

October 19, 2023
Regular Meeting

**Pittsylvania County Fire and Rescue Commission
Regular Meeting
October 19, 2023**

VIRGINIA: The Regular Meeting of the Pittsylvania County Fire and Rescue Commission was held on October 19, 2023, 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 | Present |
| 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 | Absent |
| Vacant | Stauton River | Vacant |
| Kermit King | Northwest Quad - Rep | Present |
| Steve Stallings | Southwest Quad -Rep | Present |
| Coleman Mayhew | Northeast Quad - Rep | Present-phone |
| 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 with two items to add under 13 new business.
- E. Closed session.

Motion:

“I make a motion to amend agenda for closed session to be added.”

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Motion to Approve Agenda

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Tim Cassell – Westover – Rep. |
| SECONDER: | James Hollie – Dan River – Rep. |
| AYES: | Hollie, Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, King, Stallings, Mayhew, Sellers |
| ABSENT: | Shields |

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. September FRC Meeting Minutes Approval (Staff Contact: Christopher Key)

Motion:

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | James Hollie – Dan River – Rep. |
| SECONDER: | Kermit King – Northwest Quad – Rep. |
| AYES: | Hollie, Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, King, Stallings, Mayhew, Sellers |
| ABSENT: | Sheilds |

PRESENTATIONS

Brandon Gautier spoke to represent Special Operations Team – SOT. Trying to get department revitalized. Currently they have \$15,000 in the budget. They are requesting \$15,000 for capital improvement and an additional \$10,000 for training for FY24-25 year. VDFP now requires a new curriculum.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Spencer Nolan resident of Westover district. Spoke about the upcoming election. Important to support people who are going to support us. As a fireman he is supporting Ingram, Whittle, and Fox. Encouraged everyone to get involved.

Frank Fox from the Chatham/Blairs district. He is a candidate, but he wanted to speak on the resolution created last month to communicate with the Board of Supervisors. With the provider complaint process. Feels that commission should be involved in complaint process as well as service agreement.

**FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 19, 2023**

Joshua Jennings from the Chatham/Blairs district. Landowner and business owner Tunstall District. Spoke about Volunteers saving the county money. Spoke about the commission and Chiefs are doing a great job. People need to have reassurance that everything is being funded, everybody is where they are supposed to be, and the volunteers' needs are being met.

FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION REPORT

Chief Fowler had nothing to report.

COUNTY STAFF REPORTS

County's Public Safety Director's Report (Christopher Key)

Summary:

1. **ATL funding** – Packets have been delivered to all stations for FY24.
2. **Four for Life Funding** – packets have been passed out to each agency for FY24.
3. **Training** – 2 Firefighter 1 classes up and running. Basic Pump Ops – March 2024, Rural Water Supply – April 2024.
4. **Fire Prevention Week** – was October 8-14. Had many fire safety programs throughout the county done.
5. **Career Day** – done at ODAC on September 27 & 28, 2023. Collected and distributed volunteer interest forms received that day.

SCBA testing sent out should be lined up in the next two months. and FIT test machine is out for calibration back running first of November.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Meeks spoke about the motion that was to be taken to the board about the complaint process. Request Key and Ingram take it to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board of Supervisors Communications – Vic advised nothing to report this month.
- b. Budget Committee update – Meeks spoke about the meeting, went through the budget line by line. They got about halfway through the document. Will be some increases they are going to ask for. CIP needs to be in Nov. 1st.
- c. Recruitment & Retention update – King advised nothing to report at this time.

**FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 19, 2023**

- d. CIP Fire & Ambulance Rotation – Key spoke about the rotations, so they are prepared. Document was included in Agenda. Meeks spoke about the point system. Fowler spoke about the current truck does not have an hour meter. We are going to need to look at that. Convert the miles back to hours.

CLOSED SESSION

The Virginia Code legally allows public bodies to enter Closed Session for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business. Accordingly, the following Closed Session is proposed:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Legal Authority | Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(4) |
| Subject Matter: | Letter from a concerned citizen |
| Purpose: | Review and discussion |

Motion:

“I make a motion to enter closed Session on above.”

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Kermit King – Northwest Quad - Rep. |
| SECONDER: | James Hollie – Dan River – Rep. |
| AYES: | Hollie, Meeks, Casper, Rowland, Cassell, King, Stallings, Mayhew, Sellers |
| ABSENT: | Sheilds |

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION & CLOSED SESSION CERTIFICATION

The Fire Rescue Commission returned to Open Session and Glenna Caldwell conducted the following Closed Session Certification.

PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION

CLOSED MEETING CERTIFICAION

BE IT RESOLVED that at the Meeting of the Pittsylvania County Fire and Rescue Commission (“Commission”) on October 19, 2023, the Commission hereby certifies by a recorded vote that to the best of each Commissioner’s knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from the Open Meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (“Act”) and identified in the Motion authorizing the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed, or considered in the Closed Meeting. If any Commissioner believes that there was a departure from the requirements of the Act, he shall so state prior to the vote indicating the substance of the departure. The Statement shall be recorded in the Commission Minutes.

**FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 19, 2023**

Motion:

“I make a motion to return to open session.”

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Alan Casper – Banister – Rep. |
| SECONDER: | Kermit King - Northwest Quad. – Rep. |

| | <u>Vote</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| James Hollie | Yes |
| Ben Meeks | Yes |
| Alan Casper | Yes |
| Ward Rowland | Yes |
| Tim Cassell | Yes |
| Bryan Shields | Absent |
| Coleman Mayhew | Yes |
| Kermit King | Yes |
| Steve Stallings | Yes |
| Bert Sellars | Yes |

No action to take on the closed session matter tonight. No concerns that need to be reported any higher. There is no concern to public safety and to our fire and rescue services.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS

D. Fowler – Keep volunteers in thoughts and prayers. FF1 students are putting in a lot of time and effort. Encourage them.

V. Ingram – Grateful for the volunteers.

A. Casper – Thankful guest tonight that spoke. Nice to know that they are appreciated.

B. Sellers – Thanked everyone for speaking tonight. Hope everyone recognizes who is there and supports the volunteers.

J. Hollie – Thanked board members and the ones that spoke tonight that expressed concern and support.

C. Key – No matters

W. Rowland – Appreciates volunteers.

S. Stallings – Thanked volunteers and police officers.

**FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 19, 2023**

T. Cassell – Thanked everyone for coming out and supporting us.

C. Mayhew – Thanked fellow commissioners.

K. King – Thanked volunteers for the job they do. Thanked everyone that came out.

B. Meeks – Thanked to all that came and spoke, good luck. Thanked this body. Thanked Chris, Scott, and Kasey. Keep volunteers in your prayers. Spoke about those taking classes, running calls, and fundraising and all the time and effort that volunteers are putting in. This happens all over the county. Good luck to everyone in the election.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by B. Meeks 7:41p.