



# Northwest Arkansas Metro Chiefs

## Training Officers Association

### February 2021 Meeting Minutes

VIA Zoom - Online  
0903 Hours on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

#### Call to Order

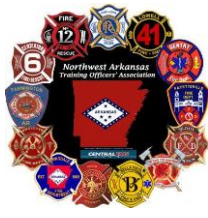
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1. President Vanatta called meeting to order at 0903 hours. *Members present include, Bronner, Baggett, Vanatta Jr., Cranford, Hoyer, Bush, Mason, Kuykendall, Lee, Rains, Wood, Sloat, McEntire, Minard and members not recorded.*

#### Old Business:

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1. **Approval of the Minutes for January 2021 – Motion to approve the minutes by Bronner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Baggett, unanimously approved. PASS.**
2. **Spring Fire Academy** – This is going to be the largest Fire Academy held to date. AFTA had no problems with the size of the academy.
  - There is a great need of support by NWA instructors to participate in this academy for all of the breakout instruction and supervision needed in order to train this many people.
  - Be sure to get applications and sizes to Rogers Fire by March 1<sup>st</sup>, simply let them know also, if there is a change in personnel status of anyone not attending.
  - Get sizing information in by March 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a checklist form sent out like in years past.
3. **ADEM** – By Mark McEntire (Ret. Conway, AR Fire Dept.), 501-683-6752 office, 501-258-2147 cell.
  - Haz-Mat and Chem. Courses
    - i. Spring Dates
      1. Air Monitoring Basic/Advanced Class – March 29<sup>th</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021
      2. Haz-Mat Tech – April 26<sup>th</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021
      3. Chemistry Class – May 24<sup>th</sup> through May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021



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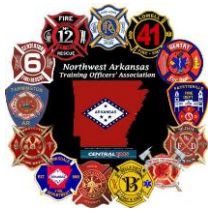
## Training Officers Association

### ii. Fall Dates

1. Air Monitoring Class – August 31<sup>st</sup> through September 3<sup>rd</sup>
  2. Haz-Mat Tech - TBD
  3. Chemistry Class – September 6 through September 10<sup>th</sup>
- **There is a definite need for more classes**, but the issues are in pre-requisite requirements, waiting for test results from AFTA, and new venues for classes to be held in the NWA region, as well as the dividing up among departments as to what members will be allowed for the limited seats. Chief Vanatta as President of the TOA agreed to help coordinate scheduling for the NWA region. McEntire asked that this coordination be done in a timely manner to solidify course dates, times, locations and schedules.
  - ICS 300-400 Courses
    - i. **Upcoming ICS 300 & 400 Courses** - to be held in this region at the Drake Field Terminal in Fayetteville, AR on September 20-24<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
4. **AFTA Staff “Box”** – Vanatta is sending down a gift box for the staff at AFTA.
  5. **NWA Training Officers’ Association Challenge Coin Update by S. Cranford** – The Metro Chiefs’ seem to like the new design, logos in process of being updated, waiting on final draft. Cranford will get email with pricing to Criner this date of 2/10/2021 to present to the NWA Chiefs at the 2/18/2021 meeting. Chief Vanatta said he would represent the Training group on the coins also.
3. **MCI and/or WMD or Haz-Mat Multi-Department Training Exercises Update:**
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Exercise - First full-scale exercise with Airport March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Exercise - Chief Hellard advised in January meeting that Farmington to pick up the next quarter’s exercise; maybe in a TABLETOP format for the scenario of an “Active Shooter/MCI Drill”. The date set aside for this is set for June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarter exercises – Need venue locations and ideas to be submitted as soon as possible.

**New Business:**

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### 1. Training in the Region:

- Heavy Rescue Extrication – TBD and held by Springdale Fire Department.
- Man vs. Machine by Redline, Brian Johnson – TBD and held by Springdale Fire Department.
- Man vs. Machine by Redline – Fort Smith Fire Department on three separate dates. This is a one-day course held on October 6<sup>th</sup>, October 7<sup>th</sup>, and October 8<sup>th</sup>. Seat are limited.
- Driver/Operator Pumper/Aerial course IFSAC – To be held at Fort Smith, dates and times TBD.

### Open Discussion & Roundtable:

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**Bella Vista** – Waiting on land purchase to finalize so training project can move ahead. Station 3 build is held up by ADEQ permit for wash bay drainage plan to be approved; possibly 8-10 weeks out.

**Centerton** – Passed bond for training facility. Opening Sta 2 soon.

**Fort Smith** – Finishing up EMT class this month with 17 new hires.

**Springdale** – In transition of moving to new training center, hoping to open early March or at least by the 8<sup>th</sup> before all of the new hires arrive.

**Benton County** – Trying to fill open slots and working on a “Return to Duty” packet or process to quickly re-orient personnel back to day-to-day operations. Chief Sloat asked if any departments had any policies or procedures to help with this topic.

**CEMS** – Working hard on licensure “renewals” this month as the AR Dept. of EMS will more than likely be limited in personnel due to being assigned to the ramping up of COVID-19 vaccination administration. The Governor’s Council Meeting for EMS for Children and the Safe Seat program by Chris Grinder may yield available funding if your department is seeking funding in this area.

**Rogers** – Gearing up for the Spring Fire Academy, Chief Cliff Thompson is now in charge of training, and is working with a great team.

**Motion to Adjourn:** 1017 Hours - MOTION by Vanatta Jr. to adjourn; SECOND by Baggett, PASS.



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**GroupMe** – Anyone needing to be added to the GroupMe text group, please send your cell phone information to BC Bronner at [mbronner@springdalear.gov](mailto: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 [scranford@bellavistaar.gov](mailto:scranford@bellavistaar.gov) .