



Fauquier County Fire Rescue System

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

*Chief Scott Ross, WVFC, Chair
Chief Billy Boylan, TPVFR, Co-Chair*

Approved

FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 10/02/2025 Minutes

Present: Committee Chair Chief Scott Ross, WVFR, Assistant Chief Jason Koglin, WVFR, Chief Butch Grimsley, RVFR, Chief Buddy Lane, MVFR, Co-chair Chief Billy Boylan, TPVFR, Chief Jeremy Moore, CVFR, Assistant Chief Jonathan Moore, CVFR, Chief John Kane, NBVFR, Chief John Kerns, OVFR, Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell, FCFR, Battalion Chief Fred McEvilly, FCFR, Chief Robert Eagan, WTC, Technician Jacob Donahue, FCFR, Executive Assistant Lindsay Flippo

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 Kane made a motion to adopt the agenda, and Chief Grimsley seconded. It was unanimously approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the September 4, 2025, meeting were presented to the committee. Chief Grimsley made the motion to approve the minutes. Chief Kane seconded, and they were unanimously approved.

IV. Guest/Citizen

- a. None Present

V. Communications Report

Communications Director Joell Kight was on hand to talk about ECC. Dispatchers follow APCO and NINA guidelines. For issues when marking up on an incident scene, ECC is waiting for an informational bulletin. Even when EMS staffed units are staffed appropriately in Freedom, volunteers should also call in to the ECC at the beginning and end of staffing, so dispatch can direct the appropriate resources to incidents. DC Kidwell sent an email to the staff about logging in correctly in Freedom. Chairperson Ross asked if there should be an IB released, but DC Kidwell said he will send out a reminder to all system members. When cross-staffing, please let ECC know so that they are aware of it, too. As for the CAD project, the group is currently reviewing contacts with Procurement and Deltaworks, so that we can have negotiations with Central Square. Communications workgroup, including Capt. Jackson, Lt. Flinn, Chief Kane, Chief Ross and Battalion Chief McEvilly are currently updating policies so they can send them to ECC. They are also reviewing call types for streamlining purpose. Communications Manager Allison Marshall will also be available to attend if needed. The radio meetings with Motorola have been ongoing, and right now portables are being programmed. There is a train the trainer class coming up on 10/29. Wireless Communications is looking to start mobile installs around 10/14 and will start with Command vehicles so training classes will have an available vehicle to train. So far, 3 Volunteers have expressed interest in the training as well. Looking at a November start frame, before Thanksgiving. iPads in vehicles discussion was had and we will replace with iPads but will not put them in utilities/support vehicles. A windows device will be needed for the Airpack tool for command officers. Looking at 300 apiece, 4000 all in, and will place in BC1, BC2 and EMS Sup, as they will be on the big managed events.

VI. Volunteer Coordinator Report

Volunteer Coordinator Bobby Tarr was unable to make it, however wanted to pass along that there are 21 applicants in the process, 37 new members YTD, and 503 A, B, C members year to date. There is an open house at Warrenton VFC on October 5th, and an open house at New Baltimore VFR on October 11th. DC Kidwell also updated the committee that Bobby is not receiving clearance information from Marathon for about 45-60 days, for those who were curious as to why they have not received anything.

VII. Uniform Rank Oversight Group

Chairperson Ross sent out the spreadsheet Warrenton uses to keep record of compliance with the Uniform Rank OP appendix regarding helmets/shields. Chief Kane's list of qualifications is in Target Solutions. Deputy Chief Kidwell believes each chief should have a quick reference guide to share with each other. The chiefs can use this one as a template. DC Kidwell also thinks it should have a form number and added to the policy. Lindsay will send out to the chiefs to update. Chief Kane made a motion to accept the spreadsheet to be used as a form and update the policy. DC Kidwell seconded. Discussion included compliance rumors. Once the list comes out, are we as Chiefs going to enforce it? AC Koglin believes if you don't meet rank, you shouldn't be wearing a white helmet. Chairperson Ross believes if you get there as chief officer, you should have the qualifications and if something goes wrong, the system has bigger issues. These guidelines are there to help. After discussion the motion passed.

VIII. Apparatus Committee

Discussed in New Business

IX. Special Operations Committee

Water rescue – the water rescue workgroup has hammered out an awareness level training that can be done via computer or PowerPoint for company drills. This training is just making sure everyone on the scene knows the dos and don'ts, along with the terminology, and to make sure appropriate PPE is worn, etc. The refresher and sustainment training will be similar to other NOVA jurisdictions listed in the Task Books. List of evaluators to sign off is being worked on by Captain Latham. Process is easier to achieve and maintain, as it contains a lot of what we do in Fauquier. DC Kidwell ask about those in other jurisdictions and will they be a part of the annual training? The extensive training and costs were too much and why many dropped out of our program. We are looking at quarterly training, and a handful of career and volunteers who do it. The Fire Chief wants the ability to allow for 10 people per shift so there would be at least a few who are available on each shift. Currently there are 30 career, 8 volunteer, and others interested in classes. Chairperson Ross said he's been asked about the boats. We are trying to get us back to training and the technicians that we do have to handle the events that occur, so boats are not a priority. As for equipment, they have been inventorying, going through lists, and putting pricing together, too. Warrenton has a GO for their new rescue boats for walkouts. Lindsay will email to the system as an informational bulletin. If there are any questions, please reach out as it's a lot, and we don't want to rush and fail.

X. Support Services Updates

- a. Airpacks were delivered on Monday and are currently locked up at armory. Once MES shows up on the 20th, they start assembly. Captain Latham is taking the training for us, but it's not too extensive. Unknown how long it will take, but probably a couple of weeks. They have to be out by January 1, so it is looking like a November into December rollout timeframe.
- b. As for the new cascades, Catlett's new one installed this week and is up and running. Waiting on Delray to let us know when they will get to the next one. Chief Grimsley noted Remington needed voltage change and has worked on it.

XI. System Updates

- a. Interviews for new recruit school are currently happening for our 15-person school starting on 12/8. This is strictly to fill vacancies. SAFER grant was awarded, which means 24 new people. The BOS will need to approve this at the next meeting. The start to that recruit class would be late Feb./early March, as we have 180 days to onboard per SAFER.
- b. Captain Latham has reached out to companies regarding students who are struggling, both in EMT and fire class.
- c. A brush truck has been ordered for Upperville. Technician Donahue is working on the equipment list. There is no update on the new ambulance, looking at an April delivery.
- d. Currently in the initial budget stages, and it will be submitted in a few weeks. Still waiting on 1 company for fire programs packet.
- e. System members have moved into 13's station, just need to do the punch list and then it's done! Also, the temporary trailer will be going away.

XII. Old Business

- a. Insurance – Chief Ross wanted to revisit the DMV records. As chief, he would like to see them, whether they are good or not, because it is a liability. He is looking for transparency, so he would like to see the whole list. That way, if there is a driver not listed, he can pull the records. Chairperson Ross asked for a motion for the DMV records to be released to the volunteer chiefs. Chief Grimsley made the motion, that DMV records need to be released to the chiefs, good or bad. AC Koglin seconded. For discussion, the companies are worried about the people they are responsible for and have found issues through other means. Chief Kane asked when it is run, Chief Grimsley says he remembers it used to be by birth month. The motion passed and will be addressed at the next Executive Committee meeting.
- b. Lockouts/Welfare Checks – Warrenton sent a GO draft with dos and don'ts regarding incidents involving forcible entry. Lindsay will send an OP to the committee for review and see if it's something the system would want to adopt. It would include call types and dispatch, with calls still going to on-duty BC.
- c. Water supply – nothing from WSA, so it will be discussed at next meeting.

XIII. New Business

- a. PPE Discussion – a few departments inquired about still including the removable name. It was also reminded that the company is responsible for purchasing, not the county. Chief Moore discussed sharing of the gear countywide, which he and his members are against. Catlett does not want to purchase gear for a member, who then leaves, and they give the gear to another company. Catlett members also do not want Fauquier on the back, they want their company name on the back. AC Koglin agreed and that Warrenton members feel the same. DC Kidwell reminded the committee that the intent was to focus on the specs of the gear, not fighting over the name on the back. The biggest benefit for ordering is the pricing and group rate. It was also discussed that if someone wants to borrow gear from another company, they can, but it will not be re-issued, especially if the company purchased the gear for their members. The gear will go back into that company's stock. Chief Kane made a motion to accept the PPE/Gear Committee's recommended specifications and costs, with the ability to put your company name on the back. AC Koglin seconded the motion, and with no further discussion it was approved. The proposal will now go to Executive.

- b. Uniform Rank Discussion – discussed in uniform rank oversight group.
- c. Rescue Engine Equipment List – There are few different lists out there, Chairperson Ross passed around the list sent to him. DC Kidwell reminded everyone that each company should have representation on the Apparatus Committee so that we could make more lists like this. Chief Kane brought this list discussion to the Fire Ops because his intention was to keep the ball rolling. AC Moore warned against getting too specific with the required equipment, as it can hinder us. Prince William is currently having issues running out of technology, which forces them to consistently replace and spend more money for equipment. His suggestion was a minimum abilities list with certain requirements.

AC Koglin also added that the system does have the ability to provide a little more information on a few of the same, and it should be focusing on the Rescue Engine’s capabilities. Lois is worried, because if they are going to have to purchase a lot of equipment, they just can’t afford it. Chairperson Ross would like to send the list back to the Apparatus Committee to take out the specific companies and focus on capabilities, along with a man vs machine bag. DC Kidwell made a motion that if it goes back to Apparatus, the Fire OPs needs to assign a time limit of 45 days for it to come back to Fire Ops via email. This gives Fire Ops time to review before the December meeting, along with guidance for those companies that may be unable to follow the new equipment requirements for their Rescue Engines. Chief Kane seconded the motion, and it was approved. Lindsay will send this to the Apparatus Committee for discussion at their next meeting.

- d. OP 218 Inclement or Dangerous Weather Review – BC McEvelly worked on updating OP 218 to combine it with the iWrap policy, along with a few smaller technical updates. The committee decided to table this until next meeting so the members could review it. BC McEvelly also presented some forms he would like our system to utilize for special incidents.

XIV. Company 1 Brief/Discussion

Chief Ross – the new Wagon should be in Va. next week, with a Nov/Dec dedication. They have also ordered a new tanker, in the beginning stages now. As for the current plow truck, AC Koglin said they are looking to add a skid unit to the back, so it can help with brush/attack calls.

XV. Company 2 Briefs/Discussion

Chief Grimsley – Remington Octoberfest is on the 11th. And he thanked Co. 10 for staffing Liberty football games.

XVI. Company 3 Briefs/Discussion

Chief Lane - Rescue 3 should be ready from painting within a week. The Marshall Carnival is going on now. AC Koglin asked if the equipment from the Rescue Engine will go to Rescue, and Chief Lane said no.

XVII. Company 4 Briefs/Discussion

Nothing

XVIII. Company 7 Briefs/Discussion

Nothing

XIX. Company 8 Briefs/Discussion

Nothing

XX. Company 10 Briefs/Discussion

Nothing

XXI. Company 11 Briefs/Discussion

Nothing

XXII. Company 13 Briefs/Discussion

Nothing

XXIII. Good Intent Roundtable

- a. Chief Eagan – there are some significant staffing issues at Co. 19, so there may be requests for mutual aid on the base. AC Koglin inquired about clearance and access. Chief Eagan is working with base security, but they plan to split crews and make maps de-classified, so dispatch and companies have a bit of information. Chairperson Ross asked about security if something happens they should see or hear, but Chief Eagan assured the committee that life safety will trump security in an emergency event at the Warrenton Training Center.
- b. It was asked that moving forward, the Fire Ops agenda could include the name of the person who would like to speak on the discussion/new business topics. Starting next month, Lindsay will include the name of the champion along with their discussion.
- c. Lindsay will be sending out a calendar of committee meetings to Chiefs/Presidents at the beginning of the month for transparency and informational purposes.

XXIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made at 2027 hours by AC Koglin. The motion was seconded by DC Kidwell, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 6th, 2025, at 1900 hours at the Warren Green Building, 2nd Floor.