



County of Henry

Department of Public Safety

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ESAC Minutes – August 15, 2018

Agency attendees:

Ricky Holiday (ALSC), Jeff Fulcher (BRS), Daryl Hatcher (FCRS), Todd King (HVRS), Travis Pruitt (RDRS), Junior Lynch (BFD), Jeff Beam (CFD), Tommy Martin (DSFD), Charles Bradshaw (HFD), Donald Turner (PHFD), and Cotton Trent (RFD)

Agencies not present:

Axton Fire Department and Fieldale Fire Department

Public Safety attendees:

Matt Tatum, Suzie Helbert, Lisa Garrett, Jason Sturm

Other Agencies:

Henry County-Martinsville Joint Communication Center, Henry County Fire Association, AirCare, and AirLife

Public attendee(s):

Additional representatives from AirCare and AirLife
Billy Fulcher
Dusty Craft

Matt opened the meeting with Charles Byrd, Principal of Magna Vista High School, to announce an event going on at Magna Vista High School on Friday, September 14, 2018.

Mr. Byrd informed everyone that September 14, Magna Vista would like to honor all of the emergency responders in Henry County. He asks for everyone who could, please provide a truck for this event. Also, he invited everyone to attend the home football game that night and offered free admission to any emergency responder.

Mat was not able to locate the Minutes for the January 2018 meeting. Therefore, they were not presented for approval.

Division Reports:

- Fire Prevention-Report by Lisa Garrett, Fire Marshal
 - Please make sure that if your department decides to burn a structure for someone that the property owner has obtained ALL permits required of the Building Inspector's Office and DEQ. Public Safety recommends that you do not burn any structure due to the required permits, but if you do, make sure the owner has all the required permits.
 - Junior asked what they should do if they receive a request to burn a structure and Lisa recommended having them call her, and she would point them to the proper contact.
 - Lisa also agreed to develop a contact list that could be presented to the caller.
 - The smoke alarm program is still active, and the staff is working with various community organizations to address the Latino population.
 - There were no additional questions for the division.
- Operations-Report by Jason Sturm, Operations Division Chief
 - He is working on getting the staff roster finalized, and once he does, he will get that out to everyone.
 - He asked that if anyone sees anything, they feel they need to comment on, positive or negative, to please get with him as soon as possible for it is much easier to address concerns sooner than later.
 - There were no questions for the division.
- Training and Volunteer Coordination-Report by Suzie Helbert, Deputy Director
 - Flyers containing upcoming training was handed out.
 - Donald asked if CE from Patrick County classes would count towards his EMT and Suzie answer 'yes, any class he takes that is submitted to OEMS for CE will be counted.'
 - Donald asked if there was a way to speed up the turn around time for criminal histories. Suzie and Tierra both responded that the process has multiple components to it, and they hope they have recently discovered the bottle-neck, but we will have to wait and see.
 - Suzie reported that she was aware of multiple rare incidents that the process was followed correctly, BUT there was never a response from the FBI.
 - There were no additional questions for the division.

Partners of Fire and EMS Reports:

- Fire Association-Report by Lee Cooley, President
 - The fire association recently conducted a training day and had about 50 participants. Lee conveyed this was one of the best training days he had seen locally in the past 20 years.

- The October Fest and Association Safety Day October 6th. He asks that every department participate, both fire and EMS. He encouraged everyone to attend.
- There were no questions for the fire association.
- Rescue Association- No Representative Present
- Communications Center- Report by Tierra Dillard, Deputy Director
 - She did not have anything to report.
 - Less asked why the fire departments were receiving the 'Hospital Diversion' notifications.
 - Tierra said she would immediately get that corrected.
 - There were no questions for the Communication Center.
- Sheriff's Office- No Representative Present
- AirCare- Mack reported that AirCare is now carrying blood to be able to administer to patients who need it.
- AirLife- Tony reported they were finally fully staffed and they are in the CAMTS Accreditation process and hope to have that completed within the next few months.
 - Tommy asks if AirLife was 'soft-billing' yet. Tony responded they did not do a soft-billing process but the only bills that will ever be sent to collections are bills that patients refuse to communicate with them about, and bills that the patient's insurance sent the check directly to the patient, but the patient never sent the payment to them.

Old Business:

- Fire Truck Fund
 - Matt reported that Jeff had recently notified him that Collinsville Fire Department had decided they will not be purchasing a truck this year. After that, Matt called a meeting of all the fire chiefs to discuss options. That meeting resulted in the recommendation that the funds go to the next department in line (Dyers Store) and that Collinsville would jump right back in line.
 - Matt asked for comments from the entire council. There were no objections expressed so this will be the recommendation presented to the Board at the appropriate time.
 - Tommy asks if we could pursue the Board to reinstate the loan program.
 - Matt reported that was a budget item request and that we would note that to be added as a request.
- Fire and EMS Day
 - Matt shared the results of the survey that was conducted immediately after the last event and asked for additional feedback from the council.
 - Lisa discussed the idea of a thermal cup with a logo etched on it.

- Donald reported that Patrick County gave every responder a \$25 gift card for gas.
 - Todd stated he liked the challenge coins.
 - Jeff suggested asking convenient stores in the community to consider free refills of the cup.
 - Matt informed everyone to continue to submit their ideas.
- Firefighter Rehab
 - Matt reported that Darren Lockridge had called and asked that the concept of dual response for EMS be considered for structure fires so that one could be used for rehab and the other could be used for emergency treatments.
 - After much discussion, it was decided to leave it as it is and if the IC decided additional resources were needed, they could make that call for that incident.

New Business:

- Air Ambulance Services
 - Matt reported that after he announced the new air ambulance protocol, he received a lot of criticism because it was never presented to ESAC before it was implemented.
 - Matt reported that he made that decision because he had gotten clear directives that the policy had to provide equal opportunity for both agencies and he had less than two weeks to get it in writing.
 - With the directive, Matt conducted meetings with AirCare, AirLife, JR, and Kris Shrader to find the best solution.
 - The decision was to assign each agency two dispatch shifts with each getting a day and a night shift. This allowed complete equal opportunity, and the dispatcher only has to know one process.
 - Each agency was met with afterward and expressed appreciation of the fairness of the process and agreed if their agency were not available at the time of the call, they would call the other or the next closest.
 - Matt reported that since the implementation, there had been very few issues and it is his opinion that things are working very good and Henry County is very blessed to have two such highly qualified air ambulance providers to serve our community.
 - Charlie asked if they would be available to do quick scene flights for things such as missing persons and both organizations agreed they were happy to do that BUT they were not certified to do 'rescue' type missions.
 - Cotton asked they could be informed which agency was coming when they were setting up the landing zone.
 - Tierra said she would ask that this is conveyed once it was confirmed.

- CAD and Agency Assist
 - Jeff Fulcher asks if an identifier could be added to the CAD so that members of the volunteer agencies could be shown in the CAD as assisting but not use a licensed unit number so to reduce the number of incident reports they had to do.
 - Tierra reported JR had looked into this and he suggests one identifier for each agency such as o3MB be added. This would allow the agencies participation to be shown within logging an ambulance. When possible, the dispatcher would put the specific member's number in the notes.

Public Comment (2006-2007)

- None

Open Discussion

- Charlie asked if Fire Departments could be toned out for drownings for command purposes?
 - Matt stated he would get with JR and work on some proposals.

Announcements

- Town of Ridgeway will be hosting Fatz on Aug. 25th from 1800-2100, and everyone is welcome to attend.
- Ridgeway Rescue now has a drone if anyone ever needs it.
- Horsepasture Fire Department has a money give-a-way coming up on Nov. 4th.
- Horsepasture Rescue Squad has a bike ride coming up on Aug. 25th and a money give-a-way coming up on Sept. 25th.

Next Meeting: January 16, 2019