



Fauquier County Fire Rescue System

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

APPROVED

FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

05/01/2025 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 Woodburn, GVFR, Chief John Kane, NBVFR, Chief John Kerns, OVFR, Chief Bo Weeks, LVFC, System Chief Kalvyn Smith, FCFR, Deputy Chief Natasha Lorenzen, FCFR, Communications Director Joell Kight, Executive Assistant Lindsay Flippo, Joe McKeown, Virginia Dept. of Forestry

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. Chief Boylan made a motion, and Chief Kane seconded. It was unanimously approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the April 3, 2025 meeting were presented to the committee. AC Koglin made the motion to accept, Chief Boylan seconded. and they were unanimously approved.

IV. Guest/Citizen

a. Joe McKeown, Dept. of Forestry – Mr. McKeown was on hand to touch base with the committee and pass along contact information in case it was needed on incidents. The 4 PM burn law is officially over. In Rappahannock and Culpeper counties the DoF has offered training regarding their bulldozer or saw breakdowns, along with academies and qualification classes for system members. There are currently two slated for Spring/Fall and one in Maryland, just let Forestry know if you are interested. AC Koglin asked about felling trees on a scene, who would make the determination for felling. If Forestry is there on the scene, they can make the call.

V. Communications Report

Joell Kight from the ECC was on hand to update the committee. There was a phone line issue, but they are back working now. Last week there was 911 outage due to a fiber being cut, but the redundancy functions worked and 911 was not interrupted. There are current CAD site visits in the works, with IT and DC Kidwell. Chief Kane brought up an issue that dispatch is still showing staffed stations as unstaffed when the Medic unit goes out, Joell will address this with her new folks. AC Koglin inquired about anything system members might be able to help regarding new folks and training. There are some fire rescue specific trainings that have taken place, but she would be open to more if you have any suggestions.

VI. Volunteer Coordinator Report

Coordinator Bobby Tarr was not present, as he was at a job fair at Laurel Ridge Community College but passed along to the committee a few items. The Mobile Sign Trailer is still out of service. Bobby will be

attending two touch a truck events, one at the WARF, May 2 from 0900 to 1300, and one in Remington May 3 from 1000 to 1400. He will also be setting up at first Friday in Warrenton 1600-2100. Our volunteer numbers are as follows: Total A, B, C Members: 512, New members year to date: 19, applicants in process: 10

VII. Uniform Rank Oversight Group

There was nothing to discuss, except to work towards making sure your officers meet uniform rank.

VIII. Training Division Updates

Co-chair Kidwell updated the committee on training. Training needs FF II burn help, and also co. 1 and 10 members are providing an ambulance for stand-by. Fall EMT is not cancelled, only Summer, and training is looking at middle to end of June for a late August start date. Chief Kane inquired about the Armory and asked if there was a reason why we have cut back on classes? DC Kidwell let the committee know that the radio installs will be done there for space reasons, but there is still a working sim lab if someone would like to have a class just talk to training. Chief Lane inquired about Co. 3's extraction class. Training is working with Captain Rodney Woodward to get that set up, looking to hold it sometime after May. The Mayday class is still planned, training is working on updating the equipment for compliance, and the mentioned there are spots open. Chief Moore asked about part-time instructors and teaching for the county, but since they're exempt from FLSA, they don't count. As for the High School fire program, DC Kidwell reached out to Sarah Frye at FCPS to schedule a meeting for discussion. Chief Ross informed the committee that he does have a few junior members who would be interested in signing up for the HS class.

IX. Logistics Division Updates

Co-Chair Kidwell updated the committee regarding logistics. The radio demo number will be limited and are being delivered to Chuck Kuhler for dissemination. Chief Ross brought to the committee there has been some issues he had heard regarding the Next radios that he asked Motorola to answer. The county did hire an outside consultant to assess Harris and Motorola with assurance that the radios will work, and while there may be some dissent, we must remember citizen's tax dollars. There was discussion on issues that surrounding jurisdictions had come across, but all had been addressed and fixed. There are currently no open tickets with Motorola regarding these radios. Loudoun did have a full study done and Chief Smith has a copy if anyone is interested.

Airpack evaluation team met today and are officially recommending Scott X3Pro. There will be meeting with the 3M Rep and vendor on May 9th to narrow the specifications for competitive pricing. Once we have that, we will push to the system to review it. A timeline has been sent to finance/procurement, so we can have the order for a January 1 in service date. Individual regulators are going away as there are currently there are 750 regulators in the field, most unaccounted for. Chief Ross asked about cross-contamination. The evaluation team plans to inquire at the rep meeting. Also, Fit Test trailer does have computer, there were some issues, but they are working them out. Chief Frazier asked about that list that says they are delinquent, cause it's not true, DC Kidwell will touch base with Lt. Nugent. Working on 6 air compressors quotes. Bunker Gear demos are currently in the field, but there is not a hard end date as some of the vendors were late sending their gear in for demo.

X. System Updates

DC Lorenzen addressed the committee regarding system updates. There are currently 16 in recruit school. Gordon Mackson was promoted to battalion chief and moved to C-shit, and there are three Captains promotions, Jordan Highland, Matt Smith and Ben Wilson. This has led to some personnel movements. There are currently four lieutenants open, and we are working on setting up a process. Hope to open an August recruit school process push for a December recruit school. Also, if you have system member interested in the Laurel Ridge Paramedic program, please do not hesitate to reach out.

XI. Old Business

- a. Fauquier County Code of Conduct – currently at legal for review. Chief Smith will send the update to the system for review once it is done.

XII. New Business

- a. Co-Chair selection – DC Kidwell came onto many committees at the beginning of Chapter 9, but now DC Kidwell will take a step back. Chief Ross opened the floor for nominations. Chief Boylan stepped up and will take the co-chair role. Chief McEvelly will step in as the FCFR representative, and transition Dale, Natasha, Kalvyn out of the meeting.
- b. Informational Bulletin -coordinating with Command with what you are doing, good personnel accountability. Koglin made a motion to adopt the IB, Chief Lane seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

XIII. Company 1 Brief/Discussion

- a. Chairperson Ross - new members and uniform rank is currently met. Career/volunteer relationship is working really well. Ladder testing and replacements on order.

XIV. Company 2 Briefs/Discussion

- a. Nothing to discuss.

XV. Company 3 Briefs/Discussion

- a. Chief Lane - first due ending 12/21. \$18,800 was quoted for what we currently utilize. Battalion Chief Rob Smith has reached out for more information along with additions to modules. Culpeper County is going to go with First Due and paying out of pocket, but they have the full package, including reporting and tracking.

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 – staffing medics. In OP 109 you have to be released in Fauquier, but if you are not listed in the state, it's still ok. This is actually an OMD protocol that states this. He also informed the committee that Co. 10 is currently demoing the first arriving app. It's a dashboard style app with google docs, allowing for tracking staffing in station, and qualifications. Battalion Chief Rob Smith and volunteer system member Matthew Demaree are currently discussing it. The questions was raised about the Old Mill Lane after-action report. Per Co. 1 Sam Myers, it will be released in about two more weeks.

XX. Company 11 Briefs/Discussion

- a. Chief Kerns - are the No smoke coming in soon for Orlean? The reps were at station 13 today for installation and then will go to 11 next. Please reach out to Battalion Chief Gordon Mackison with any questions.

XXI. Company 13 Briefs/Discussion

- a. Chief Weeks – Station construction moving nicely, they have closed in the addition, roof Monday

the 5th. Also, the Engine will be placed in service once Tanker comes back.

XXII. Good Intent Roundtable

- a. Chief Ross inquired to the committee regarding approaching the Board to address the current Chapter nine. DC Kidwell said per Chapter 9, there are three committees that report to the Executive, Fire Ops, EMS Ops, and Finance). There are subcommittees that should be reporting to those main three, and then those three should report to Executive. DC Kidwell has put together a committee structure that he will forward to the group for review.

XXIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made at 2012 hours by AC Koglin. The motion was seconded by Chief Boylan, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 5th, 2025, at 1900 hours at the Warren Green Building, 2nd Floor.