



Fauquier County Fire Rescue System

30 John Marshall Street
Warrenton, Virginia 20186
Phone (540) 422-8800 Fax (540) 422-8813
<http://www.fauquierfirerescue.org>

*Kalvyn Smith, System Fire Chief
John Kane, Chair
Dale Kidwell, Co-Chair*

FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Thursday June 6, 2024
Warren Green Building
2nd Floor Conference Room
7:00 pm**

The Fire Operations Committee met on June 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Committee members present at the meeting were: Fire Rescue Systems Chief Kalvyn Smith, Chairperson Chief John Kane, Co-Chairperson Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell, Company 1 Assistant Fire Chief Scott Ross, Company 2 Assistant Fire Chief Rod Frazier, Company 3 Fire Chief Buddy Lane, Company 4 Fire Chief Billy Boylan, Company 7 Fire Chief Jeremy Moore, Company 8 Fire Chief John Woodburn III, Company 11 Fire Chief Johnny Kearns, Company 13 Fire Chief Bo Weeks, Company 19 Deputy Chief Chris Saykaly, Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator Bobby Tarr, and Communications Director Joell Kight.

Staff members present at the meeting was: Administrative Specialist Heather Kidd.

I. Call to Order

Committee Co-Chairperson Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Chief Lane made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Chief Jeremy Moore and unanimously approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes

Chief Kearns made a motion to approve the May 2, 2024 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Chief Jeremy Moore and unanimously approved.

IV. Agenda Items

a) Communications Report – Communications Director Joell Kight announced that the communications division recently welcomed three new lateral hires from Culpeper, along with an additional new employee, bringing the total number of new communications' division staff to four. Joell expressed her appreciation for Technician Peterson and his assistance with chuck while working on portables. Currently, several portable units have been sent out for repairs. The CAD project RFP closed on May 31, 2024. The committee

will convene soon to evaluate the next steps in the process. The communications committee convened yesterday; however, due to low attendance, future meetings may not be scheduled. No meetings with a formal agenda have been scheduled since January 2024. Co-Chairperson Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell emphasized the importance of patience and awareness among the communications division, especially with many new dispatchers still undergoing training. Fire Chief Kearns of Company 11 mentioned receiving a \$5,000 invoice from Westnet and expressed concern over the increased amount compared to previous invoices. He was advised to contact Trish Jackson for a detailed explanation and breakdown of the invoice.

b) Training Division Updates - The Officer 2 class, which was scheduled to be held in Catlett, was cancelled due to lack of registrants. The current EMT class is scheduled to graduate in August with 16 students, two of whom are from outside the county. An announcement regarding the Fall EMT course was recently distributed system-wide via email. The AEMT course began last week with 11 students, all of whom passed the course pre-test. Unfortunately, the Mayday course was also cancelled due to low enrollment. Registrants were offered the opportunity to join recruit school 24-19 class at New Baltimore Volunteer Fire Department. Additionally, the system-wide ropes class, which began today, includes one volunteer participant.

c) Volunteer Coordinator Report – Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator Bobby Tarr reported that he has recruited 36 new volunteers this year, with an additional 16 in the process. This brings the total of system volunteers to 594. Recruitment post cards were dispersed among the public last Friday, May 31, 2024, at Chick-fil-A. As a result of these recruitment efforts, two new potential volunteers have reached out showing interest in becoming a volunteer for Fauquier County Fire Rescue System.

d) EMS Committee – Chairperson Chief John Kane announced that Battalion Chief Rich Cluff is currently working on EMS affiliations to include the finger printing process. He is creating a draft regarding the finger printing process and will disperse it to all system members once it is complete.

e) Uniform rank oversight group – Fire Rescue Systems Chief Kalvyn Smith formerly spoke with Chairperson Chief John Kane, and at this time, the uniform rank oversight group will consist of Company 3 Fire Chief Lane, representing the northern end of the county, Company 1 Assistant Chief Scott Ross to represent the central portion of the county, and Company 2 Captain Chad Mason representing the southern end. Co-Chairperson Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell will coordinate with Chairperson Chief John Kane to schedule a meeting of the group.

f) Logistics Division Updates – Co-Chairperson Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell reported that new gas meters have started to arrive and that all tango meters are currently in Lieutenant Nugent's possession. The 4 and 5 gas is anticipated to all arrive by July 1, 2024. An email will go out to inform everyone system-wide when they are dispersed, followed up by an email from Captain Woodward, instructing how to use them.

g) System Updates – Fire Rescue Systems Chief Kalvyn Smith updated everyone that the RFP draft for the Lois station renovation was received today, will be reviewed tomorrow, and dispersed the first part of next week. The zoning department portion of the RFP is still a work in progress. The anticipation is to begin the project/construction by the first of August.

h) EMS License – Chairperson Chief John Kane stated that as listed above, Battalion Chief Rich Cluff is finalizing the fingerprinting process.

i) Roundtable – Co-Chairperson Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell stated that he and the VFS insurance representative recently visited three stations throughout the county, and there were no issues. He reminded everyone that the use of the 5-point harnesses on apparatus need to be used as well as securing items in the apparatus. Stryker will not support you in the event of an accident if the harnesses were not being utilized. The insurance representative also stated that he was pleased with the appearance of the stations. The Executive committee met a few weeks ago, and created a spreadsheet regarding placement of sub-committees, following the Chapter 9 layout. Company 3 Fire Chief Lane reported that the new fire truck has arrived at the station, and they hope to have it in service within a month. Company 7 Fire Chief Jeremy Moore brought up the topic of insurance, and it was confirmed that the county’s insurance does cover equipment. The premium for portable equipment is \$500, and apparatus premiums are \$3,500.00. He stated that Stryker came to his station to inspect a stretcher, which was onboard Ambulance 7-1 during an accident. Stryker recertified the load system, however, due to the stretcher being over ten years old, they refused to recertify it. A new stretcher is currently estimated at \$38,000.00. Due to the high cost to replace the stretcher from Ambulance 7-1, the stretcher will remain out of service. He reported that Stryker informed him that they are not required to recertify a stretcher if it is involved in a minor accident, however if it is in a major accident, they do. Catlett will be receiving a red county ambulance in a month, which includes a Styker cot, therefore the station will not be purchasing a replacement stretcher. Chairperson Chief John Kane announced that the EMS committee is scheduled to meet next week. Co-Chairperson Deputy Chief Kidwell then announced that next Wednesday, June 12, 2024, the finance committee will be meeting at Company 1 in the basement training room at 6:30 p.m.

j) Agenda Items for Next Meeting – There were no items to be followed up on at next month’s meeting.

V. Adjournment

Chairperson Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Warren Green Building, 2nd floor conference room.