

Amherst County
EMERGENCY SERVICES COUNCIL
MEMBERS PRESENT 04/09/08

Amherst Fire Department: Trent Richie Jr.
Tim Pigg

Amherst Life Saving Crew: Glenda Hash
Travis Moore
Charlie Goodin

Monelison Fire Department: Rick Hunter
Ricky Coffey

Monelison Rescue Squad: Vickie Padgett

Pedlar Fire Department: David Boggs
Randy Fauber

Pedlar Rescue Squad: Brian Hammack

Big Island Fire Department: Danny Brown

Big Island Emergency Crew: Debbie Smith

Gladstone Fire Department: Gary Peters

Gladstone Rescue Squad:

Amherst County
Search/Rescue:

Public Safety Gary Roakes
Warren Peters

Emergency Services Bill Camm
Council: Charlie Singleton

VDFP Training: Trent Richie Jr.

Board of Supervisors: Chris Adams

County Attorney:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Amherst County EMERGENCY SERVICES COUNCIL

April 9, 2008

Bill Camm called the meeting to order with Trenton Richie giving the invocation. Pledge of allegiance to the flag was made.

The minutes were reviewed. Motion by David Boggs and seconded by Vickie Padgett. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Warren Peters reported on the Awards banquet which will be held on April 26, 2008 at Amherst County High School. The awards have been ordered and Petey encouraged all departments to participate. **UPDATE: COMPLETE**

Charlie Singleton reported that the Emergency Services Council bylaws committee met and made the following recommendations:

Article IV Voting Membership:

Outside county agencies shall have ***one (1) vote on Council matters.*** ~~on two (2) votes except in the matter of funding issues where one (1) vote will be allowed per agency.~~
Motion by Travis Moore and second by Rick hunter. Motion carried

Article VIII - Duties of Officers: Motion by David Boggs and seconded by Rick Hunter not to change section regarding the Chairman of the council serving as the treasurer. Motion carried. Gary will make revision and get on the Board of Supervisors Agenda for approval.

UPDATE: To be on the June Agenda

Rick Hunter reported that the Fire Standard Operating Guidelines had been reviewed. Rick had forwarded the document with changes and is awaiting feedback. EMS guidelines have not been prepared at this time but the committee will be getting together.

Gary reported that the facilities study for the county had begun. Gary has been in contact with the consultant firm requesting preliminary information. The study will be looking at all county facilities which include fire and EMS buildings. The study will be complete this fall. **UPDATE: Meeting with consultants on May 14.**

TRAINING:

FIRE: Trenton Richie reported on the fire training that was conducted at CVTC with Amherst, Monelison and Concord Fir Departments.

ICS 300 Class was conducted at Amherst Fire Department on April.
COMPLETE

Amherst Fire Department is planning a landing zone class with the crew from Medflight III.

Petey noted that the Department of Fire Programs will be only funding one class per locality next year. He requested that each Chief get with him to reach consensus and sign form on the funded class needed. A discussion was also held regarding conducting a Firefighter I class next fall. It was agreed to schedule the class for the fall.

It was noted that the DFP is reducing funding for training due to budget cuts. Gary stated that the \$5000 in the county budget is earmarked for the Central Virginia Fire Training Grounds and there is no additional funding for training at this time. Gary added that he had requested an additional \$5000.00 in the FY 2008 -2009 budget to pay for training in the county. Gary recommended that we take \$5000 from the state funding in the Aid to Localities (ATL) and denote that for training as well. David Boggs made a motion to hold back \$5000 in the ATL money for training, seconded by Travis Moore, motion carried.

RESCUE:

Monthly EMS training continues – every Wednesday at Amherst Life Saving Crew 11:00 am and the fourth Wednesday at 7:00 PM at Monelison Fire Department.

Lisa Aiken will be conducting a training weekend at Amherst Life Saving Crew on May 3-4. **COMPELTE**

Charlie Goodin noted that Amherst Life Saving Crew is an EMSAT training site for the office of EMS. These are video training classes. The next classes are May 21 and June 18 both at 1930 at Amherst Life Saving Crew. Category 1 hours offered.

NEW BUSINESS:

Gary discussed the need to become more uniform and review ways to cut and or combine expenses. Gary stated that in the last three years the Board of Supervisors have contributed \$1.6 million dollars just in operating and capital expenses, another \$228,128 in insurance coverage for volunteer equipment, buildings and worker's compensation. In addition to this, state funding has accounted for \$270,079 from Aid to Localities for the fire departments and 4-for-life for the EMS agencies. The EMS agencies have also received \$607,285 from Revenue Recovery. Gary stressed the need to look at bulk purchasing when possible and be more fiscal responsible as funding is becoming increasingly scrutinized. Travis Moore recommended conducting a special meeting to review ways to address this matter.

Rick Coffey suggested we look at providing the ACCESS program for life for any current active volunteer that completes 10yaers of service. This suggestion will be reviewed by the EMSAC with possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

David Boggs noted that radio coverage is limited on Long Mountain in certain areas.

Rick Hunter recommended that Concord Fire Department be dispatched as automatic aid on all structural fires for Monelison Fire Department's first due area. After some discussion, Charlie Singleton recommended that they be called if needed and not be on automatic dispatch. The committee was in agreement with this recommendation.

A discussion was held regarding the Junior Fire Firefighter program and what Junior Members can and cannot do based upon state and county code. Amherst County has adopted a county code for Junior Firefighters, section 11-5.17. According to state and local code, a junior firefighter may only participate in actual firefighting activity if they have successfully completed Department of Fire Programs Firefighter I training.

Vickie Padgett inquired about convicted felons being members of volunteer agencies and maintaining their EMT status. Gary noted that a convicted felon can obtain their EMT along as it is greater than five years of their conviction and the conviction is not one restricted by the State Office of EMS. It is up to the individual agencies to accept or deny membership. Background investigations must be run on all applicants through Public Safety.

Emergency Services Day will be May 17 from 10-2 at Lowes in Madison Heights.

Charlie Singleton noted the importance of volunteers and that HB1501 was killed. This bill would have mandated certain training for career and volunteer members. The state committee stated they wanted to "encourage" training and not mandate.

Motion by David Boggs and second by Trenton Richie to adjourn. Motion passed.

The next meeting will be July 9, 2008 at 7:30 PM at the Amherst County Administration building.

2008 Meeting dates:

July 9, 2008

October 8, 2008

Respectively Submitted

Gary M. Roakes
05/11/2008