



FIRE & EMS ADVISORY BOARD

CURRITUCK COUNTY



Minutes

**Wednesday, September 12, 2012
Currituck County Courtroom "C"
7:00pm**

I. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Chairman Stanley Griggs at 7:00PM

II. Roll Call of Advisory Board Members:

Present: Chairman Stanley Griggs, Mr. Mitch Copeland, Mr. Charles Berry, Chief Rob Glover, Ms. Evelyn Henley, Mr. Jim Cason, Deputy Chief Bergamini

Absent: Mr. Paul Beaumont, Commissioner Vance Aydlett, Mr. John Wheeler

Guests: Chief Bill Jones, Deputy Chief Ken Ferrell

III. Reading and Action on the August 2012 Minutes:

Mr. Cason made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Berry seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed.

**IV. Public Comments –
None**

V. Board Comments:

At this time, Chief Glover shared information on Commissioner Vance Adylett. Chief shared that Mr. Adylett is home from the hospital and is looking forward to coming back to serve on the board.

Chairman Griggs shared that he has sent the Ordinance to the County Manager but has heard nothing in response at this time.

VI. Purchase of new Fire Apparatus:

Chairman Griggs said the main reason that he called this meeting to order was to inform the board of the specifications on the purchase of the new apparatus and to allow members to comment on the same. The price of the apparatus was shared and feelings of the price were discussed. Chairman Griggs' opinion was that the price

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was high. Deputy Chief Bergamini stated that this piece of apparatus is well equipped and will be the model for purchases of engines in the future with the ability to remove some of the options that are not needed. Chairman Griggs stated that the request is scheduled to go on the agenda for the Commissioners meeting on the 17th of September. Chairman Griggs expressed his hope that all Fire Chiefs were involved with these specifications. Mr. Griggs opened the floor for board comments. Mr. Cason asked that since the apparatus was the model, could it be moved around to the different stations in need. Chief Glover stated that if apparatus needed to be moved to different stations in the future to get the most mileage out of each piece of equipment due to call volume, it could be done.

Mr. Cason also shared his concern on the high price and asked how far above the NFPA standards does this specification go for being over equipped? Chief Bergamini shared that the truck is not over equipped; the features that are added are needed to ease the work of the firefighters. Chief Bergamini expressed that \$457,000 is a lot of money. However, when compared to other manufactures the cost is comparable for this style of pumper. Bergamini stated that over the past two years many of the county Fire Chiefs have put together this specification and this is the price that reflects those specifications.

Mr. Mitch Copeland stated that approximately 3 years ago there was a ball park figure of \$393,000 for new apparatus with an additional \$35,000 for equipment. Mr. Copeland wanted explanation to why the price is much higher today. Chief Jones stated that the diesel engine with new emissions was a big part of the raise in price. Chief Bergamini expressed that with all of the research he has done and all of the different variations of trucks he has seen, this specification will be a good fit for what the County is looking for.

At this time, Chief Glover shared information from the Finance Director on the apparatus budget. When the meeting took place between the Finance department and Chief Glover, there was \$310,079.00 in the apparatus replacement fund, not part of any fire departments budget. Chief stated that each year around July 1, \$267,000 is added to this fund. For this year adding the \$267,000 to the money already in the fund, there is a total of \$577,079.00, which is plenty to fund the purchase of this new apparatus. Chief Glover shared that there is a \$30,000 payment that needs to come out for the previous purchase of a ladder truck in the Moyock station, which the County has taken over payments. Chief believes that the bottom line is that over the time it takes for the truck to be delivered and paid for that apparatus fund will have accumulated another \$267,000 subtract the \$30,000 payment for Moyock's aerial/ladder truck and will leave the balance of the fund nearly where we started out before the purchase of the new apparatus. Also, he stated that every two to three

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years the fund seems to accumulate enough money to consider a purchase for a new piece of equipment.

Chairman Stanley Griggs stated that the list of apparatus previously asked for from all Fire Department's will determine the need from each station and will give everyone an idea of what needs to be replaced next. He suggested that a motion be voted upon now knowing the cost of the apparatus. Mr. Copeland made a motion to proceed with the purchase of the apparatus for Knotts Island Fire Station. Ms. Henley seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and carried.

VII. 2013 Budget for Volunteer Fire Departments:

Chairman Griggs suggested that the Fire Chiefs start working on their budget. Mr. Griggs also stated that he would like to see formality within the different stations budgets worksheets. Mr. Griggs then reiterated that this budget will be submitted for two years to get the departments on the same budget years as the rest of the departments within the county.

Chief Glover shared that it was his observation that there would be no new monies to disperse between the departments and that the overall budget will be the same as it has been in the past.

Deputy Chief Bergamini stated that after meeting with the Finance Director, he is unsure that all of the Fire Chiefs are aware of the process to purchase items throughout the year and prepare the budget. Chief Bergamini suggested that the Finance Director, Sandra Hill come to the next meeting and discuss proper procedures. Chief Glover stated that the explanations and directions are listed within the contracts, but is not opposed to having Mrs. Hill share her ideas.

VIII. Next Meeting Date:

October 25, 2012 - Agenda: Sandra Hill- Finance Director as guest speaker

IX. Adjourn:

8:15pm - Chairman Griggs made motion to adjourn the meeting

Minutes respectfully submitted by Chief Rob Glover and Ms. Crissy Daneker