

VIRGINIA FIRE SERVICES BOARD
November 14, 2008

A regular meeting of the Virginia Fire Services Board was held at the VDFP Hampton Office in Hampton, VA at 9:00 am. Mr. Dennis Mitchell served as Chair.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dennis Mitchell – Chair
Kenneth Brown
Brian Mullins
Michael Reilly
Ed Altizer
Robert Scott
Richard E. Burch Jr.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Thomas H. Moffett
William B. Kyger Jr.
Barbara Hamm Lee
Mike Armstrong
Carl Garrison
Kenneth L. Jones
Industry (SARA Title III & OSHA) – Vacant
Virginia Municipal League – Vacant

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT

Brook Pittinger	Dave Jolly	Russ Chandler
Amanda Wood	Christine Lopilato	

GUESTS PRESENT

Art Lipscomb	Neal Tuner – Montgomery	Bill Street – Shenandoah
David Creecy – Richmond	County	County
Fire & EMS	Tim Williams –	Rob Wood
	Shenandoah County	

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chair asked if there were any additions and/or corrections to the minutes from the August 2008 meeting. With no changes to the minutes the August 16, 2008 meeting minutes were approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

CHANGES IN THE AGENDA

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business discussed.

New Business:

- A. 2009 VFSB Meeting Dates & Locations
 1. February 20 – 21, 2009 – Virginia Beach
 2. June 5 – 6, 2009 – Glen Allen
 3. August 14 – 15, 2009 – Hampton
- B. Acceptance of Model Public Participation Guidelines (PPG)
- C. ATL Minimums

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE VDFP LIAISON VDFP Executive Director

The following report was provided by Russ Chandler on behalf of Billy Shelton:

- ATL for FY 08 is 99.1% disbursed with eight months to go!
- ATL for FY 09 is 54.1% disbursed with 20 months to go! Forecast for FY 10 will be 5-8% less due to the economy.
- Pro-Board Registrations stand at 59,905 for the Commonwealth.
- Roanoke Office will house SFMO, OEMS, VDFP, and VDEM. We expect occupancy by mid to late December 2008.
- VFSB/VDFP has lost all interest accrual for FY 08, 09, & 10. This amounts to \$ 1.2 million per year and will impact mini-grants, conference and education grants, VFIRS grants (>\$25K), smoke or CO detector grants, and all remedial repairs to burn buildings.
- SFMO has been downsized due to budgetary restraints, primarily in reduction of hours for part-time personnel and curtailments of conference and training as part of the Governor's 5%, 10%, & 15% reduction plan. The final figure was \$110K for FY 09. FY 10 will not be announced until later but is expected to be greater.
- SFMO will merge into VDFP Offices in Orange and Hampton to save money in FY 10 timeframe; VDFP will probably move into the SFMO in Marion.
- Fighting Fires with Facts for 2007 was distributed in July. The 2007 fire and statistical data examine the state, locality, and individual fire department's 2007 data.
- Updated VDFP Talking Points distributed to Presidents in mid-July. There are now 797 fire departments registered in VDFP's database.
- 2008 Needs Assessment is being solicited in survey format for the Virginia General Assembly. Your input is vital. As of November 5th, we have received an overall response of 90%. The final cutoff date is November 7, 2008.

- There will be no 2009 legislative proposals from VDFP to SPS due to budgetary restraints.
- Fire and EMS Study is on-going in Westmoreland County with the new template and format.
- On-line programs for HMA, T-T-T for NFPA 1403, and Fire Attack Series. As these programs progress, there will be more on-line programs offered.
- Minimum training standards recommendations have been approved by the three Stakeholder Groups (VFCA, VSFA, & VFPPA). SPS Marshall was briefed on 10-20-08 by the three groups. More will follow in the future. VFSB will manage the recommendations once completed; there will be no code enactment.

COMMENTS FROM THE VFSB CHAIR

Dennis Mitchell thanked the Board of Housing and Community Development for hosting the VFSB at the Thursday evening reception and allowing the VFSB to meet in conjunction with the Governor's Housing Conference.

Dennis requested that the Agency thank Secretary Marshall for his support of the joint meeting and reception.

Dennis also noted that several of the Board's sub-committees will need to meet within the next few months and as the meetings are scheduled the Board members will be notified.

Dennis extended an invitation to the Board of Housing to attend any of the future VFSB meetings.

Dennis also noted the future meeting dates for BHCD and encouraged the VFSB members to attend the BHCD meetings. The BHCD meeting dates will be emailed out to the Board members.

Dennis also stated that it is important for the VFSB to try and attend all VFSB meetings because there are very important issues that need to be discussed at each meeting.

Dennis stated that each Board member needs to read all previous meeting minutes prior to attending the next meeting to ensure everyone is aware of the business conducted at the previous meeting.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON FIRE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The following topics were discussed at the Fire Education & Training committee meeting.

Discussion and voting on the Crew Leader, Fire Officer II, and Driver Pump Operator curriculum will be reviewed at the February 2009 committee meeting.

Discussion on the 4 Year College Program and VFOA as a full or partially funded training grant will also be discussed at the February 2009 committee meeting.

It was noted that Instructor I instructors can teach basic courses within their locality/jurisdiction.

The Agency will research the development of Ethanol suppression training and will provide a follow up to the Board at the February 2009 Board Meeting.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The following topics were discussed at the Fire Prevention and Control committee:

Topic: Technology (VFIRS) Hardware Grants

Motion: To accept staff's recommended VFIRS grants up to \$25,000.

Discussion:

There was no discussion held on this motion.

Vote: Unanimous.

Action: Motion Carries.

Topic: Sub-committee members

Motion: To recommend Anthony Barrero and Ann-Marie Loughran as Code Sub-Committee members.

Discussion:

There was no discussion held on this topic.

Vote: Unanimous.

Action: Motion Carries.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION, POLICY & FINANCE

The following topics were discussed at the Administration, Policy & Finance committee meeting.

It is believed that legislation has been proposed that would allow firefighters to add additional sirens and lights to their vehicles in order to prevent them from having to travel to the fire station to obtain equipment in order to respond to a call.

It was noted that this is a State Police law and that the VFSB has no position on this legislation.

Under the current code, a personal vehicle can have 2 lights.

It was requested that staff send a letter to the Secretary of Public Safety explaining the possible legislation and asking the Governor's office to take a position on the possible legislation.

Topic: Montgomery County Burn Building Time Extension

Motion: To grant Montgomery County a time extension to June 30, 2009 to obtain the required building permit.

Discussion:

There was no discussion held on this motion.

Vote: unanimous

Action: motion carries.

Topic: Project Manual Revisions

Motion: To accept staff's recommended changes to the Project Manual as submitted on Enclosure 8 (within the Administration, Policy and Finance minutes).

Discussion:

There was no discussion held on this motion.

Vote: Unanimous.

Action: motion carries.

Topic: Shenandoah County Burn Building

Motion: To approve the new scope of work as presented by Shenandoah County to their burn building. All work must comply with current firefighter I and II requirements and NFPA 1401 and 1403 standards. To include a total of 2 burn rooms – one per floor. Not to exceed the previously awarded \$185,000.

Discussion:

It was noted that Shenandoah County should stay within the \$185,000 grant award, but that they are possibly going over the requirements set forth by the Burn Building grant program.

It was also noted that the need to develop the definition of a regional facility is imperative and should be examined by the Burn Building Subcommittee. A request was put forth to delay approving the Shenandoah County request until the February 2009 Board meeting so that the Subcommittee can develop the regional facility.

The original motion – “To approve the new scope of work as presented by Shenandoah County to their burn building. All work must comply with current firefighter I and II requirements and NFPA 1401 and 1403 standards. To include a total of 2 burn rooms – one per floor. Not to exceed the previously awarded \$185,000” – was amended “to table voting until the February 2009 VFSB meeting to allow the Burn Building subcommittee to meet and develop the definition/standard of a regional training facility and to allow for a time extension to Shenandoah County of 90 days until September 30, 2009.”

Dennis Mitchell & Mike Reilly noted that he can not support the amendment, as it is penalizing the County for a policy that has not yet been developed by the Board and it is not right to delay the Shenandoah County project for a policy that is not yet developed.

Amendment Vote: 1 Yea and 6 Nays

Motion Vote: 6 Yeas and 1 Nay

Action: Motion carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business discussed at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Topic: 2009 VFSB Meeting Dates & Locations

Motion: NA

Discussion:

The following Board meeting dates for 2009 were scheduled and will be voted on at the February Board meeting.

February 20 – 21, 2009 – Virginia Beach

April 16 & 17, 2009 – Richmond Metro Area

June 5 – 6, 2009 – Glen Allen
August 14 – 15, 2009 – Hampton
October 8 & 9, 2009 – Richmond Metro Area
December 3 & 4 – Richmond Metro Area

Vote: NA

Action: NA

Topic: Acceptance of Model Public Participation Guidelines (PPG)

Motion: To accept the Model Public Participation Guidelines (PPG) as required by the Administrative Code of Virginia.

Discussion:

There was no discussion held on this motion.

Vote: Unanimous

Action: Motion carries.

Topic: ATL Minimums

Motion: NA

Discussion:

Ken Brown requested that each Board member review the ATL minimums increase provided by staff and determine if they will be feasible for implementation. It was noted that if additional minimum formulas are needed that staff can provide that data.

Dennis Mitchell noted that the discussion of ATL minimums can be placed on the Admin, Policy & Finance Committee agenda for discussion, but at this time he is not in support of the minimum increase as the 2010 census will be coming out and it may affect the minimums. Dennis suggested that the Board wait until the census to see how the census data will affect the minimums.

It was noted that VACO and VML representatives should be present during this discussion along with a majority of the VFSA members.

Discussion on this topic will be continued at the February 2009 Board meeting during the Admin, Policy & Finance Committee meeting.

Vote: NA

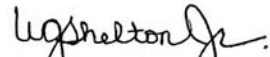
Action: NA

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 10:15 am

Clerk of the Committee
Brook M. Pittinger

REVIEWED BY:



W. G. Shelton, Jr.
Executive Director

November 17, 2008
Date

No Enclosures.

APPROVED