

VIRGINIA FIRE SERVICES BOARD
Fire Prevention and Control Committee
December 1, 2011

A regular meeting of the Committee on Fire Prevention and Control was held at the VDFP Headquarters in Glen Allen, VA at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Michael Reilly served as the Interim Chair.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Reilly – *Interim Committee Chair* – Virginia Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

Joe Wilson – Industry (SARA Title III & OSHA)

Robert Scott – Insurance Industry Representative

Carl Garrison – Virginia State Forester

Felix Sarfo-Kantanka Jr. – General Public

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Elaine Gall – *Committee Chair* – Virginia Fire Prevention Association

Charles Altizer – Virginia State Fire Marshal

Brian Mullins – Virginia Board of Housing & Community Development

VFSB MEMBERS PRESENT

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT

Billy Shelton

Russ Chandler

Matthew Smith

Brook Pittinger

Bobby Bailey

David Jolly

Glenn Dean

GUESTS PRESENT

Jeff Flippo

Robbie Dawson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval Of The Minutes Of The Previous Meeting
- B. Report From The VDFP Director of Finance
- C. Report From The Codes and Standards Subcommittee

Unfinished Business:

- A. Code Development Memoranda of Agreement (BHCD/VFSB)

B. Codes and Standards Subcommittee Composition

New Business:

A. No New Business

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brook Pittinger reminded the Board members that their Conflict of Interest filings are due to the Board Clerk by December 2, 2011. Further, Brook Pittinger reminder the Board members that they may have been notified about their biennial Conflict of Interest training and that they need to go onto the Agency's Knowledge Center to complete it.

Additionally, Brook Pittinger reminded Board members to promote and encourage nominations for the Governor's 2011 Virginia Fire Services Awards and that nomination forms can be found online, http://www.vafire.com/fire_chat/2011GovernorsFireServiceAwards.pdf.

Michael Reilly discussed Fairfax County's Unified Hostile Incident Action Guide that was developed jointly by Fairfax County's police and fire agencies as a guide for handling hostile incidents. Localities are encouraged to review and utilize as necessary in their locality and it can be found on VDFP's website at

http://www.vafire.com/government_affairs/FairfaxCountyPD-FRDUnifiedHostileEventActionGuide.doc and

http://www.vafire.com/government_affairs/FairfaxCountyPD-FRDUnifiedHostileEventGuidelines.ppt .

CONSENT AGENDA

Topic: Consent Agenda

Motion: To accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

Action: Motion Carries

REPORT FROM THE VDFP LIAISON

Russell Chandler, Branch Chief of Training & Technical Services

Russ Chandler provided the following report:

1. Since the Board meeting in October, the Virginia Fire Marshals Academy (VFMA) has been involved in many functions that were just as much agency related, as they were Academy related. Chief Bailey is the lead in organizing and supervising the tractor

drivers for our large training trailers. In addition to building a core of drivers, we have been extremely busy in getting them trained on towing and remote site setup.

2. Since the original design of the VFMA Mobile Burn Cells, Chief Bailey has made major improvement and enhancements that have not gone unnoticed by the manufacturer. In fact, Kidde is bidding on a similar unit for another state. In that process, they have requested photos and data on Chief Bailey's changes to the Agency's units, so they can incorporate those designs into their new models.
3. The VFMA held a class at the Richmond Convention Center on the *CFFI-5 Death Investigations*. The class had 65 students from around the state participate in the two-day class. The Medical Examiners office as well as Richmond Homicide and Forensic units assisted in the class.
4. The VFMA completed a Fire Investigator 1033 class in Richmond with 19 students. The class was held at the Barrett Learning Center in Hanover County. The class had students from the Virginia State Police, Fort Lee and the counties of Loudoun, Prince William, Chesterfield, Henrico, and Halifax.
5. Our Public Fire & Life Safety Coordinator, J. D. Jenkins, put on a "Play Safe Be Safe" workshop in Henrico County with 53 participants. Dr. Cole was the primary speaker, who is a remarkable talent in selling the concept and making every child's environment safer. We were proud to sponsor this outstanding event along with the Virginia Fire & Life Safety Coalition.

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

Carl Garrison provided the following report:

- He distributed the 2011 State of the Forest Annual Report, **Enclosure 2**, and highlighted that in their public safety role the Department of Forestry protected 4, 023 homes and other structures valued at more than \$475 million – from the ravages of 1,114 wildfires that burned 22,022 acres of land during the year.
- DOF inspected 5,905 timber harvest sites on more than 248,165 acres; acquired a new State Forest and sold more than 25 million tree seedlings.
- Further, forestry health is up with traditional pests on the decline, such as the gypsy moth and the southern pine beetle, which is good from a wildfire perspective as less wildfire fuel, i.e. dead trees, is being created.
- Billy Shelton commented that Carl Garrison has been diligently working with the insurance industry to get ISO credit for the dry hydrants installed by the DOF.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Michael Reilly reflected on the Board of Housing and Community Development's (BHCD) reception for the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) at the 2011 Governor's Housing Conference. Further, he commented that he is disappointed in the showing of the Virginia Fire

Services Board, as the Board needs to continue to develop those relationships to move our issues forward. In addition, if changes are made to the code development Memoranda of Agreement between the BHCD and VFSB, then it will be incumbent upon the Board to attend those BHCD meetings related to the Statewide Fire Prevention Code.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Topic: Code Development Memoranda of Agreement (BHCD/VFSB)

Motion: To have staff and the Chair of Codes and Standards Committee to develop a public hearing procedure for the two Boards to adhere to for the development of the SFPC.

Discussion: Robbie Dawson reviewed the suggested changes to the code development Memoranda of Agreement. Further, the suggested changes attempt to bring Virginia's Statewide Fire Prevention Code development process closer to that used by the International Code Council that allows for discussion of the pros and cons of the code changes.

The Committee, Agency, and guests discussed that the fire service wants a level playing field and to be heard during Virginia's code development process. Michael Reilly commented that the fire service has historically been absent from the code development meetings, and must commit to being present at the future meetings.

After reviewing and discussing possible changes, the Committee decided per the motion to direct the Agency and the Chair of the Codes and Standards Subcommittee to draft specific procedures for the Committee to review with the finalized language of the MOA.

Michael Reilly commented that if both the Board of Housing and Community Development and the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) sign the MOA, the VFSB's Chairman has said the expectation will be for members of the Fire Prevention and Control Committee to be at the hearings.

Vote: Unanimous

Action: To present to the Administration, Policy and Finance Committee

Topic: Codes and Standards Subcommittee Composition

Motion: To accept the nominations from the Codes and Standards Subcommittee Chair and appoint those members to the Codes and Standards Subcommittee.

Discussion: Below is the list of nominations submitted by the Codes and Standards Subcommittee.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Employer or Representing</u>	<u>Notes</u>
James R. Dawson	Chesterfield County	Subcommittee Chairman Fire Services Board FPC Committee Chair
Elaine Gall	University of Virginia	
Ed Altizer	State Fire Marshal's Office	
Charles A. Gregory	Chesterfield County	
George Hollingsworth	Fairfax County	
Andrew Milliken	Stafford County	
Dave Thomas	Fairfax County	Will be transitioning off in June with retirement
Chris Slemp	Hanover County	
Gary D. Huffman	Roanoke County	
James Istvan	Fairfax County	
Maurice Wilson	City of Hampton	

Vote: Unanimous

Action: To present to the Administration, Policy and Finance Committee

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Clerk of the Committee
Matthew C. Smith

REVIEWED BY:

Russell K. Chandler
Russell Chandler
Branch Chief of Training and Technical Services

December 7, 2011
Date

Enclosures:

1. FY2012 Training Mini-Grant Applications Evaluation and Recommendations for Funding
2. 2011 State of the Forest