

ESAC Fire Committee

5/29/13

On May 29, 2013 the Fire Committee of the Henry County Emergency Services Advisory Council met at the training center. Present were fire chiefs Jr. Lynch of Bassett, Brian Schuler of Fieldale and Cotton Trent of Ridgeway. Other representatives were Randy Smith, Dyers Store, Dale Harris, Patrick Henry, Jim Coleman, Axton, Kenny Shumate, Collinsville and William Martin from Horsepasture.

Capital Improvements was discussed and it was recommended to maintain the current rotation system. This decision was based upon the life expectancy of fire apparatus is mostly determined by age, not mileage. Also mileage is not a clear indicator of use as trucks often sit pumping for hours. All present agreed that their agencies are evaluating the number of trucks in their fleet. Collinsville, Patrick-Henry, Fieldale and Bassett have already reduced their fleets by one truck.

Funding was discussed about possibly using a portion of "Aid To locality" Funds (fire programs) to help fund apparatus. Most said that they were already using their ATL funds to pay on loans on apparatus. The committee recommended that CIP funds be only used for Engines and Tankers that meet NFPA Standards. It was also recommended that new apparatus be registered through the county to take advantage of their insurance.

Standards of Operation recommended that responders switch to FR OPS on complex incidents. Also discussed type of apparatus second due departments should respond for structure fires.

The committee recommended that all **officers** should complete Firefighter 1& 2, Incident Command 100,200, and 300, Rural Water Supply and Integrated Fire Ground Operations. **Firefighters** should complete Firefighter 1, ICS 100 and 200, Rural Water Supply and IFGO.

Before adjourning, the committee requested a "new member in service" for new candidates. The content of this course needs further discussion.

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