



Fire Services Committee Meeting Minutes 3/12/2019



CALL TO ORDER

The March 12, 2019 meeting of the Allegany County Fire Services Committee was called to order by Chairman Wayne Rounds at 6:00 P.M. at the Good Will Volunteer Fire Department.

IN ATTENDANCE

The following companies/departments were represented and in attendance:

Wayne Rounds	Barton	Phil Via	Frostburg/911	Jon Miller	Midland
Kevin Rounds	Barton	Roger Bennett	ACDES	Derek Crippen	Bedford Road
Bobby Ritchie	Good Will	Chris Cage	Cresaptown	Matt McMorran	Frostburg Fire
Carder Miller	Mt. Savage	Ronnie Carr	Rawlings	Randy Kamp	MD Forestry
Shannon Adams	Bowling Green	Tim Dayton	Potomac	Julie Conway	MD Forestry
Bryan Miller	Shaft/911	Eddie Collins	Bedford Road	Tim Connor	Goodwill

MINUTES APPROVAL

The Minutes from the January 2019 were approved as read. Bobbie Ritchie seconded by Tim Dayton to approve.

COMMITTEES

1. COMMUNICATIONS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Bryan Miller reported that companies need to submit their equipment and call-down lists, and any changes to their officer lists. Wayne Rounds asked if you were currently on a call or returning from a call, should you get a new call number through dispatch. Roger and Brian confirmed that you must notify dispatch and request an incident number.

Roger reported that he and Brian met with Potomac Edison representatives to confirm that the fire departments were on a priority list if power was lost. Roger reminded departments that fire reports must be submitted to the county by the 10th of every month. If not, the 508 money can be held from your department until submitted.

Roger reported the County Alerting System is moving forward. We have all pagers and all are programmed. Companies will receive 28 pagers per company. People in Special Ops or any other departments, will have the second set of tones programmed in the future if companies allow. That way more than one pager does not need carried at a time. Five sites are online with the backhaul being setup with the State. Jackson Run area and Seneca Rocks will be setup in the future with two months to finish. It is hoped to be live on May 1, 2019. An old mobile radio will be distributed and programmed once it becomes live and only one will be handed out per company to be used for your alerting in station. The old passport system will disappear in the future once the program is finished. Make sure to scan 700 alerting in new radios so that it is faster to scan.

Roger reported that West Virginia within the mobiles are still working; however, over the past several months we're still waiting for the portables to be entered into their system to work. There have been some changes to their departments but hopefully we'll be making progress moving forward. Also, Roger stated that West Virginia is moving to a Phase 2 system allowing more room on their system. It's the hope that moving forward, they will add us on so the portables can be utilized. As of now -- the dispatch center is creating patches with our system and theirs to have communications between the two counties. Multiple department chiefs were concerned about the coverage area with Mineral County West Virginia channels and how long it takes to register to their system. A patch will be established by Allegany County as soon as a MIN TAC channel is received from Mineral County.

2. EMS

No updates per Roger Bennett.

3. FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

No representative present. However, a discussion was held regarding possible FDC connections around the county.

4. MIEMSS

No representative present.

5. MEMA

No representative present.

6. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

7. PUMPS TESTING

Nothing to report.

8. FIT TESTING

Roger reported New FIT Testing Machines are working great. There is one button on the machines that isn't working; however, they are replacing these with no problem. Steve Shipley has been teaching the departments and going over the devices before use when needed. If a third machine is needed in the future, we will look at funding for it.

9. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Safety committee did a presentation at the Emergency Services Board meeting, outlining the program's purpose. This committee will report back to the Emergency Services Board. FDC's were mentioned and possibly requiring all new businesses to have FDC's in the county - and they would all be the same. The Safety Committee is also separate from the Policies and Procedures committee. A meeting was recently held and a proposal was made for a Duty Safety Officer. Details included attempting to offer an aid to the commander of an incident, though they will not come in and take over – they'd only be considered an aid, assisting an officer on anything that they see fit. Exposure reports are becoming a problem. This will also be addressed. A duty safety officer would be alerted on any working incident and will work with command to see what needs done. This policy mirrors Washington County's safety officer standard. Cancer safety is also a main concern. Amber McKiddy is visiting departments who wish to go over cancer information in the fire service with their members. An Incident Safety Officer course starts April 13th. Use MFRI's website to sign up for the course. Kevin Rounds requested that we need to look at scheduling classes around people's jobs since we are volunteers, as it is difficult to get the class scheduled with MFRI.

Bobbie Ritchie made a motion, seconded by Shannon Adams, that the Fire Service Committee support and approve the Duty Incident Safety Officer Standard. Motion passed.

A roll call vote Included:

Rawlings- Yes	Potomac- No	Good Will- Yes
Bedford Road- Yes	Shaft- Yes	Barton- Abstain
Midland- Yes	Mount Savage – Abstain	Cresaptown – No
Frostburg- Yes	Bowling Green- Yes	

NEW BUSINESS

1. COUNTY APPARATUS FLEET SPREADSHEET

Roger reported that the apparatus fleet spreadsheet has been sent out and must be updated. If no update was provided, Roger will make contact with the department.

2. SWIFT WATER TEAM

Questions were raised regarding if “*IamResponding*” texts are being sent out to everyone because some team members are not receiving messages. They will check into this.

3. FIREFIGHTER I CLASS

A working person *Firefighter I* class is being scheduled, with a list being setup. Please speak to Chief 18 if interested.

4. UNDERAGE FIREFIGHTING

Chairman Rounds spoke to Todd Dyché at MFRI who advised that as long as the parental consent paper was filled out, underage people can train with MFRI – beginning at age 16. Roger Bennett reported that the county attorney referred to individual department insurance companies for information. Tim Dayton will check with MSFA and report back.

5. DNR - FOREST SERVICE

Randy Kamp, Fire Manager, DNR reported that new employees have been hired. And while Randy has taken a new Statewide position, he’s still maintains an office in Green Ridge and can be contacted. If departments have firefighting equipment needs, please send him an email and he will see what he can do to assist.

6. Standardization on Fire Department Connections

The group discussed the standardization of fire hose connections. After considerable discussion, the following motion was made:

Motion was made by Tim Dayton, seconded by Bobby Ritchie, to go with 5” Storz connections on new fire department installations. Motion passed.

7. Minutes

Discussion was held on whether minutes could be emailed to people who attended the meetings instead of just on the website.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Fire Services Committee will be held on May 14, 2019 at the Mount Savage Fire Department at 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M. by Chairman Wayne Rounds.