



# **FIRE & EMS ADVISORY BOARD**

## **CURRITUCK COUNTY**



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### Minutes

Thursday, April 16, 2009  
Currituck County Courtroom "C"  
7:00pm

1. Call to Order – 1900 hours the meeting was called to order
2. Roll Call of Advisory Board Members – All members present
3. Public Comments - None
4. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve – Chief Dailey, second by Chief Galganski – motion passed and minutes approved
5. Chair's Comments/Advisory Board Member Comments
  - a. Chairman Messina stated that at the March 25<sup>th</sup> department the Board of Commissioners tasked FEAB to investigate the pros and cons of merging the Volunteer Fire Departments, specifically on the Mainland. Three options were considered over the last thirty days:
    - Make no changes
    - Combine all three departments one unified department
    - Combine Crawford Vol. Fire Dept. and Moyock Vol. Fire Dept.
  - b. The Chair noted that the citizens are blessed to have Vol. Fire Departments in this County.
  - c. The Chair was told to develop an executive summary to present to the Board of Commissioners.
  - d. The Chairman met with each department and board to discuss all of the options taking in consideration the benefits and detriments of merging services and the like. Additionally, he called for a meeting with the Chief level officers to discuss this together.
6. Chief's report Comments –
  - a. MoyockVFD - Chief Lane – Thanks everyone for all that they are doing. He disseminated a letter from Moyock Vol. Fire Department to the FEAB and read this allowed. He would like to see the barriers between the VFD's to be knocked down
  - b. CrawfordVFD - Chief Dailey - Agrees with Moyock's intent now, and would like to see these walls dissipated. Chief Dailey stated that the contracts should be the same and therefore the County billing and other similarities should be changed to mirror the rest of the VFD contracts. Crawford VFD is there to support Moyock VFD in any way that they can.
  - c. LowerCurrituckVFD – Chief Moseman – Sounds like this might be moving in the proper direction instead of them vs. us. Chief Moseman submitted a position

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All meetings will start promptly at 1900 hrs

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statement from his department. Essentially this paper stated that they do not think that a merger of all three departments is beneficial to the County citizens or the other departments. Each department is unique that draws members to each department. Volunteerism is not dead and LCVFD would like to see it go back to the way it used to be.

7. Discussion from the Board to discuss the possibility of merging services and/or moving forward.
  - a. Motion to accept and receive the letter submitted from Moyock VFD to return to the status quo by Chief Dailey, second motion from Vice Chair Hugh McCain. – Motion Passed
  - b. Motion to accept and receive Lower Currituck's position paper to keep departments separate – Motion by Vice Chair Hugh McCain with a second by Carl Soltow, Motion passed and accepted into the record.
  - c. Vice Chair McCain stated that he had a variety of questions before moving forward:
    - Will the Chief's Board need to be more proactive
    - How does this relate for assistance to daytime response?
    - Joint training – Chief Dailey stated we are already working on this May 16<sup>th</sup> a multi-company live burn.
    - We are behind the eight ball on budgets – Departments have all been instructed to submit their requests to the County Finance Department.
  - d. Commissioners have relayed to the Chair that they would like to see:
    - A refining of the SOP/SOG's to work on a unified single document. This should include incident command and answer the question of who is in charge so that this is not a question at all.
    - The Commissioners also made it clear that Currituck County Department of Fire-EMS will be here to assist the Volunteer Fire Departments. They would like the VFDs to make it clear on how CCFEMS can assist the VFD's.
    - Equipment purchasing needs to be more uniformed and we should be purchasing together to save funding and time.
    - Tonight is a pivotal point and we must get rid of "us vs. them" mentality
  - e. Recommendation of the Fire and EMS Advisory Board to the Board of Commissioners –
    - Chief Dailey stated that the Chiefs are working together on several of the aforementioned items already to include joint training, Chief's meetings and SOP/SOGs. Chief Dailey went on to state that he does not think there is a department out there that if the BOC will fund some sort of part-time assistance they will take it. He suggests that we put staffing this in the recommendation.
    - Mick Lesinski asked questions of the Incident Command System, integration and having more people on the fire ground and marking of fire

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ground training system and working with the other public safety departments.

- Budget discussion – Commissioner Taylor stated that there was that there is not a lot of funding, if any funding available.
  - Recommendation/ Motion – made by Carl Soltow and a second by Chief Galganski – To continue to move forward in the same manner as we currently operate, managed by each department and budget requests will come from each department. (Status Quo) Submit a need basis for Volunteer Fire Departments and Chiefs to have part-time (day time) assistance. Additionally, County Department of Fire-EMS to place personnel at the Carova Vol. Fire Department. – Motion Passed
8. Nominations/Election of new FEAB Chair and Vice Chair
- a. Butch Stegner stated that he thanked Chairman Messina for his work and that he nominates Vice Chair McCain as the new Chair. With no other nominations it was unanimously approved.
  - b. Nomination by Chairman Messina for Carl Soltow as Vice Chair. With no other nominations it was unanimously approved.
  - c. Chair – Hugh McCain
  - d. Vice Chair – Carl Soltow
9. Announcements –
- a. Chief Galganski – stated that he would like to thank Currituck County Dept. of Fire-EMS for their assistance last week at a structure fire.
  - b. May 9<sup>th</sup> – Airport Rescue class 10 am Currituck Airport
  - c. May 16<sup>th</sup> Live Fire Training
  - d. Captain Figg has left as the training officer and Captain Wheeler is now the Dept of Fire-EMS training officer.
  - e. Vice Chair McCain thanked Dave Messina for his service
10. Adjourn – with no further business the meeting was adjourned

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