

Fire and Rescue Commission
Minutes of June 23, 2020
Chatham Community Center
115 South Main St, Chatham, VA 24531

1.) Call to order at 6:30 p.m. by Bryan Fox, Chairman

2.) Roll Call

<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Chuck Angier	X	
Tim Duffer	X	
Bryan Fox	X	
Brian Garrett		X
Ben Meeks	X	
Ron Scarce	X	
Keith Scruggs	X	
Bert Sellers	X	
Billy Talbott		X

Staff members present: Chris Slem, Michael Lee

Association Representative: Dean Fowler

3.) Additions or Revisions to the agenda. Ron Scarce made motion to add Bylaws to unfinished business from last meeting. Chuck Angier second motion. Motion passed with no discussion.

4.) Approval of the agenda: Motion made by Ron Scarce, Seconded by Tim Duffer. Motion passed with no discussion.

5.) Approval of previous meeting minutes: Motion made by Ron Scearce, Seconded by Tim Duffer. No discussion. Motion passed.

6.) Presentations: No presentations

7.) Fire and Rescue Association report: Dean Fowler: Association meeting was in May. Discussion is being brought to the commission from the Association in reference to no communication with Fire Commission, Fire and Rescue Association, and BOS. Discussion from Bryan Fox in reference to BOS calling him in reference to miss communication. Discussion from Bryan Fox about BOS contacting him with not remember voting on Items for Fire and Rescue in BOS meetings. Mr. Sellers asked that in the future that this fire commission bring topics like the Financial report request and other topics be brought to the commission so they can voice their concerns before it goes to the board. Ben Meeks asked for better communications from the county, commission, and also BOS. Mike Neal also talked about the financial report to the commission. He does not want any department penalized for doing good by the county getting these reports. Ron Scearce advised this is only for accountability so the citizens know where the money is going.

8.) Other Fire or Rescue Agency report: Scottie Adams advised both agencies he is a part of does not mind sending the financial form. Thank you for the BOS, members of the fire and rescue commission and Mr. Smitherman for meeting with Franklin County.

9.) County Staff Report:

A. Update on Rescue Squad

I. Chatham Rescue Squad has improved greatly after meeting with them.

II. 640 Rescue: Has suspended operations by their Board. PS has a meeting scheduled.

- Ben Meeks asked that 640 funds be distributed to the agencies that are picking up their territory. Sq 22, Sq12, and Sq34. Chris said he would look into this.
- Ron Scearce made motion to distribute 640's remaining funds to the agencies that are running the 640 territory. Motion second by Tim Duffer. All in favor, no one opposed. Motion Passed.

B. County Staffing starts July 1, 2020. Kasey Seay will be promoted to EMS Coordinator. News Letter will be sent out at 8:00pm tonight introducing the staff.

C. Capital Reserve Funds

1. Brosville Fire and Rescue has requested to use the Capital Reserve for their ambulance's engine replacement. The cost is estimated at approximate \$19,000. They have one ambulance remaining and are also using Callands second ambulance as a backup. Ben Meeks reflects that their call coverage is outstanding. Chris Slemp advised \$4,000 is the maximum amount they can take out of this fund. This will also have to go to BOS to be voted on. Carlyon Jarret, Chief of Brosville, advised the warranty is not valid. Ben Meeks made motion to recommend giving them the funds and Tim Duffer seconded the motion. Motion passed.
2. Cool Branch Fire Department has requested to use the Capital Reserve for their AC unit at their station be replaced. The air condition went out and they are unable to fix it due to it being an older unit. \$7,050 is the quote they were giving to replace the unit. Due to COVID-19 their fundraisers are postponed. Mr. Scruggs asked if a quote from a company in Pittsylvania County was obtained. They can have the unit in place within 30 days. Chuck Angier asked how old the air condition is. Scottie advised 12-15 years old. Chuck Angier made a motion to approve Second motion made by Tim Duffer. Motion passed.

D. Agency FY21 Funding: Chris Slemp still needs to meet with some agencies and then come back to the commission meeting with the report.

E. Bryan Fox asked how does the drawing of the financial report work. Mr. Smitherman advised two will be automatically drawn each year.

F. Fire and Rescue Service Agreement: 1st payment was changed by to August as requested by the fire and rescue association. The Fire and Rescue Commission will determine what is "In good standing" as an agency. The wording regarding the last 15 % was changed to covering 70 percent of Fire and EMS. If you struggle with Fire or EMS as a dual agency you will still get funding for half. Responding time changed back to 8 minutes. August, January, and June are the months funding will be sent. Tim Duffer made motion to approve the Fire and Rescue Service Agreement changes, with a second by Ron Scearce. Discussions: Chuck Angier Section discovered a typo in "B.4", also 4.C Clarify the Financial Report to 9-90 and Random Audit. All in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

G. CARES Funding: County received this funding from COVID-19. Mr. Slemp requested more PPE for agencies. \$35,000 has been approved for EMS medical supplies for all the county agencies. Target Solutions training platform was purchased for the Volunteers. It will take us some time to get everyone accounts. This will provide training to volunteers. We are also working on a contract with ESO and purchasing this for all the agencies. It will be CAD Interfaced. We are hoping to have ESO by September. We will be Hiring a part-time training position to help with training for volunteers. Cardiac Monitors will be purchased, one monitor for each agency that needs upgraded monitors from the Phillips

monitors. RFP has been put out for 4 ambulances. Ben Meeks asked if it would be a 50/50 deal with the County assisting 50/50 for the new ambulances/fire trucks.

10.) Unfinished business:

Bylaws Amendment: Article 5: changes. Attendance and remote access for meeting due to COVID-19. Chuck Angier made motion to pass the by-law amendments with the attendance requirement retroactive to the first meeting. Second by Tim Duffer. The motion passed.

11.) New Business: None

12.) Other matters from Commission members

Ron Scearce: BOS has made a commitment to provide more funding to Fire and Rescue. Keep in mind that Mr. Smitherman is part of this as well. I fully support Mr. Smitherman and Fire and EMS and also want to be accountable to Fire/Rescue, and also the citizens. Mr. Smitherman has been a friend and advocate for Fire and Rescue. We are trying to do more.

Brian Garrett: N/A

Chuck Angier: Hats off to the volunteers for their service

Tim Duffer: We voted on 2 departments that needed emergency funding. There is around \$17,000 in this fund. This fund will continue to build. Also, would like to look at Agencies, Commission, and Volunteers have some kind of standard spec sheet on equipment.

Ben Meeks: As a commissioner, volunteer, citizen spoken on rumors, downing agencies, and etc. to remember we are here to uplift and approve services. We bring items to this commission and vote whether we agree or not but we need to stick together. Also, thank you to Dean, DFD, St 34, Public safety for the wreck on Rt 40.

Bryan Fox: Thank everyone, chiefs, deputy chiefs, Mr. Ingram. Thank you for your input. I want to hear from you all personally. We are here to represent you all. We do not take it lightly. We are part of you all. Thank you for being here tonight.

Bert Sellers: None

Keith Scruggs: None

Chris Slemp: Thanked the agency that assisted with the protest.

13.) Adjournment at: Ben made motion to adjourn. Tim second motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.