

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
BOARD LEVEL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2010 5:00 PM**

Members Present:

**David Laurrell, County Administrator
Steven Shockley, Board of Supervisors
Charles Falwell, Board of Supervisors
Bruce Stratton, Rescue Commissioner
Bill Bigham, Fire Commissioner**

**Bill Gillespie, Public Safety
Karen Briggs, Public Safety
Sheriff Terry Gaddy, CCSO
Roger Vassar, Rescue Commission**

Others Present:

**Tracy Fairchild, CCDPS
Randall Johnson, CCDPS**

**Jason Stroud, CCDPS
Benny David, CCDPS**

Members Not Present:

**Chief Clayborne Hamilton, Altavista PD
Claude Owen, Fire Commission**

Mr. Laurrell welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 5:09 PM.

- I. Mr. Laurrell introduced Mr. Charles Falwell as our new Board of Supervisors member joining the Public Safety Committee.
- II. Bill Bigham, Fire Commissioner, stated that several of the volunteer fire departments elected new chiefs. The new chiefs are Scott Horseman, Gladys VFD, Mike Mays, Brookville-Timberlake VFD, and Kenny Kirby, Concord VFD. Claude Owen is working with the chiefs on the fire CIP. Mr. Bigham stated that he is unsure of the date that it will be ready. The Fire Commission has asked Gerald Inge to be the training coordinator for the fire departments. Mr. Inge is an adjunct instructor with the Virginia Department of Fire Programs. He would like to increase training opportunities involving multiple departments at one time. Mr. Bigham stated that record keeping and where those records should be retained still needs to be discussed once the training begins. Mr. Bigham stated that Firefighter I and Firefighter II will not be sponsored by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs. The county will be responsible for the cost. Firefighter I will cost approximately \$9600.00, Firefighter II will cost approximately \$3200.00, and Hazmat Ops will also need to be included along with these courses. Mr. Bigham stated that during the flooding on January 25 the fire departments, E-911 center, Tracy Fairchild, and VDOT all stepped up to the plate and did a great job. Mr. Bigham stated that any Hazmat incidents that occur in the county need to be reported to VEOC and Brain Thurman, Hazmat Coordinator for VDEM regardless of amount.

- III. Bruce Stratton, Rescue Commissioner, stated the CIP draft was completed approximately two months ago. They were unaware that buildings could be included and would like to time to go back and rework their CIP. Mr. Stratton stated that an agreement has been signed by Altavista EMS effective February 1. They are a full fledged member of EMSAC.
- IV. There were no Law Enforcement items.
- V. Benny David, Animal Control stated that he would like to increase the number of rabies clinics from two to four. He stated that he has checked with the veterinary clinics in the area and they do not feel that it will impact their business in anyway. Steve Simpson with the Virginia Department of Health has given his approval for four clinics. These clinics are at no cost to the county and provide a valuable service to the citizens. The South Central Spay Neuter Clinic provides the service for \$5.00 a shot. These clinics will be rotated in the Rustburg, Brookneal, and Altavista areas. All in favor. This item will go before the Board of Supervisors on February 16.
- VI. Randall Johnson was introduced as the Interim Fire Marshal. Mr. Laurell stated that the Fire Marshal position should post in two weeks. The Fire Marshal will be responsible for arson investigations and administration support to the volunteer fire departments. Discussion was opened in reference to hiring a part time Fire Marshal for coverage when the Fire Marshal is not available; use a Sheriff's Office Investigator, or volunteer fire members who have been trained in fire investigations. Mr. Bigham and Sheriff Gaddy both stated that Arson for the 1st Responder would be the most logical class for volunteer fire members to have. Sheriff Gaddy stated that he would have to send an investigator back to school for certification. Mr. Laurell stated to take this matter back to the Fire Commission to see who in the volunteer system is interested in the training and bring it back to the next Public Safety Committee meeting.
- VII. There were no Communication System complaints.
- VIII. Mr. Gillespie reported on the Communication System Upgrade. The part time scheduling arrangements that were made with Jonarron Evans to reprogram the radios is not working due to his work schedule. A Request for Bid will be sent out for a radio technician to come and reprogram the radios so that this phase of the project can be completed in a timely manner. Authorization to accept the most responsible bidder will go before the Board of Supervisors on February 16, 2010. The Communication Technician position should be filled with a start date of July 1, 2010. The County would still like to work with the three tiered approach to the Communication System. This three tiered approach includes an in house Communications Technician, and outside vendor for technical specifications that are outside of the in house Communications Technicians scope of abilities, and a System Architect to assist with the overall view of the communications system.

- IX. Tracy Fairchild stated that a Communications Committee was established one year ago to develop and implement communications policies and procedures that will facilitate the delivery of emergency services to the citizens of Campbell County when needed. The goal of the committee is to resolve communications issues as they arise by establishing the necessary protocols that enhance emergency service delivery. Meetings were held on a monthly basis with or without agenda items. She would like to change the meetings to quarterly; February, May, August, and November, the third Tuesday of stated months at 6:00 PM in the Public Safety conference room. Special called meetings will be scheduled if needed. An annual meeting calendar would be published and distributed by January 15 of each year. All in favor.
- X. There were no Emergency Management items.
- XI. Mr. Laurell stated that the Training Officer position has been added to the Public Safety Organizational chart. This position will increase two grades above the current Communication's Officer IV position. He will be recommending the Board of Supervisor's approving and moving this position to a Grade 19. There were no objections from the Public Safety Committee. The Communications Technical Group will be three phase. An in-house technical position will handle programming, installations, and exchanges, an outside vendor will handle services and resources, and a Systems Engineering vendor will be on contract to handle system architecture.
- XII. Mr. Laurell stated that the presentation of the Fire and Needs Assessment will be made to the Board of Supervisors on February 16 by Jason Stroud. A summary of the report, work groups, processes, and the first five recommendations will be presented for the Board of Supervisors for acceptance. The Board of Supervisors will be presented with each five recommendations as they are completed. Even with budget constraints, Mr. Laurell stated that the Board of Supervisors still need to know what the priorities are for our volunteer services.
- XIII. Mr. Laurell gave the ISO update. He sent a request to meet with the ISO representatives in regards to questions that had been raised. The ISO representatives were not aware that the county operates as a system, not individual fire agencies, that they are dual dispatched on structure fires, and that fire personnel have training sessions. One suggestion for improvement is that trainings need to be held as "regional trainings" with different county fire volunteer agencies training together. This will be a priority for the new Fire Marshal.
- XIV. Mr. Gillespie presented the proposed 2010 Public Safety Organizational Chart. Four items have changed. The Administrative Aide position has been eliminated from the Fire Marshal office. The Communications Technician and Training Officer have been added. The Training Officer position will have dual

responsibility of also still supervising in the 911 Center. The Fire Marshal position went from a Deputy Director II position to a Deputy Director I position due to supervisory responsibilities this is more in line with the job description. The proposed organizational chart will go before the Board of Supervisors at the February 16 meeting.

- XV. The status of the Brookneal Police Department is unknown at this time. They currently have two officers working there.
- XVI. Mr. Laurrell stated that interviews were conducted on January 29 for the Public Safety Director. The topped rank candidate will be asked to attend an Open House on February 16 from 3 PM-7 PM for anyone interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55PM

The next meeting will be April 5, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.