

## Consolidation Meeting Notes

October 19, 2006

Notes from Officers meeting October 18, 2006

Members present:

Mike Oakes	Dan Huff	Mike Hansen	Mike DeRousie
Ken Dubuc	Gary Velie	Rob Gunn	Sharon Cordery
Keith Bogues	Freda Tallmadge	Jamie Mason	Tom Mitchell
Allen Hunt			

Basically, the idea is to consider the consolidation of the District and the City as a merge that will create one big volunteer department with three stations. The primary purpose of this meeting was to agree upon a mechanism for volunteer personnel response following consolidation.

This is the mechanism that was agreed upon:

Volunteer personnel will be assigned to one of three stations – east, west or central. Volunteers will respond to calls that originate within the response area of the station they are assigned to. In the case that additional personnel are required for a call, then the next closest station will be toned. If even more personnel are required, then all three stations can be toned.

For calls that require a volunteer response originating in the response area of the central station, the incident commander will have the option to tone either the east or west station for additional resources – depending upon the location of the incident.

Current personnel (hired prior to the implementation of this agreement) assigned to any of the three stations will have the option to have tones in their pager for the adjacent station. These personnel will have the option to monitor calls from that adjacent station and then respond in the case that there is a limited response from the primary personnel assigned to that station. Personnel assigned to the central station will have the option to have either east or west station tones in their pager. In most case this would be dictated by geography. Future volunteer personnel will be required to carry both their primary station and the adjacent station tones.

Officers and Volunteer Paramedics would have the option to have all tones. An officer monitoring calls would have the option to have dispatch tone out additional stations if there is limited initial response to a call or if additional resources are needed for any call.

Example 1:

A volunteer assigned to the east station may opt to have tones for the central station. If the central station is toned, that volunteer can monitor the call. If, after several minutes

pass, the volunteer recognizes that there has been no response to that call, the volunteer can come up on the radio and respond.

#### Example 2:

A volunteer assigned to the central station has opted to have west station tones in the pager. A call originates from the west station area and the west station is toned. If that volunteer from the central station recognizes that after several minutes only one west station responder has acknowledged the call, that central volunteer can come up on the radio and respond.

#### Example 3:

An eastside or chief officer has all tones in their pager. A call originates from the east area. After several minutes, there is no response. That officer can contact dispatch and request that the central station be toned. If there is still only a limited response, that officer can then contact dispatch and have the west station toned.

#### Example 4:

Port Angeles career firefighters respond to a garage fire. They require additional manpower. They would contact dispatch and tone the central station for volunteer response. If they need additional manpower after that, they contact dispatch and request that either east or west stations be toned – depending upon the location of the fire.

It was emphasized that this consolidation is a consolidation of volunteer organizations. There would be no change to current response for City of Port Angeles calls. Port Angeles career personnel will not respond to calls from either the east or west station unless specifically requested through the existing mutual aid agreement or in conjunction with the existing automatic aid agreement. Along those same lines, volunteers from either the east, central or west stations will not respond to calls originating in the City of Port Angeles unless specifically requested by a tone-out through dispatch or in conjunction with the existing automatic aid agreement.

There was a discussion about the ability of central station volunteers to man 210 or 220. It was agreed that there would be nothing stopping a central station volunteer from signing up for this duty. There would need to be a logistical solution for how the sign-ups would be accomplished. Response from 210 or 220 would be as stipulated above – they could respond to calls originating in their primary response area or to volunteer calls originating from their “side” of the central station response area.

There was also some discussion about personnel responding across the response area (for example all the way from the west side to the east side for a call). It was agreed that this should be discouraged in most cases. It was also agreed that there should be nothing prohibiting a volunteer from assisting at a call that they happen to be near, as optimum patient care is our

mutual goal. For example, if a volunteer from the west station happens to be at Walmart when a call comes in to the east side, they should feel free to respond. (Again this does not apply to career calls in the City).

The next discussion concerned personnel assignments. It was agreed that at the October 30 combined EMS meeting all personnel would be presented with the above response guidelines. At that time, volunteer personnel who are currently “crossovers” will be told that they have to choose a station for assignment. The crossover personnel will be given until November 13<sup>th</sup> to make their decision. All other personnel will remain assigned to their current stations. Personnel who desire to switch station stations will be allowed to submit a request at any time. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

After January 1, 2007, all new volunteer personnel will be assigned to the station that is closest to their home. In the case that the closest station is fully staffed, (30 at the east and west stations, 24 at the central station) the new member will be assigned to the closest station that is not filled.

We adjourned by giving notice that the next meeting will address training issues. Personnel were told to consider training and come up with ideas and suggestions as to how they would like to see the training aspect organized.

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Mike Oakes

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Ken Dubuc