

December 8, 2022
Regular Meeting

Pittsylvania County Fire and Rescue Commission
Regular Meeting
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VIRGINIA: The Regular Meeting of the Pittsylvania County Fire and Rescue Commission was held on December 8, 2022, in the Board Meeting Room, 39 Bank Street, SE, Chatham, Virginia. Chairman – Callands/Gretna Rep – Ben Meeks, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. The following members were present:

Attendee Name	Title	Status
James Hollie	Dan River - Rep	Absent
Ben Meeks	Callands/Gretna – Rep	Present
Alan Casper	Banister – Rep	Present
Ward Rowland	Tunstall – Rep	Present
Tim Cassell	Westover – Rep	Present
Bryan Shields	Chatham/Blairs – Rep	Present
Coleman Mayhew	Stauton River	Present
Kermit King	Northwest Quad - Rep	Present
Steve Stallings	Southwest Quad -Rep	Present
John Brown	Northeast Quad - Rep	Present
Bert Sellers	Southeast Quad - Rep	Present
Vic Ingram	Board of Supervisors Rep	Present
Dean Fowler	F&R Association	Present

AGENDA ITEMS TO BE ADDED

Updated agenda adding 13 D – Discussion on DEA Schedule 6 drug licenses.

Motion:

“I make a motion to add this item to the agenda.”

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Cassell – Westover - Rep
SECONDER:	Kermit King – Northwest Quad – Rep
AYES:	Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, Shields, Mayhew, King, Stallings, Brown, Sellers
ABSENT:	Hollie

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Motion to Approve Agenda

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Brown – Northeast Quad – Rep
SECONDER:	Bryan Shields – Chatham/Blairs – Rep
AYES:	Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, Shields, Mayhew, King, Stallings, Brown, Sellers
ABSENT:	Hollie

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. October FRC Meeting Minutes Approval (Staff Contact: Scott Hutcherson)

Motion:

“I make a motion to approve the attached October FRC minutes as presented.”

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Alan Casper – Banister – Rep
SECONDER:	Kermit King – Northwest Quad – Rep
AYES:	Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, Shields, Mayhew, King, Stallings, Brown, Sellers
ABSENT:	Hollie

PRESENTATIONS

None

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

None

FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION REPORT

Chief Fowler, yield time to budget topic.

COUNTY STAFF REPORTS

County's Public Safety Director's Report (Scott Hutcherson)

Summary:

1. **ARPA funding:** Only have 2 departments still working on projects.
2. **Mutual aid agreements:** No change.
3. **Schedule 6 CSR drug storage –** Paperwork submitted November 7, 2022, waiting for inspection date to be set. They are a month behind on inspections. Update today and will discuss.
4. **Mutual Aid Fire responses –** Started tracking them after last meeting. Start reporting them in newsletter monthly
5. **Four for Life and ATL funding –** Is available for agencies. Turn in receipts for reimbursement.
6. **Radio PMs –** have been completed
7. **Community Paramedic Program –** Is up and running in the county. Making progress daily.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Kermit King asked about counting mutual aid responses.
Scott Hutcherson spoke about this and as long a truck is marked enroute it is getting counted for a response.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board of Supervisors Communications, Vic Ingram spoke about the funding being approved. He also introduced Robert Tucker, Jr the Bannister District Board of Supervisors representative.
- b. Budget discussion – Chief Dean Fowler spoke about the budget process and in the past, they have had a chance to voice their concerns and what they need. The Fire and Rescue Association has asked for representation in this process for the upcoming year.

There is a meeting at the Public Safety office scheduled for Wednesday December 14, 2022, at 3pm. B. Meeks had discussion on who was going to attend or to change the meeting and make it a public meeting. Alan Casper and Kermit King was willing to go and represent the commission and report back to the commission.

D. Fowler spoke about the fact that most agencies are going to run out of fuel money for this year's budget. Fuel prices have gone up 55% since 2020 and 20% inflation. Fire and Rescue is requesting a 20% increase of total budget. And the Fire Departments are requesting the same funding as EMS per call.

V. Ingram reassured that now is this time to be having these discussions and its not to late. Now is the time to show collectively what is needed.

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Fuel costs were discussed in length on how to budget, to try to come up with ideas, and to get some facts together. Why the money is needed and present it. We need to have a plan moving forward. The meeting will be a work session. It was also requested for a report on the fuel budget for this year and what has been used.

- c. Fire and Rescue Memorial update – Ben Meeks spoke about the project. Now they are in the design phase. Where is being talked about now, using the old Armory building in Chatham. The executive team had some questions, utilities, and maintaining it. Met last month, received an email back from Chris Slemph. The committee has requested once complete the county take ownership. They are still in the process of creating who they are going to memorialize, and making sure high standards are in place.

Motion:

“I make a motion to ask the Board of Supervisors to take ownership of and maintain memorial once completed.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ben Meeks – Callands/Gretna Rep
SECONDER:	Bert Sellers – Southeast Quad – Rep
AYES:	Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, Shields, Mayhew, King, Stallings, Brown, Sellers
ABSENT:	Hollie

- d. Drug License – Ben Meeks spoke about the Schedule 6 drug (IV fluids) license from the DEA the county applied for, for all the agencies except Gretna. Kasey was notified today that the county can not do this due to the fact Public Safety would have to house and distribute all the drugs. Board of Pharmacy has said no, and we will have to figure out another plan. Most agencies in the State of Virginia are out of compliance.

Kasey Seay spoke about the new Western Virginia EMS regulation. The board of pharmacy advised that they are behind due to the pandemic. Inspections are coming up in March and currently we are out of compliance. There are policies and procedures that must be submitted and checks every year. They are holding Public Safety’s License until they look into it more.

C. Mayhew spoke about having the county house the drugs and talked about motion for the county to proceed with single license. Concerned about delaying this and having agencies non-compliant.

Meeks spoke about having WVAEMS come to talk about how other localities are handling this and getting input from the County Attorney as well.

Questions were called for.

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Motion:

“I make a motion for the County to proceed with a single license.”

RESULT:	DEFEATED
MOVER:	Coleman Mayhew – Stauton River
SECONDER:	Tim Cassell – Westover - Rep
AYES:	Shields, Mayhew
NAYS:	Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, King, Stallings, Brown, Sellers
ABSENT:	Hollie

Motion:

“I make a motion for staff to talk to Doug Layton and the State to see the direction they believe we need to take and ask staff request them to attend the next Association and Commission meetings so they we can make an informed decision next month on how to proceed with these licenses.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ben Meeks – Callands/Gretna Rep
SECONDER:	Alan Casper – Banister – Rep
AYES:	Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, Shields, Mayhew, King, Stallings, Brown, Sellers
ABSENT:	Hollie

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS

S. Hutcherson – No matters

J. Brown – No matters

A. Casper – Everyone have a good Christmas and look forward to the first of the year.

B. Sellers – No matters

D. Fowler – Thanked the volunteers for what they do. It’s tough.

W. Rowland – Thanked volunteers.

T. Cassell – Merry Christmas and be safe.

V. Ingram – Heartfelt thank you. Jeff Chitwood went the extra mile for the Blairs Fireman that was injured. Merry Christmas.

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S. Stallings – No matters

B. Shields – Welcomed newest board member. Thanked volunteers and staff. Merry Christmas

C. Mayhew – Merry Christmas and thanked all the volunteers. Appreciates time on commission.

K. King – Welcomed Mr. Tucker. Thanked everyone and the commissioners for joining. Merry Christmas.

B. Meeks –. Merry Christmas. Thanked commission for allowing him to serve as Chairman. In January we will have a reorganization meeting and elect a Chair and Vice Chair. Luke Fowler was hurt on fire call and is expected to make a full recovery. Thank you to the volunteers and staff. Thanked Mr. Tucker.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ben Meeks at 8:12 PM.