it is important that your special operations captains know the capabilities of the different units in the MFA and special call resources as they're needed.

Old Business

Previously the Special Operations Work Group proposed to the Board of Chiefs that certification for special operations level certifications be handled by the MFA instead of the Utah Fire and Rescue Academy (UFRA). OSHA and NFPA both state that the local fire chief or the agency having jurisdiction has the authority to issue these certifications. Each of the MFA agencies is currently paying the UFRA \$10.00/year for this service. The Board of Chiefs approved this proposal and requested that the Special Operations Work Group move forward with the project. BC James (MVFD) handed out a proposed certification card. The card can be modified to include an agency logo with the MFA logo. The card also includes the EMT # encoded magnetically and in a bar code for use with the asset control system being purchased through the MMRS. Midvale has the software and hardware to print the cards and track certification levels and expiration. Midvale also has over 1,000 blank plastic cards so for the time being there will be no cost to the Metro Agencies. **A list of personnel with their corresponding Special Operations certification levels should be sent to BC James. Please indicate if you want your agency logo on the card with the MFA logo. BC James has logos for all of the agencies except Bluffdale. The cards will be printed right away and returned to the agency.** BC James will print recommended guidelines for certification and recertification and forward them out to the group.

The Metro website is up and operating. The website address has not yet been listed with popular search engines awaiting design approval from the Board of Chiefs. E-Mail addresses have been input for Midvale Fire Department and list-serve groups are up and running for HazMat and Technical Rescue. West Valley is next in line to have their e-mail addresses input. The addresses can function in one of three ways:

1. The address can function as a standalone e-mail address accessible through the Metro Website Webmail interface. This will be great for agencies that do not provide an e-mail address to each employee.
2. The address can function as a forward only address. Any e-mails sent to the e-mail address will automatically forward into a department provided e-mail system. The process is seamless for the employee. It will appear that the e-mails were sent directly to the agency e-mail address.
3. A combination of these two addresses can be set up so that e-mail is accessible both through the webmail interface and through the agency provided e-mail address.

The benefit of this system is that every employee's email address will be set up in the same manner making it easier to remember e-mail addresses for all of our employees. Addresses are set up with the first initial, last name of the employee i.e. kromijn@metrofireagency.org

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held **August 23, 2006-13:30 p.m. at Fire Station #31.**