

West Dover Fire Department  
Officer's Meeting  
April 8, 2013

Officers Present: Rich Werner, Gary Carruthers, Mickey Kersten, John Snow

Also Present: Jeannette Eckert, recording secretary, Walter Clark, Dave Moulton, Brian Heon & Jason Perlmutter from Mount Snow, Drew Hazleton from Rescue, Inc., Glen & Joe from Quaker Safety

The meeting was called to order at 5:10pm

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

- Decisions need to be made for this event
- Association meeting this Wed—will have a better idea of how much money is available for prizes/ trophies etc
- Having photographs of Fred's truck framed to present

**Training: Drew Hazleton from Rescue, Inc**

(Information from website) Technical rescue refers to those specialized protocols put into use for emergencies requiring complex interventions in order to access, stabilize, and extricate a patient. These emergencies often involve patients who are far from any nearby roads, on a mountain, in moving and/or very cold water, or otherwise compromised due to elements of weather or access.

Rescue's Technical Rescue Team (TRT) was established for the purpose of elevating the level of care immediately available to our community in the event of such an emergency. Our TRT is currently comprised of 14 Rescue EMT's and includes Basic, Intermediate, and Paramedic level providers. Our team is on 24/7 standby and is activated whenever patient access at an incident may require specialized protocols.

Rescue's TRT is certified at the national level for High Angle, Low Angle, Vehicle Extrication, Cold Water, and Swift Water protocols.

Throughout the year Rescue Inc. hosts classes in technical rescue skills and procedures, and community members are encouraged to participate.

Drew Hazleton presented on Swift Water Rescue:

- Technical Rescue Team for 10 years—certified in ropes
  - 14-15 rescue swimmers and ropers
- After Irene, after action determined it was time to start spreading out and bring in more people
- Partnering with other depts. :Brattleboro, Jamaica, Putney, Grafton
- Focus for the past 18 months is to develop a more regional response to events

Rich:

- Had the Ladder truck since 1998; at one time had a guy interested in ropes, repelling etc but he is no longer here
- Hired Billy Shea from Nashua NH—does monthly trainings
- Spent money & time on ropes training—low angle type stuff
- Purchased equipment: made a first step, know enough about what you are talking about, perhaps do a training over our way, enjoyed hands- on training & follow up exercises
- Usually train on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month
- Request to take the next step with a training here
- Ladder truck is an asset as an anchor point

Drew:

- Really pushing to try to build that up
- These events take far more staff than any one dept. has available
- Majority of calls—low angle slope rescue & carry outs
  - 15-20 calls per year
- No other Swift Water teams in Vermont
  - Provide mutual aid all the way up to Colchester
- EMT is not a requirement
  - Up until 2 years it was required to be EMT to ride on ambulance
- To what extent can you handle a patient without being an EMT?
  - In VT & NH if a person is lost or injured on a major water way or wilderness it falls under Fish & Game jurisdiction
  - Legislation is in the works in VT to establish the State Police as the medical authority
- Where does Good Samaritan law come in?
  - All have entry level training in packaging
  - Water rescue—not a patient until they are safely out of the water
  - Always travel with an ambulance
  - Tow our trailer with ambulance
- Separate back country rescue & forward country rescue
  - Medical protocol for each type of rescue
- Instructed to do what is best for the patient
- Water, wilderness, rope rescue—different levels needed, swimmers, rope rescue, boat team
- Shore support only
- What area would we cover if we set up a rope team here? If activated, all in the team would be called, bring all groups together
- During Irene—WDFD was strapped with the members we had; after action reports; build satellites with base capabilities
- All swift water teams get together quarterly and go over calls, training, equipment
- Water rescue in VT was a disaster after the storm; weren't as prepared as we thought we were; strategy discussed at length; boat team layout—each given a geographic area
- Offering something new to members and build partnerships, not take members away
- So Vt Technical Rescue—would like its own tone

May 15<sup>th</sup> plan on 6:30—location to be determined; Mickey will be the contact person

April 22 meeting –Dale, Radio training

### **Equipment:**

Walter Clark gave a presentation on Gas Meters

- Four Gas Meter
- Available in a miniature probe style
- New sensors and microchips that MSA has developed over the years
  - LEL, Carbon Dioxide, Oxygen level, Hydrogen Sulfide
  - Gases can be changed depending on what is needed
- Not really made for confined space, fireman designed
- Sensors and batteries carry a 3 year warranty
- Oxygen sensor usually lasts 4 years
- Can change the sensor in house
- Turn around time is immediate—a replacement can be brought to the station
- CO Pro—can be calibrated and change battery to get more than 2 years out of it—just a single gas--\$435.00; smaller one is \$235.00
  - One that Rich has cost \$150.00—still working after 7 years
  - Rechargeable battery—can be done in house
  - Instruction class available

Left business cards & quotes—will discuss after review with other companies

Glenn & Joe- Representatives from Quaker Safety gave presentation on Gear bids with sample garments

- Joe is factory rep for Quaker Safety in PA
- Harness is being eliminated
- Adjustable sizes for out growth—can adjust the pants but not the coats- sleeves yes
- 10 year cycle on gear—price is held for a year
- Will revise quote and get back to us

Next meeting will meet with another gear company

Bids for Tanker refurbish: Awarded to Dingee

### **Liquor License/Fire Inspections:**

Reviewed fire inspection sheets for the violations

### **SOG's**

Discussed SOG's-

- Decided to table RIT at this time- possibly rename it to firefighter rescue- etc.
- CO2 response was approved as submitted
- Vehicle Operations was tabled- Mickey still does not like that there is no maximum speed over the speed limit-even though the insurance company recommended it be that way

**Other Business:**

Tough Mudder: August 10 & 11

- Fire? Need to contact Tim Dolan
- Water rescue: need to finalize details
  - Amphibious Rescue

Email from Zoning Administrator Dave Cerchio:

- Resident is landing helicopter at Snow Vidda on his own property
- Any concerns from a firefighting perspective if it crashed?

Discussion about Landing Zones with Mt Snow employees: Dave, Brian and Jason

- Brian spoke with Albany and Dartmouth pilots—if they don't have an LZ, they circle until they get the coordinates for LZ and then they land
- Designate Pump House parking lot as default landing zone and they were good with that
- Don't have to deal with traffic, just on Snow Lake Rd
- Ambulance crew did not like it, pilots ok with it
- Heard that dusty roads need to be wet down
  - Debris during take off
- Airport is the best spot, if it gets up and running
- Go through Keene mutual aid
- Set of criteria for District 12
- WDFD will come if you call us, will be toned out from Keene
- Can see the need for a radio—have communication with flight when it comes in
- 2 Tough Mudder injuries were flown out last year
- Get something in writing from DV Rescue about what they want
- Landing a helicopter on the road is illegal

Air pac physicals- Health Center is supposed to get back to me- -

John Snow brought up taking Rob off of probation and giving him a red light permit- Gary moved and Mickey seconded and all voted in favor-

John Snow brought up the Chiefs show June 21-23; – and that he will be out of Town on Saturday

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm

**Next meeting April 22 at 5pm**

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Eckert