



*"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."*

**APPLETON FIRE DEPARTMENT  
700 N. DREW STREET  
APPLETON, WI 54911**

## MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Timothy Hanna  
Kyle Lobner, Chair - Safety & Licensing Committee  
& Common Council

From: Darrel Baker, Deputy Chief/Interim Fire Chief

Date: June 07, 2018

Re: Temporary Discontinuance of Automatic Aid with Neenah-Menasha Fire & Rescue

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The City of Appleton and Neenah-Menasha Fire and Rescue have been participating in an automatic aid agreement since early 2011 for emergency medical services and structure fires. The departments have been providing the citizens of Appleton and Neenah-Menasha a seamless strategy to emergency response that has helped reduce response times and provide quality service to our taxpayers without increasing costs. In addition, the department continues to participate in automatic aid with Grand Chute Fire Department for structure fires.

As you know, both Outagamie County and Winnebago County will be transitioning to a new computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system in the coming months. The new systems will have a 'CAD to CAD' interface allowing them to work together to continue the automatic aid dispatch based on both global positioning systems (GPS) and automatic vehicle location (AVL). Outagamie County is currently planning a 'go live' date of Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> for their new CAD system. Unfortunately, Winnebago County has established their 'go live' date for later in August. During this timeframe, the CAD systems will be unable to communicate with one another; thus, making automatic aid impossible with Neenah-Menasha Fire and Rescue. The automatic aid responses between the City of Appleton and the Town of Grand Chute will not be affected.

The chief officers of both departments have discussed this issue and agreed that the framework is in place to request mutual aid should the need arise. The temporary discontinuance of automatic aid is unfortunate; however, it was difficult to avoid when transitioning an entire CAD system for two different agencies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (920) 832-5810. Thank you!