



## Fauquier County Fire Rescue System

30 John Marshall Street  
Warrenton, VA 20186  
Phone (540) 422-8800 Fax (540) 422-8813  
[www.fauquierfirerescue.org](http://www.fauquierfirerescue.org)

*Chief Scott Ross, WVFC, Chair  
Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell, Co-Chair*

**APPROVED**

### FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

#### **04/03/2025 Minutes**

Present: Committee Chair Chief Scott Ross, WVFR, Co-Chair Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell, FCFR, Chief Rod Frazier, RVFR, Chief Buddy Lane, MVFR, Chief Billy Boylan, TPVFR, Chief Jeremy Moore, CVFR, Chief John Kane, NBVFR, Deputy Chief Chris Saykaly, WTC, System Chief Kalvyn Smith, FCFR, Battalion Chief Fred McEvilly, FCFR, Communications Director Joell Kight, Administrative Specialist Cathy Richards

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chairperson Ross called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

#### **II. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was presented to the committee, and it was unanimously approved.

#### **III. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from the March 13, 2025 meeting were presented to the committee and they were unanimously approved.

#### **IV. Guest/Citizen**

a. EMS Supervisor Captain Sam Miller – Captain Miller came to report on the new paramedic program that will soon be offered through Laurel Ridge Community college. The program should start in the fall and will have a heavy influence from our instructors. The cost will be \$8,500 per person. A registration link will be sent out soon, as the application process is now open. Any questions regarding the program should be directed to Captain Miller.

#### **V. Communications Report**

Co-Chair Kidwell discussed the purchasing of the Motorola radios. They will be purchased in new fiscal year and will be the APX NEXT model, which is the newer version. We will be getting 45% discount. There won't be a phasing in for these replacements, it will happen all at once. Wireless Communications how will be doing the installation. Holsters for the radios are also part of the contract. There was a discussion on lapel mics, however a majority of the committee were against them. Antennas were also discussed as Motorola antennas different from Harris antennas. The committee also discussed the logistics of how we will change out the mounts with as little issues as possible. 1,000 feet of the coax cables will need to be ordered for the project, and they are about \$85 each. WE are currently looking at a mid-to-end of July target installation date.

Chief Kane asked about doing dual brush trucks on red flag days. Communications will add that into their policy. There will also be an IB with this information coming out soon. Also asked about mutual aid calls to our surrounding jurisdictions. When we are overwhelmed, we cannot send units to other counties to help them. It was discussed that the chief officer would use their discretion.

**VI. Volunteer Coordinator Report**

Coordinator Bobby Tarr was not present but passed along to the committee that the Mobile Sign Trailer is currently Out of Service for repair at TSS in Gainesville, VA. There will be a Laurel Ridge Community College Career Event will be on May 1<sup>st</sup> and an email will be sent to station recruiters asking for assistance. We had a good turnout at the KRHS Career Event on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you goes out to Company-10 members for assisting with the event. The yearbook project is moving forward. Please refer to the email that was send out on April 1, 2025, for further details. The deadline for station submissions is Friday, June 6, 2025. Please contact Bobby with any questions. So far with the station membership roster updates, our numbers are as follows: Total A, B, C Members: 519, New members year to date: 15, applicants in process: 14

**VII. Uniform Rank Oversight Group**

The Executive Committee discussed the helmet ID and set a complete by date to April 30<sup>th</sup> for officers to meet uniform rank. After some discussion, it was suggested that the date be moved back to May 30<sup>th</sup> to give people more time to get their qualifications. The committee agreed.

**VIII. Training Division Updates**

Co-chair Kidwell updated the committee on training. April EVOC was cancelled due to low enrollment. The night fire academy finished and 8 passed, along with 9 who passed HazMat Ops. Training will work with Capt. Woodward for retesting of those who did not pass. High School fire program just finished HazMat and only 2 passed, one from Catlett and one from Marshall. Training is currently working on a plan for mediation. Another EVOC class has been scheduled for July. An extrication class at Marshall to coincide with the new Rescue and equipment should be coming in May/June. The class will be open county wide, with rope training shortly thereafter. High School Fire Program was discussed regarding the logistics of continuing it. The schools are supposed to be supporting the program, but they haven't provided any materials to assist. Everything comes from Fire's budget. Co-chair Kidwell has to follow up with three classes over the summer to continue holding his teaching degree so the program can continue.

**IX. Logistics Division Updates**

Co-Chair Kidwell updated the committee regarding logistics. Capt. Latham sent email to eval group with the results from the Airpac information. They will need to get availability dates to convene and decide on vendor. Most of the testing was for Scott as the replacement, with the padded not wire harness. Bump testing meters are not passing when field personnel test them, however, when Lt. Nugent retests, they pass. Logistics will be reaching out to the Chiefs to set up air pack training, which will take about a week to coordinate and test prior to placing them in service.

**X. System Updates**

Chief Smith addressed the committee regarding system updates. Our recruit class is now down to 17. The FY 2026 Budget recently passed with an increase of 3% contribution to the volunteer stations, along with funds to replace the old air compressors, the SCBAs and the Motorola radio replacements. Also in attendance were HR director Kim Brown and Asst. HR director Autumn Hawley, who Chief Smith introduced to the committee.

**XI. Old Business**

a. NOVA Manuals – after discussion and review, the committee decided to adopt the updated NOVA manuals. A motion was made to approve, and Chief Kane seconded. It was unanimously approved.

**XII. New Business**

a. First Due App – information sharing from the incident call notes on the app have become a problem. Chief Ross discussed that as a user, you are required to abide by their software

agreement, along with HIPPA. There was a suggestion to have members review HIPPA, along with the sexual harassment and diversity training, and maybe including more technology into the HIPPA training for the department. There was also discussion regarding blacking out information and turning it off for people who are not active call runners. The committee will look into the best options.

- b. Fauquier County Code of Conduct – Per Chapter 9, FCFRS is required to adopt a code of conduct. At the last Executive Committee, it was approved to adopt the Fauquier County Government’s code of conduct HR policy. The policy was passed out, along with a sheet for signature to acknowledge the code. Chairperson Ross expressed concern regarding following a county HR policy, since HR doesn’t tell companies how to handle situations, only support them. Chief Frazier voiced concern that there isn’t anything regarding volunteers, and if there may be an addendum added. The committee members will review and discuss at next month’s meeting.

**XIII. Company 1 Brief/Discussion**

- a. Chairperson Ross brought up that last month there were two balloon-frame structure fires in Warrenton. Please review balloon-frame with your members. The fire on Old Mill Road did result in injuries and it was discussed at the after-action brief. Also, the company has changed to an improved connect teams application for communication between their members.

**XIV. Company 2 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Nothing to discuss.

**XV. Company 3 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Chief Lane asked to follow up with Co-chair Kidwell following the meeting regarding rope equipment for Marshall.

**XVI. Company 4 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Nothing to discuss.

**XVII. Company 7 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Nothing to discuss.

**XVIII. Company 8 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Not in attendance.

**XIX. Company 10 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Chief Kane informed the committee that they are looking into a new information sharing app. They also found out first due and google docs work well together. He will get the information together to share with the committee.

**XX. Company 11 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Nothing to discuss.

**XXI. Company 13 Briefs/Discussion**

- a. Chief 13 was not in attendance, however co-chair Kidwell did update the committee regarding the construction of the Lois renovation. Ground has broken at the station, and it looks to be about 6-8 months for construction, with an estimated finish date of November.

**XXII. Good Intent Roundtable**

- a. Co-chair Kidwell discussed the first due box maps, and will distribute for every station to review them. He also discussed ISO reporting, please send your information to him ASAP.

- b. There was discussion regarding the renewal of Target Solution. It's a great tool when used effectively, but not many volunteers are using it. Should the county continue to pay for users who aren't utilizing it? Currently, there are 158 volunteer users who are in the system, but only 30 use it regularly. There are 177 career users, including administration. Each station has an administrator. Some of the quality functions and features were discussed and co-chair Kidwell asked the committee to evaluate their station's use and get back to him.
- c. Chairperson Ross discussed ventilation of structures without coordinating with command on the scene of incidents. Chief Smith also commented system members doing their own think without regard to others. It was decided an informational bulletin will go out to address these issues.
- d. IT Fire position is now vacant. County IT personnel and BC Rob Smith will be taking the lead until the new person is hired. New iPads and MDTs in vehicles were discussed. There will probably not be any new mounts soon.

**XXIII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made at 2045 hours. The motion was seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 1st, 2025, at 1900 hours at the Warren Green Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.