

Amherst County
EMERGENCY SERVICES COUNCIL
MEMBERS PRESENT 04/10/2013

Amherst Fire Department: Blake Robertson Amherst Life Saving Crew: Charlse Goodin
Glenda Hash

Monelison Fire Department: Ernie Cash Monelison Rescue Squad: Vickie Padgett
Jason Friend

Pedlar Fire Department: Danny Tucker Pedlar Rescue Squad: Lisa Tomlin
Greg Tomlin

Big Island Fire Department: Big Island Emergency Crew:

Gladstone Fire Department: Piney River Fire Department:

Public Safety Gary Roakes
Lee Day

Emergency Services Council: Charlie Singleton
Bill Camm

Fire Training: Trent Richie

Board of Supervisors:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Clarence Monday, County Administrator
Scott McKenna, California Causality Insurance

Amherst County EMERGENCY SERVICES COUNCIL

April 10, 2013

Charlie Singleton called the meeting to order at 1900. Opening silent prayer was made and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was made.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Scott McKenna from California Causality Insurance Company made a presentation describing the type of insurance his company provides for fire and EMS providers. They offer property causality insurance for mobile equipment for individual members. Scott stated that he would be happy to come to individual departments to talk to the members and distributed his contact information to the Emergency Services Council.

A motion was made by Jason Friend to accept the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Ernie Cash. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

A discussion was held if any member was aware of any changes to the requirements that were adopted by the Emergency Service Council on September 15, 2010, regarding the requirements to be considered to be an active member to receive county benefits. No one recalled any changes being made to the policy that was adopted as noted below:

Rescue Membership Requirement:

“Active Member” in a Rescue Squad or Life saving Crew within Amherst County , that all volunteer rescue members must pull a minimum of twelve (12) hours of duty at their respective station per month, must attend eight (8) hours of training per year, members with EMS certification must successfully complete one (1) skills drill per year and follow all other bylaws, rules and/or regulations for the agency for which they volunteer within Amherst County. These requirements will become effective January 1, 2011 for any current or new member.

Fire Membership Requirement:

“Active Member” in a fire Department within Amherst County, that all volunteer fire members must respond to a minimum of five (5%) percent of the calls for the member’s respective department, must attend sixteen (16) hours of training per year and follow all other bylaws, rules and/or regulations for the agency for which they volunteer within Amherst County. These requirements will become effective January 1, 2011 for any current or new member.

A motion was made by Ernie Cash to adopt the same policies as noted above to qualify for the incentive program if approved by the Board of Supervisors. Motion was seconded by Jason Friend. Motion carried.

Blake Robertson asked if we received an opinion from the County Attorney in regards to the liability of volunteer members directing traffic on accident scenes. Gary advised that we had not and will contact the County Attorney on this matter. A discussion followed regarding any requirements for emergency services directing traffic similar to the VDOT standards. Greg Tomlin stated that VDOT has certain standards for signage and flaggers but is not sure if the same applies to emergency service providers. It was recommended to see if there are any training courses for emergency responders and if so schedule.

TRAINING:

Lee advised that the Virginia Department of Fire Programs annual training request due by the end of April. He stated that any request needs to be back to him by April 17 so that he can forward to Don Brown with VDFP. Lee also stated that while we were only funded for one program this year we ended up with three. Lee is also working on getting an HTR class.

Rescue training was also discussed. It was noted that the training is not being conducted on some of the fourth Wednesday nights. BREMS training is held on the second Tuesday night of each month.

Rescue College will be June 8 thru June 13. Register on line at VAVRS.

NEW BUSINESS:

Amherst Fire Department's additional appropriation request dated March 7, 2013 was reviewed. Jason Friend made motion to request additional funding from the Board for only the Personal Protective Equipment and table all other request. Motion was seconded by Glenda Hash. Motion carried.

A discussion was held about setting precedent by making individual departmental request instead of going as a group to the Board of Supervisors. Ernie stated that we needed to go as a consolidated group in making request of the Board.

A discussion was held regarding the water infrastructure and lack of water flow in some areas. Clarence stated that he has requested information from the Service Authority and Town Water department. That information was received just prior to the meeting and was distributed to the fire Chiefs after the meeting.

Gary stated that he has ordered a system to text fire and rescue calls to individual cell phones. The system is called Page Gate and is being used in Bedford and Campbell County. Once the system is installed and running, phone numbers will be entered for individuals who like to receive these texts by department.

Danny Tucker discussed the SOGs and accountability in regards to the fire on Lexington Turnpike. Stated he was at work and thought he heard PASS device sounding and no one checking on alarm.

Ernie Cash presented what Monelison Fire is doing to signify probationary members over 18 on fire scenes. Probationary members over the age of 18 will be wearing red helmet shields with yellow helmets.

Respectively Submitted
Gary M. Roakes