



# Frederick County Fire and Rescue Advisory Board Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

APPROVED

**Date:** February 14, 2022 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 (Anthony Gramiccioni) .....	Absent
Citizen Rep (Mark Kirchman).....	Present
Citizen Rep (Gunnar Pedersen) .....	Present

**Nonvoting Reps:**

Frederick County Executive (Jan H. Gardner) .....	Absent
Jurisdictional Medical Director (Dr. Jeffrey Fillmore) .....	Absent
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).....	Absent

**Guests:** None

**Frederick County Fire Advisory Board Meeting  
February 14, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Todd Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. It was noted that this will be an informational meeting only due to the lack of a quorum.

**II. ROLL CALL OF VOTING AND NONVOTING MEMBERS:**

Absent was:

1. Micky Fyock, Battalion 4 Representative
2. George Lane, Career Representative
3. Anthony Gramiccioni, Career Representative
4. Jan Gardner, County Executive
5. Dr. Jeffrey Fillmore, Jurisdictional Medical Director
6. Stephen Jones, Local 3666 President

**III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

None.

**IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

Since a quorum of FRAB members was not present, the January meeting minutes could not be approved.

**V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Chairman Johnson stated that the Hurst "Jaws of Life" is celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Chairman Johnson added that United is purchasing a new Pierce Rescue Squad at a cost of over \$1 million dollars.

Chairman Johnson also shared that the Maryland State Fireman's Association is seeking support for the Highrise Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act and the Public Housing Fire Safety Act.

Chairman Johnson expressed his condolences to the Baltimore City Fire Department during the recent tragedy on Stricker Street. He added that the recent IAFF Facebook posts regarding the buddyshot/groupshot campaign has been very uplifting.

Chairman Johnson mentioned that Dave Kline recently passed away.

David Fox stated that the smoke detector event that Wolfsville had planned for yesterday has been postponed due to the inclement weather. The event will be rescheduled at a later date.

**Question Asked: "How does Frederick County handle fire door inspections in relation to NFPA80?"**

Chief Coe replied: Our Fire Marshal's office annually inspects specific types of occupancies; assemblies, educational, summer camps, daycares, apartment buildings and such. We do not inspect every commercial occupancy in the County.

**Question Asked: “Are NFPA Standard recommendations and not codified in law?”**

Chief Coe replied: In general terms, the operational recommendations are what we call consensus standards. However, a lot of construction codes in the construction measures that are inspected by County inspectors, reference the NFPA standards to assure that the installation of certain protection devices, sprinklers, fire doors, fire alarm systems are operating appropriately. When those standards are codified and made a part of local jurisdiction building practices, they are enforceable through that inspection process.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**VII. EX OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS:**

**A. Frederick County Executive, Mrs. Jan Gardner:**

As County Executive Gardner was absent, no report was given.

**B. Jurisdictional Medical Director, Dr. Jeffrey Fillmore:**

As Dr. Fillmore was absent, no report was given.

**C. Fire & Rescue Division Director, Chief Tom Coe**

COVID

Currently have 1 responder out due to COVID. The early release of Recruit Classes 30 & 31 has stabilized staffing and allowed several of the emergency actions taken to be rescinded effective on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

Apparatus

Took delivery Truck 23 and hope to have it in service in the near future.

Logistics Warehouse

The warehouse is in the process of relocating to a new building on Tilco Drive.

Station Items

Northgate construction should near completion around April.

Staffing

Point of Rocks staffing improvements will take effect on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

Recruit Class 32 will start on February 28<sup>th</sup> with 30 members.

**D. President, FCVFRA, James May:**

President May stated that he did not have anything to report for the February meeting.

**E. Local #3666, President, Stephen Jones:**

As President Jones was absent, no report was given.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

#### Operations Committee

There was no meeting in January. The next meeting will be February 15, 2022.

#### Cadet/Internship Program

The 12 students are currently in the Firefighter I program.

#### Training

Site Ops class will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm-3:00 pm.

Request has been made for a MFRI Hazardous Materials Technician class in the spring.

#### Physicals

Frederick Employer Health Solutions are back to full staffing. Please have your ID card and signed paperwork.

#### Accreditation

Process kicked off on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### FCVFRA Awards

Nominations must be postmarked by February 15, 2022.

#### Budget

Meetings are being scheduled for appeals process.

#### Compliance Training

Scheduled to start soon for 2022. Same format as last year using FCG Learn, in station drills or individual study.

#### EMS Billing

Billing office will give an overview of the billing process. A Teams meeting presentation with Chief's, President's and Treasures will be held on March 3rd at 1900 hrs.

#### Fire Police Radios

The purchase order for the APX-4000 radios is complete and radios are on order.

#### LOSAP

End of year closeout and reporting is complete.

#### Planning and Research Workgroup

The Frederick County Fire/Rescue Planning Workgroup met on February 8<sup>th</sup>. The group continues their discussions on updating and revising the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Service Delivery Plan.

#### Recruitment & Retention

Due to very low student enrollment, Gear Up Class 22-1, scheduled to begin on February 8, 2022 has been canceled. Students may enroll in any remaining classes.

#### **Question Asked: "Do you know anything about the EMS billing for colleges and universities?"**

Chief Darwick replied: No, I have not heard anything about it. Maybe we can ask at the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.



Chairman Johnson added that the accreditation information is to be submitted by the end of February. In March and April, the Battalion Reps will meet to certify the data.

**B. EMS Committee**

No report.

**IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Old Business**

COVID Impact

As stated in Chief Coe's earlier report - *Currently have 1 responder out due to COVID. The early release of Recruit Classes 30 & 31 has stabilized staffing and allowed several of the emergency actions taken to be rescinded effective on February 26<sup>th</sup>.*

**B. New Business**

FY23 Budget

Chief Coe shared a presentation on the overview of the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget submission.

**Question Asked: "SCBA and Cardiac Monitors are on the same schedule. Is there any way to stagger that?"**

Chief Coe replied: In the grand scheme of the overall County CIP, they fit in very well there.

**Question Asked: "They'll be on the same replacement schedule in the future, correct?"**

Chief Coe replied: It's possible. The SCBA have an absolute date of expiration from when they are purchased. The cardiac monitor replacement depends on how the technology evolves and how durable the units are.

**Question Asked: "Is there a fee similar to the impact fee for public safety elements?"**

Chief Coe replied: There is not a County-wide impact fee as it relates to the fire service. There are individual impact fees that have been assessed on specific developments to assist for public safety on those specific regions. The Green Valley Fire Station is a benefactor of those agreements when that development was approved.

**Question Asked: "Is there a plan B if things cannot be funded?"**

Chief Coe replied: Until we get deeper in the process and see what's recommended in the FY23 budget, that will be when we develop how can we accomplish items if they are not funded specifically in the budget.

SAFER Grant

Chief Coe stated that the FY21 SAFER Grant has been submitted, requesting 32 positions. Those positions represent the move of 7 out of our 23 staffed heavy pieces of apparatus to 4-person staffing. It is a federal funding request of \$8.5 million dollars that provides three years of funding for those 32 positions.

**Question Asked: "For clarification, this would be a third of what would be the optimum staffing to meet 1710 for all pieces of equipment and you're going to focus that one-third staffing on high volume?"**

Chief Coe replied: Yes. So, we are still working through that. Whether that will be in the urban setting, the rural setting, or a mix of both. We are still working on the deployment of those seven units.

**Question Asked: "What would be the impact if we were now in the 1710 standard range with ISO?"**

Chief Coe replied: So those are two independent fire service performance gauges. There is a very small amount of overlap, but the Insurance Services Office which reviews the provision of Fire Rescue Service in Frederick County every 5 years is responsible for setting the fire protection rates of our County. They lean towards 4-person staffing in NFPA 1710. This will help us move towards compliance with 1710 and also help improve our ISO rating the next time we are evaluated.

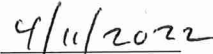
**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

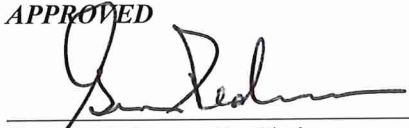
**APPROVED**

  
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Todd Johnson, Chair

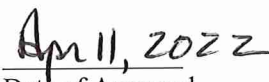
**APPROVED**

  
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Date of Approval

**APPROVED**

  
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Gunnar Pedersen, Co-Chair

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