



Northwest Arkansas Metro Chiefs

Training Officers Association

December 2020 Meeting Minutes

VIA Zoom - Online
0900 Hours on December 9th, 2020

Call to Order

1. President Vanatta called meeting to order at 0903 hours. *Members present include, Bronner, Baggett, Vanatta Jr., Cranford, Lt. Harris, Sloat, Mason, Kuykendall, Lee, Rains, Shane, and members not recorded.*

Old Business:

1. **Approval of the Minutes for November** – Motion to approve the minutes by Baggett, 2nd by Harris, unanimously approved. **PASS.**
2. **CPAT** – Need to add dates for 2021 CPAT testing from orientation to final test. Vanatta emphasized that Siloam does not necessarily pull from the CPAT test directly; they do however allow CPAT certified candidates as “eligible” for hire. Also, it was directed to the larger departments to see when their preference would be to hold the CPAT sessions for this next year. Chief Sloat and Brian inquired about past schedules. Cranford gave the following dates CPAT was held in 2020 as a potential framework for 2021.
 - **2020 CPAT Spring dates:** March 21st orientation, April 11th, May 9th, May 30th final test.
 - **2020 CPAT Fall dates:** September 12th orientation, October 3rd, October 31st, November 21st final test.
3. **Visit to Camden to Meet with Director Nix** – Tabled for future agenda.
4. **Academy and Upcoming Training Schedule for 2021** – Looking at a potentially large Spring Academy with the larger departments hiring and NWACC group.
 - EMR is required prior to Fire Academy attendance. Kuykendall is doing an EMR course the week of March 8th to ready your candidates.
 - Spring Academy Schedule and Location – EMT at NWACC ends March 5th. Looking to start the 10-week Spring Academy (includes the pre-req week) on March 29th with an end date of June 4th. The plan will be to continue “splitting” the Academy depending on attending student count.



Northwest Arkansas Metro Chiefs

Training Officers Association

- Fall Academy Schedule and Location – Looking to start Fall Academy the week of August 30th with an end date of November 5th. Splitting may still be a factor and course location may or may not rotate.
- GENERAL TRAINING AND CERT COURSES – Departments will continue to have isolated programs requiring the upkeep of all COVID requirements and precautions until further notice. Departments holding course that open up for attendance are limited and on a case by case basis. Contact those departments and their training divisions for any specifics.

New Business:

1. **AFTA Courses** – No representatives available. Working out needs for the region currently. Due to COVID-19, we will have to keep courses isolated and less than 10 per class. Departments brought about the continued need for ICS 300, 400, Officer II, and Instructor II.
2. **ADEM and New Contacts** – For haz-mat courses and chem courses and new contact over ICS 300 & 400. Chris Foreman is still the supervisor of both contacts below:
 - Haz-Mat and Chem. Courses - Mark McEntire, 501-683-6752 office, 501-258-2147 cell.
 - ICS 300-400 Courses – John Minard, 501-683-6755 office, 501-319-3786 cell. John.minard@adem.arkansas.gov .
3. **NWA Training Officers' Association Challenge Coin** – Pricing obtained by Discount-Challenge Coins for a total of \$671 (\$5.21 per coin) for 100 coins. Breakdown is for 2” 3mm thick coins, Mold fee of \$150, color on 2 sides, free artwork, free shipping, individually packaged. The price for 300 coins would bring the mold fee to \$0, the cost would be \$1,515 (\$5.05 per coin). Vanatta to take this proposal to Metro Chiefs' meeting for potential funding.

Discount-challengecoins.com
Quality Custom Challenge Coins at Industry Low Prices
Sales@discount-challengecoins.com • 877-760-0676

Proof - 1
Filed As:
City of Bella Vista Fire
Department #2

ANTIQUITY CLEAR COAT EPOXY
 CUT OCTS DUO TONE METAL
 3D MOLD SEQUENTIAL NUMBERING

7701 C
 423 C
 BLACK C
 POLISHED SILVER
 072 C
 281 C
 724 C
 186 C
 1235 C
 YELLOW C
 WHITE C
 SILVER RICHESSED

Coin Size
2.00"

COIN EDGING
SMOOTH

ALL FINISHERS ARE PATENTED. SMALL DETAILS MAY NOT SHOW AS WELL WHEN PHOTOGRAPHED TO SHOW METALLIC REFLECTION. SOME METAL AREAS MAY APPEAR SLIGHTLY WHITE IN COLOR.



Northwest Arkansas Metro Chiefs

Training Officers Association

4. **MCI and/or WMD or Haz-Mat Multi-Department Training Exercises** – Vanatta brought information back from the Metro Chiefs’ meeting emphasizing the need to get back on track with these types of exercises and on a scheduled, consistent basis. Vanatta proposed quarterly exercises with a rotation of the training designations.
- The first exercise that would fall into this category for this year would be a full-duty exercise with Airport (Baggett confirmed with Airport Training). This exercise is scheduled for March 16th, 2021.
 - Cranford recommended a full schedule for the remaining year and possibly into the year 2022 as the general training calendar should be put out to that as minimum. Also, it was requested for participation of the larger departments to contribute planning and resources to this schedule, and to invite all those who may be interested to assist. These group exercises are one of the PRIMARY reasons the Training Association was developed to provide.

Open Discussion:

GroupMe – Anyone needing to be added to the GroupMe text group, please send your cell phone information to BC Bronner at mbronner@springdalear.gov . If you need to be added to the NWATOA Google Group so that you will receive group email information from the TOA, send your email request to scanford@bellavistaar.gov .

Gravette Fire Department – Lt. Brad Harris ****UPDATE ON CHIEF ORR**** - I'm sure most of you have heard by now but if you haven't, Chief Orr here at Gravette has been diagnosed with Stage 4 Colon Cancer. He started his 6 month journey through chemotherapy this date, and your continued support and prayers are welcome! A big thank you from the Gravette Fire Department for the benefit held last month to all of the community. Lt. Harris is working on getting bank and donation location information to Cranford in order to get out to the group for further assistance. Feel free to reach out and always give some words of encouragement. We are all family!

Gravette is looking at doing in-house Core, Instructor 2, and Officer 2 this year.

Fort Smith – BC Rains – Man vs. Machine course, usually for rookies, but you can partner with them; only ask that overhead costs for materials be shared by those attending. Looking at an Elevator class, they need ICS 300 & 400 like everyone else, and they are trying to get back to “normal”.

Fayetteville – Chief Sloat – IFSAC certification courses being held and COVID concerns seem to be the biggest road block for now. Preparation for the upcoming Fire Academy is on the



Northwest Arkansas Metro Chiefs

Training Officers Association

priority list for now. They confirmed that EMR was required for new recruits to have prior to attending the Fire Academies.

Lowel – DC Baggett – Waiting on their new ladder, and they are trying to get their front-line engine out of the shop.

Bella Vista – Div. Chief Cranford – Need evaluator for an upcoming Captain’s test process on January 20th, 2021 from 0800-1600 hours at our Station #1. Interview, fire simulation, and haz-mat simulation. Contact Cranford at 417-691-0038 if you can help evaluate. Lunch provided.

Siloam Springs – 5 personnel completed the in-house fire academy. Vanatta shared information about his personal experience and interview with Chief Gasaway on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w66UxCVPt7U> .

Motion to Adjourn: 0957 Hours - MOTION by Sloat to adjourn; SECOND by Baggett, PASS.