



FIRE & EMS ADVISORY BOARD

CURRITUCK COUNTY



Minutes

**Thursday, September 18, 2008
Currituck County Courtroom "C"
7:00pm**

1. Call to order – Roll call – All members present
2. Public Comments – three minutes - NONE
3. Chairman’s Comments – Welcome to all, would like to work through the agenda and work on the job description for the Volunteer Coordinator. He thanks all for their continuing efforts.
4. Approve minutes – Motion made by Chief Galganski with a second from Mr. Soltow. Motion carried 6-0
5. Updates/Discussion Fire Services – the Chair asked for an update of Moyock, specifically the recent Food Lion fire.
 - a. Deputy Chief Laput stated that there were two calls in Moyock that morning. The first was an accident call where they had two (2) volunteer folks and two (2) career folks that responded. The ambulance, Medic 3, transported the patient to the hospital around 0930 hrs. The fire call at the food lion was paged out at 1029. Engine 31, Medic 32 on location at 1031 hrs with two career personnel reporting a large commercial structure with smoke coming out of the A side, front of the structure, and an evacuation in progress. These two personnel were on scene for a few minutes, without assistance. Chief 3 arrived on scene, assumed command and requested to continue all units and requested additional manpower from the dispatcher. The call was controlled at 1051hrs and the call was completed at 1226 hrs. Apparatus on location: Engine 31, Truck 3, Medic 3, Medic 32, EMS 1, EMS 2, Fire Marshal 1, Engine 47. This provided a total of twelve (12) personnel on the call. Eleven (11) of those personnel were full time career employees, eight (8) of them were scheduled to work that day and the rest were receiving overtime, per FLSA. Nine (9) personnel were Station 3, Moyock members and three (3) were Station 4 Crawford members. There was only one (1) person on location that was not being compensated by Currituck County. The call was paged out twice for more members with no further response than listed above. Chief Laput

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stated that the personnel on location met the minimum standard for ISO and per the Auto-aide agreements.

- b. Chief Dailey questioned the reason that personnel had to be compensated. Chief Carter stated that this was an FLSA requirement and OSFM, the County Attorney and the Department of Labor mandates that we compensate these folks. This is because the job is within the same County and the personnel are performing similar or the same job when they are considered volunteers.
- Chief Laput gave numbers for calls in Moyock:
 - July 2008 -Daytime 15 calls Night: 5 calls
 - August 2008 - Daytime 19 calls Night 9 calls
 - MVFD Roster has 60 members – no significant increase in member’s response during the daytime hours. This is due to personnel living outside of the district or working during the day.
- c. Moyock is not the only area that is having issues of personnel responding during the day. Lower Currituck and Knotts Island, both recently have had more career folks on location than volunteer members. Each Chief representing the board was asked if there was a serious problem of response during the day, they all agreed that daytime response is an issue.
- d. Chief Galganski stated that he and his members rely heavily on the County personnel to respond to fire calls. He estimates that approximately 90% of the calls are answered by County personnel.
- e. ALL Chiefs and Board personnel agreed that safety is paramount and that two personnel on the scene of a commercial structure fire for an extended period of time is unacceptable and unsafe.
- f. Motion – The Chair motioned to request the six (6) Volunteer Fire Chiefs to appear before the Advisory Board at our next meeting with a suggested solution to fix the daytime service and give us a status of the night time response for each district. There was a second by Vice Chair McCain Discussion – There is a lot of passion on this topic and this system will always need volunteers. The departments need to bring back suggestions on where to go from here and the Advisory Board expects this to involve funding. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.



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- g. Chief Dailey reported that the Chiefs meetings will be held the second Monday of each month. The recent meeting was one of the best he has ever attended. Although it did not have all of the Chiefs, the meeting went well and covered several topics. The volunteer departments are working on a joint exercise, this one will be a structure fire, hopefully to happen in March. The Chiefs talked at length about the Volunteer Coordinator and stated that they felt it would be useful, especially as a point of contact and would like to see this person work on administrative items..
6. Updates/Discussion EMS – Chief Carter stated that there is a lot going on in the Department of Fire-EMS –
- a. Model System – OEMS will be here Friday the 26th for the third phase in a four part process for this accreditation process.
 - b. Deputy Chief Interviews will be held Thursday and we are down to the final five candidates. – Will offer a position by the next Advisory Board meeting with a hopeful start date of November 1, 2008.
 - c. Visual Fire EMS reporting system is on line and working. We have had many “bugs” with this program, but are working through this to fix this program so that our data entry and issues are updated daily. The hope is to have real time data and allow our personnel to enter the reports. The plan is to place the three volunteer departments on the NFIRS program by the first of the year. Again, this will allow us seamless data transfer.
 - d. The Chair asked about the response and tasking of EMS units. Chief Carter reported that recently there has been several occasions that the County has been down to one or two ambulances left to respond on the Mainland, with similar situations in the OBX. There has also been situations in which three ambulances and a supervisor are tied up on structure fire calls due to the need for manpower.
 - e. Chief Carter reported 2700 EMS calls since January of this year. (Jan-Aug)
 - f. The Chair asked for more data at the next meeting from EMS regarding response times, numbers of calls and the like. Chief Carter will e-mail or bring a copy to the next meeting.
7. Discussion / Fire Service Contracts – Tabled with a motion from the Chair and second by Vice Chair McCain. Motion carried.

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8. Volunteer Coordinator Job Description

- a. Work Session – Discussion on the job of this position continued from the last meeting. More discussion on clerical work and assistance to the Volunteer Fire Chiefs. The board started discussing the requirements for this position. Chairman Messina and Chief Carter will put together a draft and present it to the board via e-mail for comments and review

9. Apparatus Committee discussion and planning

- a. Station 4 Apparatus – Chief Dailey (See PowerPoint presentation)
- b. Announcements – Corolla Fire Rescue is working on a mutual aid agreement with Duck
- c. Corolla Fire Rescue will host the second Fire wise meeting on October 18th at the Currituck Club
- d. Corolla Fire Rescue
- e. Halloween Night – Crawford Fire will have a community night at the fire station

10. Adjourn

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