



County of Henry

Department of Public Safety

1024 DuPont Road
Martinsville, VA 24112
Voice: 276.634.4660
Fax: 276.634.4770

Emergency Services Advisory Council (ESAC) Meeting Minutes

The ESAC meeting was held at 7 p.m. on September 17, 2014 at the Henry County Emergency Services Training Center. The meeting was facilitated by Rodney Howell, Director for Henry County Department of Public Safety.

Agency attendees were as follows:

Rhonda Hylton (ALSC), Jeff Fulcher (BRS), Junior Lynch (BFD), Jeff Beam (CFD), Randy Smith (DSFD), Brian Shuler (FFD), Daryl Hatcher (FCRS), Donald Turner (PHFD), Rodney Smith (RRS), Cotton Trent (RFD).

Agencies not present:

Axton Fire Department, Horsepasture Fire Department, Horsepasture Rescue Squad.

Public Safety attendees were as follows:

Rodney Howell (Director), Matt Tatum (Deputy Director/EMS Coordinator), Suzie Helbert, (EMS Training Coordinator), Kiah Cooper (Asst. Fire Marshal), Kenny Shumate (Volunteer Coordinator), Pam Mason (Secretary)

Public attendees were as follows:

J. R. Powell, Communications

Breakout of Committees to discuss Discipline specific Issues:

Fire Committee:

Mandated Training

After previous discussion on training requirements the fire chiefs approved the following mandates for training levels for all fire company officers positions.

New officers will be required to have the below listed certifications for the office to be held by January 1, 2016.

- **NOTE: Current officers may continue to hold their current positions without additional certifications. (Current officers may not move up)**
- All officers – will be required to obtain the following VDFP certifications: Firefighter1, Incident Command 100, 200, HazMat OPS.
- Captain and above will be required to obtain the following Virginia Department of Fire Programs certifications: Firefighter II, Incident Command System 100, 200, and 300, HazMat OPS & Awareness.

- Interior Firefighters are required to have FFI.
- Drivers will be required to have at least Rural Water Supply, Basic Pump Operations and EVOC.
- All members will be required to take Henry County Communications 101 a course developed by Jr Lynch and Dale Wagoner. This shall be conducted as Multi Company training.

Membership Applications – will be accessible on line, but paperwork for finger printing will come through Public Safety before going to the sheriff’s office.

ISO

ISO ratings are as follows:

- Axton 5-5y
- Bassett 5-5y
- Collinsville 5-5y
- Dyers Store 6-6y,
- Fieldale 5-5y
- Horsepasture 5-5y
- Patrick Henry 5-5y
- Ridgeway’s has yet to be determined.

EMS Committee:

Mandated Training

The consensus of the group was that the chief operations officer shall at minimum be an EMT with ICS-300.

The training officers shall be minimum EMT with Intermediate, Paramedic, and/or EMS Educator *preferred*.

There was also discussion about conducting some management type classes in a module/track format with a graduation afterwards to acknowledge completion. Matt reported various opportunities had been presented in the past but without much participation. The group felt that recognition by graduation may improve participation.

Dual Training between agencies

Conducting CE opportunities was discussed. Though moderate success had been done with the “Mega CE Week” programs, it was suggested these go to a weekend format rather than a full week. It was also suggested that the association look into sponsoring such training in the way of snacks or food. It was also noted that this training should be done at Public Safety due to the central location and all of the equipment is located there but this does not exclude individual agencies from requesting to host.

Volunteer Incentives

The group felt that the volunteer appreciation day was great and that public safety should continue to focus on that and they were not able to identify any other meaningful incentives. The group felt the county decal wasn’t significant enough to affect recruitment/retention.

Communications

It was suggested that someone, most likely Chris, do a youtube video of specific details of both the portables and mobiles. The demonstration should be proper use and what each button does. They felt that individual abuse or inappropriate use should be addressed by the specific agency's Chief or Captain.

Four for Life

Matt reminded everyone that they had been sent this information prior to the meeting for feedback but basically we were looking to see if there was a more appropriate way to distribute the 6-for-life funding. Daryl stated that he had responded to Rodney with a formula that was based on call coverage of the agencies and removed Public Safety from the allocation. Rhonda stated she felt it should be left alone because they used that money. Skip stated it should be left alone as they used that money. Jeff stated he felt it should be left alone and that his board had indicated they felt if it was changed, it was just another way the county was taking their money. Jeff also indicated that this fund was actually an out of sight out of mind account and therefore it wasn't used until it was desperately needed. Skip stated that honestly there was no rescue squad in the county hurting for money and if they wanted more money, they should answer more calls. Matt reported a formula that would give every agency a flat \$2000 and then disburse the balance based on a /call rate from the previous calendar year. Matt then asked for everyone's individual thought. 3 said leave it alone and 1 said they had no preference and certainly understood that a call type system was probably fairer.

Full ESAC convened at 8 p.m.

The minutes from July 15, 2014 were approved

Old Business:

None

Appreciation Dinner

Appreciation Day Dinner will be very similar to last year with the additional entertainment. Per chief's and captain's everyone enjoyed and agreed to continue.

Communication

- It was discussed that J. R. Powell be invited to the EMSAC meetings. Requested CAD to send call reports when fire departments when they clear a scene even though EMS may still be there. J. R. Powell is to check into this but does not see a problem in this being possible.
- Communications being more specific on call detail i.e. cross streets and if possible landmarks were brought up again. J. R. is to check into this and advise dispatch to add this to the report if possible when dispatched.
- Dispatch is capable to receive text messages with certain cell phone carriers. At this time they are Verizon, T-Mobile, AT&T and Sprint.
- Mobile Radios – The present radios by Motorola will be discontinued by the year end. Daryl Hatcher put in site in what Franklin County. Star City, Lynchburg: TAIT - \$18,00 -\$2,000 w/10 year warrantee, at 3-5-7 years receive new batteries, 4-6 years new radios. Daryl to give Rodney information on this.

- AirCare/LifeGuard has not switched to LZ-OPS. Still using SAF-OPS. Matt to discuss this with them.

Comments from Public

None

Upcoming Training:

See attached for a list of upcoming training classes.

Next meeting date: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.