

Capital Fire Mutual Aid System

(CFMAS)

Barre City, Alumni Hall, 2nd floor

March 19, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Meeting was in-person and virtual

CFMAS members present

J. Aldsworth, K Cushman, B. Morse, J. Staab, W. Bothfeld, A. Petretta, W. Knott, D. Knott, E. Metivier, D. Libby, J. Quinn, S. Pratt, C. Baker, D. Randell, M. Johnson, G. Dillon, S. Dillon, P. Cerutti, A. Campbell, C. Pollard

CFMAS members On-line

J. Cambell

Guests

R. Beliveau, S. Bagg and Carrie McCool (Capital Dispatch)

District 1 Berlin, Middlesex, Montpelier, Northfield, Roxbury

District 2 Bolton, Moretown, Stowe, Waitsfield, Warren, Waterbury

District 3 Cabot, East Montpelier, Marshfield, Plainfield, Walden, Woodbury, Worcester

District 5 Groton, Peacham, Ryegate, Topsham

District 6 Barre City, Barre Town, Chelsea

I. Meeting to order – 19:01

II. Roll Call by Town (P=Present, Blank=Not Present,)

Barre City	P	Groton	P	Plainfield		Washington	
Barre Town	P	Marshfield		Roxbury	P	Walden	
Berlin	P	Middlesex	P	Ryegate		Waterbury	P
Bolton		Montpelier	P	Stowe		Williamstown	
Cabot	P	Moretown	P	Topsham		Woodbury	P
Chelsea		Northfield		Waitsfield	P	Worcester	p
E. Montpelier	P	Peacham		Warren	P		

III. Addition or deletions to the agenda NONE

a. While working through some technical difficulties some announcements were shared

i. A presentation on HAAS is scheduled for the May meeting.

ii. Warned the Annual meeting for May

1. The Nomination Committee will be K. Cushman, D. Libby and G. Dillon

IV. Public comments- NONE

V. Introduction of Guest speaker –

Reggie Beliveau Jr, Reginald.Beliveau@vermont.gov Asst. Fire Marshal, Public Education

Reggie provided a 20-minute presentation on what the Division of Fire Safety has for training programs for public education and community risk reduction programs. Reach out to Reggie if you would like to schedule more in-depth training for your department. Visit the Division of Fire Safety Public Education and Community Risk Reduction Section at <https://firesafety.vermont.gov/pubed>

VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes for 01/15/2025 –

Motion to approve the January minutes by S. Pratt and 2nd by P. Cerutti,

Discussion – J Staab brought to the group that the discussion with C. McCool from dispatch on the topic of switching from stack tones to an all tone was not reflected in the January minutes. G. Dillon requested for the all tone segmented to be added to the March minutes.

D. Libby made note that Samuel Dillner's email was incorrect. J. Staab acknowledged the changes and would correct them in the January minutes as well as adding them to the March minutes.

(Edits for the January 15th meeting added to the Wednesday, March 19th minutes – C. McCool share the discussion from an After-Action Review, the use of an “All Tone” instead of Stack Tones. This would free up airtime. S. Bagg added how that would work using a single Dispatching Agency and that it would be a strong recommendation to move in that direction. C. McCool discussed the need for a MOU between Departments to move forward. J. Aldsworth believes it could be accomplished with a single MOU with CFMA. There was a motion for CFMAS to enter into an agreement (MOU) with the two Dispatching Agencies for the use of an “ALL Tone”, by G. Dillon and 2nd by J. Cambell. Discussion continued with clarification on how one Dispatch Agency would dispatch all the departments on a particular run card and not two Dispatch agencies competing for air-time. The attending body voted to approve the motion.)

(Additional Edits for the January 15th meeting to added to the Wednesday, March 19th minutes – Dillner, Samuel <Samuel.Dillner@vermont.gov>)

The attending body voted to approve the minutes with edits.

VII. Approval of Treasurer report –

S. Bagg presented the March budget report, as well as an update to the audit. **Motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as presented by Cabot, 2nd by Montpelier. With no discussion the motion passed**

VIII. Old Business

a. Update / discussion on Communication Project / Funding

P. Cerutti discussed the proposal of consolidating several dispatch centers. This would include Barre and Montpelier through the Northeast Kingdom to Lamoille is the workplan. The Communication Committee met on the subject, and it is the Committees recommendation is for the CFMAS President to send a letter

stating that CFMAS is not in favor of the consolidation of the dispatch centers as recommendation. **Motion was made to have the President to send a letter stating that CFMAS was not in favor of the consolidation of dispatch centers as recommended in the report by P. Cerutti, 2nd by J. Cambell.** There was further discussion. For clarification, this would create five regional dispatch centers. **The attending body voted to approve the motion to send the letter.**

J Aldsworth shared that Motorola will be coming in to come in to perform site visits of tower sites. Motorola's work will be rolled into the project cost. We will be moving forward licensing Randolph tower. Currently working on three sets of funding. J Aldsworth will be updating the commissioner with the progress on the project.

b. Accountability SOG –

K. Cushman presented on the Accountability SOG back in January with only one question for clarification. **The motion was made by P. Cerutti to accept CFMAS working group's recommendation on Accountability SOG. 2nd by J. Quinn.** Discussed the need for department training on the SOG, as well as the use of chief officers of neighboring departments to fill roles such as accountability and safety officer roles. J. Cambell discussed the purchase of accountability tags and boards. It was suggested that CFMA make the initial purchase. **The motion to accept CFMAS working group's recommendation on Accountability SOG was voted on and accepted by the attending body.** The second **motion was for CFMAS to make the initial purchase of tags with one-sided, three lines for \$15 per tag, if funds are available was made by P. Cerutti, 2nd by W. Knott.** After some discussion **the motion for CFMAS to make the initial purchase of tags with one-sided, three lines for \$15 per tag, if funds are available, to go into effect June 1st, 2025, was voted on and accepted by the attending body.**

IX. New Business

- a. C. McCool asked if there were any concerns that need to be brought forward. It was mentioned there seemed to be a lot of skip in transmissions. Carrie was aware of it and will be working towards resolving the issue.
- b. W. Knott mentioned the Twin State fire school coming up.

X. Reports

- a. Committee reports
 - i. Training –

W. Knott spoke on the Wildland course

Cadet Academy school

Skip spoke on the meet-n-greet the legislators.

VT Fire Academy upcoming Courses, <https://firesafety.vermont.gov/calendar>

XI. Good of the Order

- a. CFMA Annual Meeting / Elections, Wednesday, May 21 at Alumni Hall.
- b. Accountability boards can be purchased through J. Cambell

XII. Adjournment

The motion was made to adjourn by Cabot, 2nd by Moretown. The motion was voted on and approved by the attending body to adjourn at 20:13.