



FIRE & EMS ADVISORY BOARD

CURRITUCK COUNTY



Minutes

**Thursday, June 4, 2008
OSFM Raleigh NC 11:00 a.m.**

1. Welcome and introductions from Fire and EMS Advisory Board as well as members of OSFM. (Members present: Chairman Messina, Butch Stegner, Chief Dailey, Deputy Chief Laput, Chief Carter, Guests: Fire Marshal Mims and Chief Richard Lane) Chairman Messina called the meeting to order at 10:50 am.
2. Chief Carter opened the meeting with a thank you and introductions AC Daniels and Keith Mcleod were present to answer questions from OSFM. Chief Carter thanked them for their time and gave a brief synopsis of the intention of the Fire and EMS Advisory Board as well as the intention of this meeting.
3. Chairman Messina also thanked OSFM and gave an overview of the reasons the Board traveled to Raleigh to meet. One of the main reasons being Moyock Volunteer Fire Departments request.
4. Option 3 was discussed in detail with the staff @ OSFM with the acknowledgement that volunteers will continue to play a major role in response and mitigation efforts in Moyock and the rest of the County. The Board is still investigating all of the options and no decisions have been made. However, we are looking for clarification on a few topics from OSFM.
 - a. ISO – how does this effect the system as a combine department – OSFM stated that since 1987, that your nonprofit or governmental agency should have a 9S rating and meet those requirements. This is minimum requirement and becomes more stringent as the rating decreases.
 - b. Structure Fire calls must have four personnel and one engine assigned to the call from the responsible station. Auto-aide or other department's personnel do not count for this four man minimum. The only exception to this rule is if the department is already on another structure fire call.
 - c. Personnel assigned to Medic 3/32. When they respond on the engine do they count as the four personnel minimum? OSFM does not care how the personnel respond to the scene. However, the primary job function of those personnel must become fire oriented to be counted. In short those personnel on the engine with the function of suppression will count. If the personnel on the ambulance are engaged in fire activity and are on the roster, they will also count. However, their function must be suppression

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and we will need to dispatch another ambulance or EMS unit to provide that function.

- d. Associate membership – This is actually not recognized by OSFM, but they congratulate our efforts to place everyone on the rosters to provide coverage. OSFM will allow all personnel to be on all rosters and encourage this movement. However, for inspection, each station must have a minimum number of volunteers that cannot count at other stations in the rating process.
5. What would happen if the County took over Moyock Fire Department and became a County Fire Station? References to contact New Hanover County were initiated. OSFM stated that the County would inherit all of the good and bad portions of Moyock’s current situation. They would then come and rerate the district within a couple to six months. There would be no loss of rating and the rating would likely be better with career personnel, an improving water system and the current volunteers in place.
6. What would happen if another non-profit took over the Moyock station? The station would likely become a substation to that non-profit and would need to have a minimum number of personnel as well as fire apparatus for the rating. The rating would likely be what the main stations rating currently is and the Moyock charter and name would likely be dissolved. This option, there would not be any penalties or continued probation since the non-profit is not currently under probation. A rereating would occur within the normal time frame, unless requested sooner.
7. Questions were posed about combining all volunteer fire departments into one. OSFM countered with combining the six into three: Knotts Island, Mainland and OBX. This would allow a better rating for most if not all departments and would allow for all to be covered in each district that they were on the roster. Discussion ensued.
8. Discussion on FSLA and overtime for career employees was discussed. Ultimately it was understood that if personnel work for the department of Fire-EMS in Currituck, they are never a “true volunteer” as they are required, by law, to be compensated for their time. Additionally, workman’s compensation is and should be paid for by the County.
9. The 50 percent rule was discussed in detail. This rule states that if personnel are responding to the call and are “dual role” they will only count as ½ on the scene of an incident. This would not apply to career personnel that were assigned to the engine or station 3, but would be applicable to other responding CCFEMS personnel. It was also determined that volunteer personnel only count as 1/3 on each call for rating purposes. References to New Hanover were discussed.

Chairman thanked OSFM for their time and the meeting concluded at 1350hrs.

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