

SCSORT Executive Board Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2023

Board Members:

Tommy Smoot
Steve Leslie
Brett Reinbolt
Joe Shumaker
Dennis Ragins

Staff/Guests:

Paul Amonett
Judy Kelly
Lisa Horba
Chris Bickett (Z)
Richard Smith
Tim Gemind

Board Members Absent:

Z= Zoom

Chief Reinbolt called to order this meeting of the Summit County Special Operations Response Team (SCSORT) Executive Board on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 10:00 am in the Summit County EMA Conference Room.

- **Approval of minutes – July 11, 2023**

Chief Leslie motioned to approve the July 11, 2023, minutes, with Dennis Ragins as the second. The motion was approved by voice vote.

- **Chairperson's Comments/Correspondence**

Chief Reinbolt reviewed and spoke on the correspondence.

- No electronic votes
- Chief Leslie made a motion to accept applications of Matthew Schneider (IMAT), Collin Edwards (TROT), and Nicholas Nicholson (HAZMAT), with Dennis Ragins as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
- Chief Leslie made a motion to approve the removal of Lori Pesci (IMAT), Capt. Micozzi (IMAT), with Dennis Ragins as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
- Chief Leslie made a motion to approve the removal of Andy Hopkins as TROT Zone Coordinator and replacing with Lt. Cal Davis as TROT Zone Coordinator, the removal of Lt. Don Burroughs as Water Zone Coordinator and replacing with Firemedic Richard Huggins, with Dennis Ragins as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.

- **SORT DISPATCH**

Lisa Horba stated one call for the porch collapse in Tallmadge; the only issue was the responding units were not all utilizing the MERC call.

- **BRANCH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- **HAZMAT**

- Report submitted
- No July training
- Ohio Department of Health will provide a monthly radiation training
- Meeting with Tim, Angela, and Dennis Basch to transition the writing of the hazardous materials branch grants from Steve Groves

- **WATER**

- Report submitted.
- The team will host a county dive on Sept. 7,8 9 South Zone coordinating. October 5-7 is another county dive - 986 Monroe will be a night dive.
- Three team members are attending the Gilboa dive class
- Akron Sonar Class on September 20 & 21 (42 students)
- Need a transition team – certification classes will need to be taken; Lt. Bickett asked the Board for help with the certification costs and will prepare a list of needs and forward it to Tim.
- The team needs two harnesses for body recovery missions; Richard Smith will give them a couple of harnesses from TROT.

- **TROT**

- This month, we will host a safety training in Hudson with Davey Tree on rescuing people from trees.
- Waiting on approval from State on HERSS class
- Received the Paratech equipment order
- Flyers went out for the Portage County structural ops tech series
- Discussed the Rope 2 class in Macedonia
- Green is hosting Confined Space in October 2023
- New tires are in for the rescue trucks and will be installed soon.

- **IMAT**

- Report submitted
- Hotwash on the missing resident in New Franklin
- Donation of printer/monitor

- **REGION V**

Richard Smith stated the QR codes went out for the Portage County structural ops techs series. They will evaluate who attends classes from now on. They have been working with Summit County Law Department on the MOU and the appendix for deployments. The SORT Board needs to adopt Appendix F for the Region deployments. Richard will draft something for the Board to approve to go out with the MOU. The group briefly discussed the leadership transition for the Region V Advisory Board.

- **SPECIAL TEAMS PLANNER**

Tim Gemind discussed the purchase sheet. Tim is still looking to replace the three new portable batteries for water. Tim stated we would also need to update the portable radio chargers; Chief Leslie suggested using pipeline funds to make this purchase.

The budget was sent out with expenses to date. The pipeline funds radio chargebacks have been transferred to SORT.

Tim is discussing preventative maintenance with the County Engineer's Office for TROT portable generators and chainsaws.

The HazMat team will participate in a Sept 20-22 Functional exercise at Firestone Polymer and will be graded by the SERC.

The group discussed the HERS class for next May; The FY22 SHSP funds are under a federal hold, and we are waiting on State approval to move forward.

Twinsburg Fire borrowed TROT ATV and had issues; Hudson tried troubleshooting, and Tim instructed them to State 8 for further inspection and evaluation.

- **OLD BUSINESS**

Tim Gemind stated the team member training hours totals were sent to the respective Branch Directors. Capt. Amonett said he passed it out to his personnel and noted some of the hours did not look correct; they will continue further discussions at the branch level.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

The group discussed whether there is a policy on retaining SORT team members after retirement instead of being affiliated with a local fire department. The group discussed keeping team members because of the value and knowledge they could provide. Before moving forward, we must ask the law department for a legal opinion.

- **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The group discussed providing a county award for Lt. Don Burroughs for his years of service with SCSORT.

- **NEXT MEETING**

September 12, 2023, @ 10 am in the EMA Conference Room.

- **MEETING ADJOURNED**

Tommy Smoot made a motion to adjourn with Chief Leslie as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.