

Frederick County Fire and Rescue Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

APPROVED

Date: December 13, 2021 1900 hours

Location: WebEx Virtual Meeting

Attendance:

Battalion 1 (Todd Johnson).....	Present
Battalion 2 (David Fox)	Present
Battalion 3 (Nelson Smith)	Present
Battalion 4 (Micky Fyock)	Absent
Battalion 5 (Allen "Frank" Davis)	Present
Career Rep (George Lane)	Absent
Career Rep (Kevin Schmidt).....	Present
Citizen Rep (Vacant).....	Vacant
Citizen Rep (Gunnar Pedersen)	Present

Nonvoting Reps:

Frederick County Executive (Jan H. Gardner).....	Present
Jurisdictional Medical Director (Dr. Jeffrey Fillmore)	Present
Fire & Rescue Services (Chief Tom Coe).....	Present
Volunteer Fire & Rescue Assoc. (President James May)	Present
Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services (Deputy Chief Shane Darwick)	Present
Local #3666 (President Stephen Jones)	Present

Guests: None

**Frederick County Fire Advisory Board Meeting
December 13, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Todd Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL OF VOTING AND NONVOTING MEMBERS:

Absent was:

1. Micky Fyock, Battalion 4 Representative
2. George Lane, Career Representative

III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve November minutes: Moved by Nelson Smith
Seconded by Gunnar Pedersen

VOTE: YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 PASSED

V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Chairman Johnson commented on behalf of Battalion 1 that the Junior Fire Company graduated a volunteer in the recent paramedic program.

Frank Davis commented on behalf of Battalion 5 that Station 6 has purchased a new ladder truck and plans to have it paid off in 4 years.

Chairman Johnson added that Local 3666 has been involved in the Toys for Tots program.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

VII. EX OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS:

A. Frederick County Executive, Mrs. Jan Gardner:

Budget

Budget season is about to kickoff. The first public hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 15th at 7:00pm.

PC7 Graduation

Congratulations to all who graduated from Paramedic Class 7.

Holidays

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

B. Jurisdictional Medical Director, Dr. Jeffrey Fillmore:

Paramedic Class

It is a great accomplishment to learn everything in the class in less than a year.

COVID

Working with the Health Department and Hospital to administer monoclonal antibodies.

Narcotic Overdoses

Working on coordinating a program with the Health Department for narcotic overdoses.

Protocol Committee

Switching from Haldol to Risperdal.

SEMSAC

No Report - Cancelled for December.

C. Fire & Rescue Division Director, Chief Tom Coe

COVID

Currently have 9 personnel who are COVID positive and 5 who are in quarantine.

Training

Recruit Classes 30 & 31 remain in session with a total of 45 recruits who are slated to graduate on February 11th.

Paramedic Class 7 graduated 11 career and 2 volunteer members. They are currently in the designate phase of training.

Paramedic Class 8 is underway with a mix of volunteer and career personnel.

Conditional offers have been extended for Recruit Class 32, which is scheduled to begin on February 28th.

In the process of planning a new recruitment effort that will begin in May.

Apparatus

Truck 5 has arrived and is in the process of being inspected by Fleet Services. Once equipped by Logistics, it will go to Brunswick.

Truck 23 is nearing completion. Final inspection by the Apparatus Committee will occur the week of January 10th.

Assessment Process

Thanks to Vigilant Hose for use of their facility for the Battalion Chief assessment process that was just completed.

Station Items

A public meeting was held last week in Point of Rocks to discuss service improvements that take effect in their community in mid-February.

Northgate construction is progressing. The roof tiles have arrived, and the roof should be completed soon. Construction is slated to be finished by the end of February.

Retirement

Congratulations to Clay Carmack who retired on December 1st.

Holiday Safety

Remember to be careful with candles, keep your Christmas trees watered, and be careful as you cook.

Question Asked: “Will the apparatus bay doors at Northgate stay clear glass?”

Chief Coe replied: Yes, they will have glass panels and they are bi-fold doors that fold vertically and open to the sides.

Question Asked: “Will the primary water rescue resources be moving to both Brunswick and Point of Rocks?”

Chief Coe replied: We are adding a third location to provide water rescue services from. The water rescue service on the career side started at the Junior Fire Company. Last July, we added 2 Water Rescue Technicians to Brunswick. The Point of Rocks station has developed a need for water rescue support. Effective February 12, 2022, we will be moving to 3-person staffing at that station. Two of those 3 will be swift water qualified.

Question Asked: “Are there any plans to upstaff the North end of the County with ALS coverage?”

Chief Coe replied: We have been eyeing the North end of the County to provide a more robust ALS response. As a short-term fix, we have added ALS equipment to the North Battalion Chief's vehicle. We are developing a plan for the deployment of extra sets of ALS equipment and how we can best use our providers.

D. President, FCFVRA, James May:

As a result from the discussion at last month's meeting, a meeting was held with the Battalion Representatives to gain a better direction of the Board.

E. Local #3666, President, Stephen Jones:

President Jones stated that he did not have anything to report for the December meeting.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Deputy Chief, Shane Darwick:

Assistant Chief Position

David Polikoff has been selected as the Assistant Chief. He started on December 6th.

Operations Committee

There was no meeting in November. The Committee voted to cancel the scheduled December meeting with it being 4 days before Christmas. The next meeting will be February 15, 2022.

Cadet/Internship Program

The 15 students are currently in the Firefighter I program.

Accreditation

Please continue to keep your documentation current and feed accurate and timely information into the volunteer database. We will keep you informed as we move future accreditation processes into an electronic version.

Question Asked: “Do you have any specific areas of work for Assistant Chief Polikoff?”

Chief Darwick replied: Yes. One of the main areas will be as the point of contact for the APS for the stations. We are also working on the accreditation process.

Question Asked: “Is there any work going on about mini pumper standards?”

Chief Darwick replied: No, there is nothing on mini pumper standards.

Chief Coe added that this is a 2-year-old conversation that the Operations Committee felt that we weren't in a position to add another specific type of unit.

Question Asked: “Is there any other discussion that we need to have tonight about that, instead of an off-line discussion?”

Chief Coe replied: If there is any desire for that, that would get routed to Operations through the Standards Committee.

Question Asked: “For the department concerned about this, would the future plans be to get a piece of equipment on the road that didn't require the level of driving certification?”

Chief Coe replied: I think in general terms that was their purpose for purchase. But from an operational deployment standpoint, there was no desire to create another standard.

B. EMS Committee

No report.

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Old Business

Accreditation Process

Chief Darwick stated that work is being done on the database to get output of the information.

Chairman Johnson added that the review process is coming up in January. The Battalion Reps should prepare to have time available for the peer review.

Question Asked: “Will there be any training for the new Battalion Reps?”

Chief Darwick replied: Yes. We will roll out the training information.

Question Asked: “Is January the start date for the review? How is the timeline going to go?”

Chief Darwick replied: We haven't decided on the timeline of the end time, as far as getting information in. We are meeting next week to review the timeline.

Chief Coe added that we will try to get a proposed timeline to Chairman Johnson prior to the next meeting.

FRAB Representation

Chief Coe stated that President Jones has submitted a letter of recommendation for a Career Representative replacement for Kevin Schmidt.

X. ACTION ITEM

Vote on recommendation for Citizen Representative.

A discussion regarding the recommendation was held last month during a closed session meeting. The board should have reconvened in an open/public meeting to vote on the recommendation.

Motion for discussion concerning the recommendation of Mark Kirchman was made by Nelson Smith and seconded by Gunnar Pedersen.

VOTE: YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 PASSED

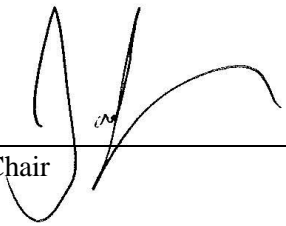
XI. CLOSING COMMENTS

Chief Coe encouraged everyone to pay attention in the weeks to come as to whether the January meeting will be in-person or virtual.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

APPROVED

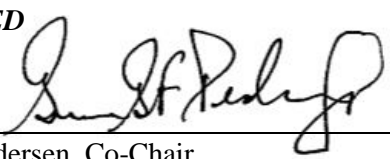


Todd Johnson, Chair

APPROVED

1/10/2022
Date of Approval

APPROVED



Gunnar Pedersen, Co-Chair

APPROVED

1/10/2022
Date of Approval