



County of Rockbridge

Office of Fire-Rescue & Emergency Management
100 Baner Lane Buena Vista, Virginia 24416 Office: (540) 572-4213

Regional Fire-Rescue Commission July 21, 2020 Minutes

Commission Members Present: Nathan Ramsey – Rockbridge County, Steve Reese – RERG, Jerry Wilson – RCFA, Carl Irvine – RCFA, Ty Dickerson – Lexington

Members of Public: Kathleen Beverly – BVRS, Leslie Ayers – BOS *please note: the meeting was held via Zoom.*

The June meeting was called to order at 19:10 by Chief Ramsey.

Approval of the Minutes: A motion to accept the June 16, 2020 minutes was made by Ty Dickerson and 2nd by Jerry Wilson.

Chair Report: Not present.

Committee Reports:

- **F/R ECC Subcommittee** – Meeting held just prior to Commission meeting. Discussed:
 - Region 2000 (Bedford, Amherst) mobile radio placed in service at ECC, still tuning on antenna.
 - Dave stated he would like for Raphine crews to submit addresses of areas that mobile coverage is not working. Chief Ramsey will work with Chief Brooks.
 - A concern has been presented regarding crews receiving multiple texts and Active 911 alerts for each call dispatched for. Chief Ramsey will discuss with Lindsay.
 - No change yet on toning the Regional Swift Water Team.
 - Chief Ramsey reported on the 911 Hang-up calls. Since December 2018, there have been 2,494 incidents reported. Of those, there were two times EMS was called and six times a FD was called. With that, 99.7% of the time Fire/EMS is not needed. After discussion, the subcommittee does not see a need for a change in response to 911 hang-ups.
 - Chief Ramsey alerted the group that the 911 Board has hired a consultant to work with our CAD vendor New World Technologies to get ongoing issues corrected. Currently the CAD goes down every 11 days, along with multiple issues on the LE side.

Old Business:

- Chief Reese reported that he and Chief Wilmer has developed bylaws and set out to all departments. The RCFA has approved the draft with the condition of adding volunteer to the title of the association

- Burn Burning – No word from DFP
- County leadership still working on plans for the use of CARES Funding.
- Work continues with VDH on the COVID-19 response. There will be a test site at the Stonebridge Center on Tuesday July 28th from 1-4.

New Business:

- Chief Ramsey presented to group that a concern was brought to him in regards to the performance-based funding program. In that, the question was how did Fairfield Rescue receive \$21,372 for FY20 when the max for other departments could only be \$18,079. At the time when this program was presented and approved, the percentage of increase was based on the allotments of the departments. Fairfield Rescue and Glasgow Rescue allotment has a 15% increase due do having career staff in their stations. With that, Fairfield and Glasgow started out the beginning of the year the amount of \$23,172 due to their allotments being higher than all other departments. This is not something that has just changed as it has been the same since FY17. After discussions, the group decided to not make any changes to the program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm motion by Ty Dickerson and 2nd by Jerry Wilson