



# 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  
Chief Billy Boylan, TPVFR, Co-Chair*

**APPROVED**

## FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 02/05/2026 Minutes

Present: Committee Chair Chief Scott Ross, WVFR, Chief Butch Grimsley, RVFR, Chief Buddy Lane, MVFR, Chief Billy Boylan, TPVFR, Chief Jonathan Moore, CVFR, Chief John Kane, NBVFR, Chief John Kerns, OVFR, Battalion Chief Frederic McEvelly, FCFR, Deputy Chief Dale Kidwell, 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 December 4, 2025, meeting were presented to the committee. Chief Kane made the motion to approve the minutes. Chief Grimsley seconded, and they were unanimously approved.

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

There were no guests or citizens present.

### **V. Communications Report**

Communications manager Joell Kight was not present. There was discussion regarding the radios, and the possibility of reprogramming the scanning button on the new Motorolas. Deputy Chief Kidwell believes it can be done and we will look into it once the station radio installs are finished.

### **VI. Special Operations Committee**

a. Water Rescue Updates – Chairperson Ross presented the water rescue reboot plan to the Fire Ops committee, as the plan had been presented and approved to move forward at the Special Ops meeting. Chairperson Ross went over the plan, including how to get the system up to date through trainings, as well as updating PPE and equipment, as an inventory revealed missing/out of date equipment. There will be an OP draft to reflect the NOVA manual with addendum, as well as looking into getting a flood/swift water awareness course for all operational personnel. The recommendation cost included \$13,000 for equipment and \$38,000 for training and certifications for the 34 current personnel and instructors, to include quarterly drills. Also, to help save money on these training days, Chairperson Ross suggested backfilling with volunteers at the stations. DC Kidwell asked about the possibility of career in-service training. BC McEvelly and DC Kidwell will look into this. DC Kidwell also inquired about the boats and maintenance. BC McEvelly informed the committee that the motors had recently been serviced so when the system gets to that step they will be good to go. Chief Lane asked about the possibility of considering more equipment for future use. Chairperson Ross said this is just to get the system back up to running to awareness levels. Chief Lane also brought up that there might be issues with space on apparatus, to which Chief Kane agreed. The water rescue work group will work to make sure to accommodate

space issues when ordering and organizing. There is also the question about where the money will come from, and that the committee will need to bring up to the Budget and Finance Committee for review and approval. DC Kidwell also mentioned that any purchases will probably have to wait until after July 1, as much of the Special Ops money has been accounted for with the rope replacement. Chief Kane then made a motion is to move forward with phases 1 and 2 of the water rescue reboot plan. Chief Lane seconded. During discussion, DC Kidwell mentioned in order to get costs approved, the committee should look at ways to reduce costs by utilizing what we currently have before asking for more. Chief Moore mentioned that Catlett recently purchased a banana boat and PDFs with four for life money, and that could help ease the burden of costs, too. DC Kidwell also mentioned reaching out to PATH for training money. With no more discussion, the motion was voted and approved.

**VII. Apparatus Committee**

There was no meeting in January. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. Support Services**

- a. DC Kidwell informed the committee that logistics is aware that there are cylinder and line leakages, and they are working on fixes. The final parts are trickling in, too. DC Kidwell as also asked logistics to research prices for meter bump station replacements. They are also down a part-timer, so if you know anyone who would like to apply, let DC Lorenzen know.

**IX. Training**

- a. DC Kidwell informed the committee regarding training, including both recruit school and volunteer fire academies are working along. The recent snow pushed some testing out, as well as affecting the high school class, as they are going through HazMat. In order to catch them up, will look into the possibility to make them to come in on a Saturday for make-up, with support from the volunteer chiefs. There was a DPO class announcement sent out hosted by FCFR, and Warrenton will be doing one soon as well. Chairperson Ross then brought up the differences between volunteer vs career mayday trainings. DC Kidwell informed the committee that mayday is not mandated, so for career staff, they are asked come to it. Captain Latham did receive the list for te props that are needed and will send out to the volunteer chiefs for review. Currently we have to go through Stafford for it. Chairperson Ross also asked about low angle and extrication classes during the day and how it is harder for volunteers to attend. He also mentioned that Justin Foster does have a few vehicles he donates for trainings. DC Kidwell says having issues with securing pallets and straw, and we only have so much storage room. Next volunteer academy should have FF1, 2, HazMat, and Mayday. Rope and vehicle we can include now. The volunteers need instructors, but they can get the equipment/supplies. Kane made a motion to add uniform rank to add to the next volunteer rank. Buddy seconded. Approved.

**X. Uniform Rank Oversight Group**

- a. Nothing to bring to this month. Chief Kane has recently noticed some people are wearing the wrong helmets, make sure they are compliant. Chief Lane asked for clarification and was informed that people are misrepresented with their shield and helmet colors. Some companies are switching as they receive new shields and helmets. System members must remember to be as compliant as possible.

**XI. Old Business**

- a. Water Supply – Chairperson Ross informed the committee that on a recent house fire, someone from a water authority tried to stop hydrant use. It is a problem that keeps coming up, and Chairperson Ross would like to draft up a letter from the Volunteer chiefs to remind them of the VA fire codes as well as allow for open dialogue, because there isn't any communications from the water authority regarding these issues. It was also mentioned that static water sources should be

marked in first due but also should be noted elsewhere for an IB to be sent out. Chairperson Ross asked if someone could draft up some language for the letter so the group could send to WSA and Chief Grimsley said he would work on it. The Fire Marshal's Office has been trying to work on hydrants but keeps meeting resistance from County. DC Kidwell said that the system chief did meet with WSA, who say they understand emergency, they just need to know about any usage. Chairperson Ross believes there needs to be something in writing outside of this room to show people how the Volunteer chiefs feel regarding these issues.

- b. Forcible Entry OP – The OP draft was presented to committee. BC McEvilly made a motion to approve and present at the Executive Committee. Chief Kane seconded. DC Kidwell said he would like it to be updated to include “such as”. Lindsay will update the draft to reflect the change before it goes before the Executive Committee. The motion was approved.
- c. EMT Precepting/Releases – Chief Kane informed the committee that the EMS Ops’ precepting work group will be meeting on February 18th to work on precepting and releases as well as discussion on EMTs on suppression units.
- d. First Due Updates – need to be updated, will be resolved soon. Taylor has been given access to admin rights so she can update the iPads. There was an issue with Freedom and access, so please make sure communications. User IDs for border county stations so they can toggle back and forth between and access our calls they are dispatched on: 504, 505, 524, 525. Also checked on other modules, will be about \$190,000. Will look into FM module, though.
- e. Suppression Units on EMS Incidents – what is the expectation? Buddy- BLS sometimes they need help but should they stick around. Ross –BLS in or around, lift assist, but it’s an operational decision. Kane –leaves it up to officer discretion. ALS support always. Kidwell - there isn’t any good way to put into policy, it should be good decisions by officers and personnel in station. Kerns brought up another issue, but it was discussed afterwards. Ross – easiest is to handle at Chief level and discussion in station, if that doesn’t work, we can discuss again. McEvilly – will discuss at the next BC meeting, too.
- f. Hotwash/tailboard discussion – OP 601 does address informal with form. Send out to incident commands should work to do this.

## **XII. New Business**

- a. Reserve Units – Chairperson Ross informed the committee that recently there was an issue at Warrenton Fire regarding reserve ambulances. Currently, Warrenton has two volunteer units, one to be used as a volunteer only, and one to be used as a reserve. However, last week, one reserve was in use and the other was down, so the volunteers did not have one to use. In the future, so Warrenton will be able to have one of their ambulances, they will not allow use of the volunteer unit if the reserve is down.
- b. Run Order – Recently, AC Koglin looked into Warrenton’s run order and discovered a few issues, so Chairperson Ross would like the other volunteer companies and chiefs take a look at their own run orders, so the system can maintain 3 in-county units before reaching out for mutual aid. DC Kidwell also mentioned that some of our bordering counties do not have regular staffing and our system can get 3 in-county to an address before them 98% of the time. The companies will need to work towards updating their run orders so that the 3 closest in-county stations are dispatched. DC Kidwell asked that the companies take the next 2 months to do this, so when Taylor has completed the radio updates, she can focus on updating the boxes. Chairperson Ross agreed. DC Kidwell also mentioned that there is an upcoming CAD update meeting, and he hopes to have good news. Contact DC Kidwell if you

want a copy of your run order and he will get it to you.

- c. MDC Response OP – BC McEvelly presented this OP to the committee for review. It is a procedure for marking-up and responding during incidents so we can clear up the radio traffic. The procedure was tabled for 30 days in order to allow the committee to review and then discussion at the next meeting. Chief Moore spoke up and is in favor of this, but he had a few ideas and suggestions to add, including arriving on scene, because arrival order matters, should we add “for alternate channel calls, mark-up on the radio” under 5.5. DC Kidwell believes we should keep it short and sweet. Chief Kane also mentioned saying something regarding staffing/un-staffing stations as to not be a hinderance to on scene command. Chief Moore will connect with BC McEvelly to update the language and send out to the committee for review.
- d. Discussion on Committee Priorities for CY 26 – none were mentioned that had not been mentioned under old or new business, but Chairperson Ross wanted to make sure committee members connect with Lindsay prior to meetings for agenda items and reports.

**XIII. Company 1 Report**

Chief Ross – Wagon 1 will be back and in service by next week.

**XIV. Company 2 Report**

Chief Grimsley – Thanks to everyone who turned out for the Snowstorm. Als, Remington will be losing their accountant, so if you know someone, please let him know.

**XV. Company 3 Report**

Chief Lane – Rescue 3 is almost ready for service, currently being outfitted with equipment list based off of Rescue 1 and Rescue 2.

**XVI. Company 4 Report**

Nothing.

**XVII. Company 7 Report**

Chief Moore informed the committee that Catlett has also acquired a “banana boat” to be used on water rescue type calls. It is currently on order; however, the company would like to reach out to other stations prior to being placed in service so use and deployment can be uniform across the system.

**XVIII. Company 8 Report**

Nothing

**XIX. Company 10 Report**

Nothing

**XX. Company 11 Report**

Nothing

**XXI. Company 13 Report**

Nothing

**XXII. Roundtable**

- a. Volunteer retention and recruitment – Chief Grimsley said that the Admin Committee discussed this at their last meeting and have tasked it out to the volunteer stations to work on ideas. They hope to have something to present following their April meeting.

- b. DC Kidwell – Effective February 2<sup>nd</sup>, DC Kidwell and DC Lorenzen have switched roles. Please reach out with any questions.
- c. BC McEvelly – There are now “After the Fire” pamphlets available for citizens. He handed out the pamphlets to committee members and will have these printed and passed out to stations and command officers for distribution to those affected by fires. We will also add it to website once we get it.

**XXIII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made at 2042 hours by Chief Kane. The motion was seconded by Battalion Chief McEvelly, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 5th, at 1900 hours at the Warren Green Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.