



Fauquier County Fire Rescue System

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Kalvyn Smith, System Fire Chief

John Kane, Chair

Natasha Lorenzen, Co-Chair

Dale Kidwell

Jim Kudla

APPROVED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

10/16/2025

Committee members present: Chairperson Chief John Kane, Co-chair Deputy Chief Natasha Lorenzen, Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell, President Jim Kudla

Others present: System Chief Kalvyn Smith, Chief Scott Ross, WVFC, Chief Butch Grimsley, RVFR, Vice President Eddie Payne, MVFR, Executive Assistant Lindsay Flippo

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Kane called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Deputy Chief Kidwell made a motion to adopt the agenda. Co-Chair Lorenzen seconded the motion, and it was approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes

Deputy Chief Kidwell made a motion to approve the minutes from September 18th, 2025. Chairperson Kane seconded the motion, and it was approved.

IV. Agenda Items

A. Guest/Citizen -there were none present.

B. Committee Discussions

- 1. Budgetary and Financial Planning** - President Kudla informed the committee that only Budget and Finance Committee members would be speaking and the ones in attendance would be waiting to speak until roundtable to speak. The budget books from the volunteer stations should be releasing shortly, currently Trish is working on getting them updated. The committee will review them. The Virginia Department of Fire Programs funding officially goes into effect for FY 27, so there is some time to iron things out.
- 2. Fire Operations** – The Airpacks are currently in storage and will be put together and pushed out beginning Monday the 20th. The deployment will come with training in the evening for volunteer members, and DC Kidwell will let volunteer companies know. The Motorola radios are here but are still in the process of getting programmed. He hopes to get them back next week for installation in command vehicles and training purposes. There will be a train the trainer class on October 29th. Chairperson Kane inquired about the timeline for the upgrades and changes. DC Kidwell informed the committee that it would start at 6 months, then 12 months to collect what is needed at once.

3. Sub-Committee Updates

- a. Special Ops – Ret. Chief Eddie Payne informed the committee that they are moving forward with water rescue program. They are taking it slow in order to get classes lined up for later. There are both interested career and volunteer members who would like to be a part of the program. In terms of the ropes replacement, Captain Woodward will be receiving them by next week. The Special Ops trailer should be completed by January 2026, equipped to respond to special operation incidents. The committee is also looking into getting containers for the new lithium batteries and will discuss next month. Currently, Fauquier County homeowners can take them to the landfill for destruction.
 - b. Recruitment and Retention - Volunteer Coordinator Bobby Tarr informed the committee that there are currently 20 people in the onboarding process, with a year to date total of 41 new members. That brings the total membership to 507. Bobby will be attending a career event at Clarke Co. High with Fauquier County HR. He is also scheduled to participate in the following Christmas parades: Warrenton, Marshall, and Remington. November 8th is the stuff the ambulance event. There are also planned company Santa Runs in December, too. Chief Smith wanted to inform the committee that Bobby has gone to 27 recruitment events this year! He is getting out there, trying to get more volunteers. DC Kidwell is looking for signs to be put up everywhere. Currently there is a sign board at Orlean and at New Baltimore. Chief Grimsley inquired about Class D system members. It is listed in the membership policy, so companies can move forward with updating non-active life members.
 - c. Administrative – Chief Grimsley informed the committee that there will be a meeting next Thursday, October 23rd. Lindsay will find a place for them to meet.
- C. System Updates – The trailer at Lois Company 13 is going away, and at 7:30 tomorrow morning there will be the final walkthrough for the renovated station. There is hope to have the punch list finished. DC Kidwell says they are working to get the final occupancy permit, and also update the pharmacy. At Upperville station 5, all of the downstairs work is done, as well as the bathroom, laundry, and kitchen are done. The HVAC has been sealed off in the living quarters, so there is no exhaust coming from bays into living quarters. Starlink Internet is currently up at 8 and 5, with Orlean 11 to be installed shortly. The SAFER grant was awarded and approved by BOS. The grant approves the hiring of 24 new people, and the application process has opened up. Recruit school 25-22 will have 15 people and begin on Dec. 13. Recruit school 26-23 will begin around mid-March for the 24. There are lieutenant interviews this week. They will be taken from the eligibility GO and hope to announce the promotions within two weeks. CPAT for the December recruit school will be scheduled in November/December at Co. 10 and then interviews will follow.
- D. Old Business – There was no old business.
- E. New Business
1. Gear Specifications – The Fire Ops committee approved a new system-wide gear specification. These specifications do not mean each company needs to go out and buy new, just that there is a system standard that was agreed and approved by system members. Co-chair Lorenzen made a motion to approve the gear specifications from Globe® ATHLETIX. This is only updating the specs versus what we currently have and will be phasing in so it's not all at once. Chairperson Kane seconded the motion and all approved.

2. DMV Records - Chief Smith reminded the committee that we have a current driver release policy, which states it is up to the system member to report any incidents. Any issues should be addressed at that time at the membership level. As a reminder, it is up to the chiefs to make sure their members are reporting, per the HR policy. It was recommended that the update to the procedure should be at the Fire Ops level. President Kudla asked what would happen if they don't let you know? It was suggested that it is up to the company to decide the punishment, but it should be the same across the board. The system could update the OP to reflect reprimands of some sort if the member doesn't report it. Chief Ross inquired about when the HR driving report is pulled, that the chiefs get notified, too. He would like to know who is on the list to make sure someone who shouldn't be driving isn't still driving. Bobby has the list of all members who drive run, not just released drivers. Chief Smith said that Risk Management has the final say in sharing, but that he will talk to them. He also asked that Chief Ross share his list of drivers, too. DC Kidwell did let everyone know that any changes would need to go through risk management and maybe update county policy.

F. Roundtable

1. DC Kidwell – Captain Woodward is currently coordinating with Marshall to do extrication training. Announcements should be in the next couple of weeks.
2. Ret. Chief Payne – Rescue 3 should be in the station in the next 2-3 weeks, then they will put the equipment on it. Chairperson Kane asked if there was an equipment list that Marshall would be following? Captain Hunter has a list from Loudoun that they will use until one may be established in our system.
3. Chairperson Kane – there is a mutual aid time delay, and it can sometimes be 20-30 minutes for resources from other jurisdictions to arrive on scene. He will bring this issue up at Fire Ops. DC Kidwell also said there are units from other jurisdictions that are being dispatched which don't exist. Chairperson Kane will look through the box runs and drop them down if needed.
4. RIT In-County Training – VDFP has changed their curriculum, so the system needs to get people trained on those changes in order to teach along with the new props. Chairperson Kane did advise that there are people being held up during release processes. DC Kidwell then suggested maybe the system could use VDFP money from the stations to fund an in-county training.
5. Chief Ross – the new Wagon 1 is in Virginia and hoping to be in the station on around the 20th of November before getting it in service. There will be an official dedication in January but could be in service before that date. Also, the process for obtaining a Virginia LODD for Roy Crane is still in the process and they are waiting for notification for approval from the State's Committee.

V. Adjournment

A motion for adjourn was made by Deputy Chief Kidwell at 6:46 PM. President Kudla seconded, and it unanimously approved.