

**DOWNRIVER MUTUAL AID
REGULAR MEETING – March 7, 2024**

Item #4 (P. 1 of 3)

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|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| <u>Present:</u> | Allen Park | Mayor Gail McLeod |
| | Brownstown Twp. | Supervisor Edward Smith |
| | Dearborn | |
| | Ecorse | Mayor Pro-Tem LaTonya Lamb |
| | Flat Rock | Mayor Steven Beller (??? Larry Dichane) |
| | Gibraltar | Mayor Garrett Shumate |
| | Grosse Ile Twp. | Supervisor Jim Budny |
| | Huron Twp. | Supervisor David A. Glaab |
| | Lincoln Park | |
| | Melvindale | |
| | River Rouge | Karl Laub, Community Development Director |
| | Riverview | Mayor Andy Swift |
| | Rockwood | Mayor Troy Cox |
| | Southgate | Mayor Joseph Kuspa |
| | Taylor | Mayor Tim Woolley |
| | Trenton | Mayor Steven Rzeppa |
| | Woodhaven | Councilwoman Jan Sikes |
| | Wyandotte | Mayor Rob DeSana |

Others Present: Chief Jeff Drouillard, Fire Chair; and Chief Jeff Watson, Police Chair

The meeting was opened by the Board Treasurer, Mayor Andy Swift, at 6:06 p.m., followed by roll call and introductions.

Agenda: Motion by Mayor McLeod, supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Lamb, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Supervisor Budny, supported by Supervisor Smith, to approve the minutes of 2/1/24 as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Downriver Mutual Aid Reports:

Police Team Report: Chief Jeff Watson reported.

- The DMA Police Chiefs meeting was held on 03/06/24 in Wyandotte.
- The DMA 911/Radio System refresh RFP process is on-going and the participating vendors should have proposals in by the end of March. Motorola is conducting maintenance at the tower sights, testing, and realigning antennas.
- Dispatch consolidation is going well with Trenton and Brownstown. Been meeting every few weeks to monitor the progress and make adjustments as needed.
- The Chiefs approved half of the payment on two DMA Dive Team invoices to Sea the World Scuba Center for equipment, totaling 50% of \$5,694.60, Fire approved the other 50%
- Training:
 - Scheduled combined Police and Fire High Risk Unified Incident Command meeting in Brownstown on March 19th and is open to Police and Fire personnel from DMA.
 - A second Police and Fire Rescue Task Force Training is scheduled for the end of June at Patrick Henry Middle School; this is open to DMA Police and Fire personnel.
- SWAT/CNT Team Activity:
 - Callouts for February/March
 - Four Narcotics Search Warrants: in Detroit on a Downriver case; in Warren on a Downriver case; in Southgate; and in Taylor.
 - Barricaded subject in River Rouge and Lincoln Park.

- The DMA Crash team responded to the following incidents throughout the DMA area:
 - Three Callouts for February to Flat Rock, Southgate, and Taylor
- DMA Major Crimes Task Force:
 - No activations.
 - Had joint DMA Detectives' meeting to network and had presentations from Homeland Security and FBI on Human Trafficking and Dark Web Investigations.

Comments:

- 1) Councilwoman Jan Sikes from Woodhaven
 - a. Said she is working with her elected officials to join the consolidated dispatch.
 - b. Asked about the location of future DCC/DMA building and inquired where DMA equipment will be stored for easy access for emergencies. Discussion followed.
 - c. Thanked both chiefs Watson and Drouillard for all their support.
 - d. Expressed concern about communication/updates provided to the board about DCC/DMA operations.
- 2) Jazmine Danci said she is working on funding applications to help support the DMA efforts.

Motion by Mayor Kuspa, supported by Councilwoman Sikes, to accept the Police Chief's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Chief Report: Chief Jeff Drouillard, Fire Chair, reported.

- 1) The Drone project is progressing. The team is completing the policies and procedures and will be scheduling flight time within the next few weeks to prepare to go active with the program and be available for service requests.
- 2) DERT TEAM (Haz-Mat Team) (23)
 - No Call outs
 - On- going training
- 3) FITF TEAM (Fire Investigation Team) (34)
 - Call out Ecorse House Fire
 - On-going training
- 4) DIVE TEAM (Dive Team) (13)
 - No Call outs
 - Continuing monthly Training
- 5) LOGISTICS TEAM (16)
 - Continued training on the DRONE
- 6) HEMS (Medical Control Authority Western & Downriver)
 - Measles Outbreak

Motion by Mayor Swift, supported by Supervisor Smith, to accept the Fire Chief's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Kuspa commended the mutual aid Fire services who responded to the large senior apartment fire in Southgate. He thanked everyone for this DMA effort!

New Business:

Community Project for First Responders: Lisa Kurtzhals, COO, reported

As we have often heard in our meetings the struggle encountered in recruiting, training, and retaining personnel in critical occupations, DCC applied for and was recently awarded a federal Community Project demonstration grant with the assistance of Congresswoman Dingell to promote and support First Responder, Critical Occupation and Municipal Service careers.

- The grant provides funds for training new candidates, upskilling existing employees, and assisting in filling vacancies within our communities with a focus on Police, Fire, EMT, Paramedic, DPW and municipal occupations.
- We will have a Community Liaison to connect with the staff communities designate to identify hiring and training needs that can be supported by this grant.
- Through the grant we can pay for training and training related material costs, professional certifications/licensing, supportive services and work-based training.
- We are in the early start-up phase of the project and will keep Board members updated as we have more detail on staff contact information and process.
- In the meantime, if anyone has any questions, please contact Lisa Kurtzhals.

The board members thanked Lisa for the update.

Information Items:

- 1) Bryan McMurrin with Senator Gary Peters' office:
 - a) Reminded everyone about the deadline for submitting Congressionally Directed Projects is March 12th. If there are any questions, please reach out to Bryan.
 - b) In 2019, Senator Peters passed a low-interest loan for communities to apply for hazard mitigation – maximum loan is \$5 million dollars at 1% interest for flooding.
- 2) Mayor Joseph Kuspa further commented on Councilwoman Sikes concerns expressed about information provided at the meetings. He said DCC staff does a lot of work behind the scenes working collaboratively on many efforts. Chair Glaab also added that the staff have a lot of things happening behind the scenes independently of the full board. Councilwoman Sikes said she would like to hear updates at the board meetings in the future.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2nd, 2024, at 6pm. (The meeting was then later moved to May 9th.)

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.