



# ***FIRE & EMS ADVISORY BOARD***

## ***CURRITUCK COUNTY***



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### **Minutes**

**Thursday, March 28, 2013  
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, Chief Rob Glover, Mr. Jim Cason, Deputy Chief Bergamini, Commissioner Vance Aydlett, Mr. Charles Berry, Ms. Evelyn Henley, Vice Chair Paul Beaumont

**Absent:** Mr. John Wheeler, Mr. Mitch Copeland

Chairman Stanley Griggs stated that Mr. Berry had some health issues, but is ready to be active with the board once again and plans to be back at the March meeting.

**III. Reading and Action on the February 2013 Minutes:**

Mr. Charles Berry made a motion to accept the minutes as written. This motion was seconded by Ms. Henley. The motion was voted upon and carried.

**IV. Public Comments:**

Nathan Thorn from the Knotts Island Volunteer Fire Department gave his thanks to everyone involved with the service for the loss of the Knotts Island Fire Chief, Scott Morrison. Mr. Thorn expressed his appreciation for all of the love and support during this time in need.

Wes Liverman from Lower Currituck Volunteer Fire Department wanted to remind everyone of the Fish Fry Fundraiser held at the Grandy Fire Station on 3/29/2013 from 4-7pm.

Chief Galganski asked that anyone willing to help with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration contact him.

Chief Lane shared that after speaking with the Board of Commissioners, he will need approval to move forward with a new heating and air unit for Moyock Volunteer Fire

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All meetings will start promptly at 1900 hrs

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Station. A motion was made for the emergency funding of the unit and was seconded.

Chief Lane also shared that he is working with Bon Secure and May 18, 2013 Moyock Fire Dept. will be hosting a Family Day to raise money for a burn camp to send injured kids.

### **V. Special Call Meeting with the Board of Commissioners and the Advisory Board:**

Chairman Griggs turned the meeting over to Mr. Paul O'Neal, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. Attending the meeting were Kevin McCord representing district 4, Butch Petrey representing district 3, Marion Gilbert representing district 5, David Griggs representing district 2, Vance Aydlett representing district 1, Paul Martin as Vice Chairman, and Paul O'Neal as Chairman.

Mr. O'Neal started by thanking Chairman Griggs for the opportunity to speak at the Fire Advisory Meeting. He also shared his appreciation to the Volunteer Fire Chiefs as well as EMS staff for their dedication to the community. Chairman O'Neal stated that the reason for this special call meeting was to discuss planning for the future to better the system as a whole. The Board of Commissioners have proposed to move forward with a study to find out what level of service the county is currently at, what level they need to be at, as well as some of the strong and weak points of the systems. Mr. O'Neal stated that they have outsourced the administration of the study to a firm, however stated that the true outcome of the study depended on the honesty and dedication from the departments and their staff. With that being said, Mr. O'Neal assured the Volunteer Fire Chiefs that the Board of Commissioners are on their side and know they are greatly needed but have growing responsibilities and limited resources. The intend of the study was described as to obtain an objective assessment by a third party about the capabilities of the system and recommendations of sustaining the system as well as discuss funding for the short and long term for EMS and each Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. O'Neal shared that he had overheard one issue in the system is lack of communication between the county officials and the Volunteer Fire Chiefs. He then stated that the County Manager has agreed to meet more frequently with each Fire Chief.

At this time, Chairman O'Neal turned the meeting over to Commissioner Aydlett to discuss the study further in detail. Mr. Aydlett discussed several points of what the purpose is and is not of the study. Mr. Aydlett reiterated that the overall purpose is to obtain an oversight from a neutral third party and is not an indictment of any station or their leadership or designed to replace volunteers in the fire departments. All members on the Board of Commissioners spoke up to show their appreciation towards everyone involved in the study and stated the importants of honest communication with the administrators.

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A question was asked on the timeline of the study. Commissioner Aydlett stated that the study will be conducted, a draft report will be submitted to the county and departments, a comment session will be had, which will lead to a final draft.

At 7:23pm the Board of Commissioners was excused from the FEAB meeting. Chairman Griggs stated the chance to meet with the Board of Commissioners was a great opportunity and shared his appreciation for them initiating the study.

### **VI. Discussion on the purchase of the new apparatus:**

Chief Bergamini spoke on the need to discuss what department will receive the next piece of equipment. Mr. Bergamini also shared that the last visit with the representative will be in June with a July delivery. Discussion was had on the location of the decals for the truck. Members of the FEAB suggested reading old minutes for clarification due to the topic being already decided. Volunteer Fire Chiefs in the room shared that their trucks decals in their department have the decal of the specific department on the driver door and the county seal elsewhere such as the back door.

### **VII. Paid vs. Volunteer Fire Department:**

Chairman Griggs stated that the discussion was had on incentive pay and at what point does the pay constitute a volunteer to become paid. Chief Glover did research on this topic and spoke of the Chief Officer section in the International Association of Fire Chiefs, which explains in detail the question at hand.

### **VIII. Volunteer Fire Department Budgets:**

Chairman Griggs is still working on a spreadsheet for each department's information to be entered for unity. Chairman asked for a special call meeting to be held on April 11, 2013 to finalize the budgets. Mr. Beaumont made a motion to hold the meeting with a second being made from Mr. Cason, the motion was voted upon and carried.

### **IX. FEAB Comments:**

Members of the Fire Advisory Board commented on their appreciation from all involved with the service held for Scott Morrison.

### **X. Election of Officers:**



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Chairman Griggs stated that it was the time of the year to appoint and reappoint officers. The Board made a motion to delay the election. The motion was voted upon and carried.

**XI. Next Meeting Dates:**

April 11, 2013- Special Call Meeting (Finalize Volunteer Budgets)

April 25, 2013- Determined on the need

7:58pm - Chairman Griggs made motion to adjourn the meeting

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

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