

STONEY POINT FIRE DEPARTMENT INC.

Stations 13 & 19

2190 Lake Upchurch Drive, Parkton, North Carolina 28371 Telephone: (910) 424-0694 Fax: (910) 425-2795 E-Mail spfd1301@nc.rr.com



May 21, 2019

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Monthly Board of Directors Meeting - May 2019

The monthly Board of Directors' meeting of the Stoney Point Fire Department Inc., was called to order by Chairman Brown and was led in prayer by Treasurer Gary Turlington at 7:30 PM. The meeting was conducted at Station 13.

A: Roll Calls

Members Present: Members Absent:

Daniel C. Brown Chairman N/A

Larry D. Townsend Vice Chairman
Angus Pate Secretary
Gary Turlington Treasurer
Roger Hall Member
Joel Siles Member
Jerry Hall Member

Participated via conference call from VA

Chief Officers Present:

Chief Officers Absent

Freddy L. Johnson Sr. Fire Chief N/A

Freddy L. Johnson Jr. Deputy Chief Sean Johnson Assistant Chief

B: ANNUAL / SPECIAL / PUBLIC HEARING MEETING:

N/A

C: READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

1. Secretary Pate presented the minutes from the monthly April 16, 2019 Board of Directors' meeting for review and approval. After a review of the monthly April 16, 2019 minutes by all members in attendance Chairman Brown called for the approval of April 16, 2019 Board of Directors meeting minutes. MOTION A motion was made by Member Joel Siles to approve the April 16, 2019 Monthly Board of Directors minutes as recorded and presented by Secretary Pate. The motion was SECONDED by member Roger Hall and APPROVED by all members present.

D: REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

- 1. General Information.
- 2. Guests: None



3. Personnel:

1. Chief Johnson Sr. stated that as of today we have eighty-eight (88) active members with eighty (80) being volunteers. We also have a support staff of twenty-three (23) for a total membership of 111. He stated since the beginning of May, we had another six (6) volunteer walk in applicants, with our next recruit class starting on Saturday June 22, 2019 with new applicants since our last class.

4. Vehicles:

- 1. The Chief reported that Engine 1333 during training experienced a breakdown on May 11, 2019 when the throttle cable running from the pump panel to the transmission broke. A new cable has been ordered and will be installed once received. We can still utilize the apparatus as a tanker for shuttles but not as a pumping engine at fire scenes until the repair is made. The truck was placed back in service on Thursday May 16, 2019.
- 2. The new Chief's vehicle was picked up from Batteries plus of North Carolina located in Angier where all our installation of emergency equipment was completed. The emergency equipment installation consisted of a new custom made center console, two (2) 800MHz dash mount radios and antennas, siren, as well as emergency lighting that will provide a 360 view during emergency operations in order to warn the motoring public.
- 3. The Chief stated that work is on-going on the Chiefs Association Caisson Unit. This will be a long term project, whereas we only work on the truck as time permits, with our apparatuses and fleet having first priority. This apparatus once completed will be entirely self-sufficient complete with ramps and a hose bed with coffin rollers and room for eight (8) firefighters or honor guard members. The unit will be available on a first come first serve basis exclusively for firefighter, rescue and EMS workers within Cumberland County. Line of Duty Deaths however will have the highest priority for use.
- 4. The Chief updated the members of the board concerning the 1985 Seagrave Fire Truck that was donated to the Chief's Association about a year ago. The truck is currently at Atlantic Emergency Services (AES) for minor repairs and replacement of compound gauges. The truck is scheduled to go to the Fayetteville Fire Department for outfitting of some surplus firefighting equipment. The plan is to donate the truck to the Cumberland County School system for their High School Public Safety Fire Academy Program.
- 5. The Chief stated that Engine 1992, one of our 1984 Pierce Dash Fire trucks is now 35 years old and the wear and tear factor is relevant. We need to now start the process of replacing the 35 year old engine company. Due to the number of overlapping calls that we are now subject to and receiving on a regular basis and due to the associated automatic move up the apparatus is often first out. We also have a 1989 Pierce Dash that is now 30 years old and will soon need replacing also.
- 6. The Chief updated the members of the board about a Forestry Initiative and stated that about 18 months ago he submitted forms to the North Carolina Forestry Service requesting a free donation of the latest vehicle version of 5 ton military surplus vehicles. The new version of the 5 ton model is smaller but more agile for off road use. We are still in the pecking order and must await our turn. Units have been requested across North Carolina and are only distributed as released by the military.



7. Maintenance, Equipment and Fuel Expenses Fiscal Year 2018-19

(FY 2018-2019 Vehicle, Equipment and Fuel Expenditures as of May 21, 2019) (List from Quicken) (Previous two (2) Fiscal Years for comparison purposes)

	cken) (Previous two (2) Fiscal Years for			
UNIT#	NOMENCLATURE	FY 16/17	FY 17/18	FY 18/19
1311-R	1984 Pierce Dash Engine	1,330.01	(DONATED)0.00	0.00
1311-R	1985 Seagrave (Green Hornet)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
1319	1960 American LaFrance (Antique)	4,753.97	560.22	826.63
1331	2017 Pierce Arrow-XT	Not Applicable	48,128.39	549.75
1332	2004 Pierce Dash Engine	6,217.27	42,134.97	16,905.64
1333	1988 Pierce Dash Engine	48,983.80	14,864.97	4,163.73
1341	1990 AMC General 5 Ton Cargo Brush	427.53	1,440.02	1,303.25
1351	1996 E-One 75ft Ladder Truck	Not Applicable	17,618.30	33,767.90
1362	2015 GMC Sierra 2500 HD 4 X 4	1,643.38	116.44	1,359.47
1371	2016 GMC Sierra 1500 4 X 4	6,616.79	13.60	564.85
1391	Future Command Vehicle 2018	Not Applicable	0.00	0.00
Rescue 13	2017 Pierce Arrow-XT-Walk In	Not Applicable	18,516.09	29,119.17
1931	2004 Pierce Dash Engine	8,514.85	28,944.61	15,219.38
1932	1986 Pierce Dash Engine	7,301.45	1,814,21	2,229.22
1941	1984 AMC 5 Ton Truck	4,870.27	SOLD 2,606.24	
1961	1984 Chevrolet ¾ Ton Diesel-Lift Gate	243.58	0.00	885.56
1962	2015 GMC Sierra 2500 HD 4 X 4	26.73	980.32	567.27
1963	2017 – Auxiliary Support Trailer	Not Applicable	0.00	0.00
1981	2016 Mobile Air Trailer	268.60	0.00	6.42
Rescue 19	1984 International Rescue (1376)	3,826.56	SOLD 2,319.79	
Boat 13	19" Rescue One Connector Boat 50 HP	1,007.31	715,58	318.64
Boat 19	14" Zodiac Inflatable 25 HP	0.00	5.99	0.00
Trailers	2009 Boat Trailer Double Stack	0.00	2.75	0.00
U-Trailer	Utility Trailer (Small)	0.00	13.26	160.83
Cmd Trl	2006 FEMA Trailer	23.75	23.75,	0.00
MISC	RELATED VEH EXPENSES	7,817.04	5,575.65	20,887.39
	Total Vehicle Maintenance	103,846.16	186,383.17	128,835.10
	EQUIPMENT OTHER	16,281.37	17,305.17	21,754.05
	TOTAL VEH/EQUIP EXPENSES BUDGETED (\$100,000.00)	120,127.32	203,688.34	150,589.15
	GASOLINE & FUELS (\$ 40.000)	22,079.38	23,976.32	26,935.71
	FY-BUDGETED TOTAL (140,000) FY 19	142,206.70	227,664.66	177,524.86
	Total over / Budget	+ 22,206.70	+ 87,664.66	+\$ 37,524.86

5. Grounds and Buildings:

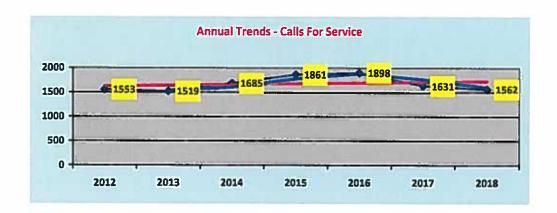
- 1. The Chief stated that our irrigation well issues have been mitigated, whereas a new storage tank and new filters were installed at Station 19.
- 2. Our front garage door, damaged by a Cumberland County Ambulance has been repaired. A complete new door was required, whereas the original door style was no longer available and the mismatch of door panels would have been very obvious. The new door was installed with all the current safety features. The glass panels were not tinted so we still need to get the glass tinted in order to keep out direct sun light which has a very negative effect on our trucks and turn out gear when continuous sun light makes contact. The Chief stated that he will follow up with Cape Fear Valley EMS concerning payment for the repairs caused by their ambulance.
- 3. Deputy Chief Johnson Jr. reported that work was conducted on the back field at Station 19 which was recently cleared on Saturday May 18. Remaining roots were removed and the field was raked in preparation for seeding. He stated that we have to mitigate water runoff, whereas we have large amounts of water coming off the asphalt and washing out landscaping along the path to the newly installed foundation of our future parking garage.
- 4. Deputy Chief Johnson Jr. stated that work has been scheduled of selected senior staff members for Saturday June 8, 2019 in order to inventory excess equipment and organize the back storage building. Additional high storage racks have been purchased for storage in order to clear floor space.

6. Fire Conditions:

1. Chief Johnson briefed on our current call volume through April 2019.

(See Charts below – Monthly calls by year and annual trend line chart.)

100	SP	FD INCII	DENT RES	SPONSE I	D.4 <i>T</i> .4		
MONTH	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
JANUARY	135	158	161	159	163	139	131
FEBRUARY	135	123	173	136	141	113	110
MARCH	126	139	142	156	138	137	120
APRIL	99	144	159	139	134	130	114
MAY	119	145	161	144	120	128	
JUNE	136	139	169	126	100	131	
JULY	101	181	152	135	153	132	
AUGUST	118	130	150	175	147	108	
SEPTEMBER	97	122	152	169	120	144	
OCTOBER	124	130	139	198	150	137	
NOVEMBER	112	131	145	147	127	132	
DECEMBER	113	143	164	214	138	131	
TOTALS	1519	1685	1861	1898	1631	1562	475



8. Training Report:

- 1. Chief Johnson Sr. updated the members of the board concerning our quest to provide on-line training effective July 1, 2019 for all our members. Division Chief Hanzal has the mission to research the various companies and report back to Chief Johnson by the end of the month of April. Once implemented all our members will be provided with the opportunity to complete 10 hours of on-line training per month and 10 hours of hands on training per month for a total of 20 hours per month. This is slightly modified for Engineers and Officers where additional requirements will be assessed dealing with engineer and officer duties.
- 2. During the month of August both Chief Johnson Sr., and Assistant Chief Murphy will attend Fire Rescue International (FRI) 2019 in Atlanta, Georgia. We will travel on Tuesday August 6 and return on Saturday August 10. The annual Fire Chief of the Year Banquet is on Wednesday sponsored by Pierce MFG and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC). All past recipients of the national award are invited to the annual banquet which introduces the two 2019 winners. Both will also be introduced during the opening ceremonies on Thursday August 8th.
- 3. There are several FEMA classes scheduled here in Cumberland County during the month of June 2019. Both are incident management courses and both are a week long in duration. Both Assistant Chief Murphy and Division Chief Hanzal will be in attendance. Both Chief Johnson Sr. and Jr. have attended both courses in 2014 and maintained those skills during annual upgrade programs.
- 4. Driver's training just like basic firefighting is an on-going venture here at Stoney Point. Driving our fleet of apparatuses during emergencies requires continued education and upgrades. Although we do this continuously there will however be an all-day upgrade class for all our drivers on a Saturday to be determined in September. This all-day training includes both classroom refresher as well as hands on driving in the parking lot of Jack Britt High School.
- 5. The Chief briefly updated the members about the planned Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) regional training facility endeavor which will hopefully break ground in the coming months. A contingent of FFTC employees along with the Engineering group hired to construct and build the new facility and training grounds will visit several state of the art community college training facilities during the 2nd week in June. Chief Johnson has also been invited to participate.



E: REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

1. Treasurer Turlington provided the monthly treasurer report.

Current Fund Balances: As of today is (Rainy Day Fund) CD as of April 2019 \$ 1,515,855.39 First Citizens 210,873.80 14% of Budget.

Total Cash Flow Available \$ 1,726,729.19 Total Available Funds

Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019 Budget Information

Approved County FY 17/18 Budget	963,888.00
County Budget Funding Received YTD \$	967,759.09
County Budget Funding Pending YTD \$	0.00
County Budget Funding Over Approved Amount	3,871.09

Approved Fayetteville FY 18/19 Budget \$	434,411.82
Fayetteville City Funding Received YTD \$	434,411.82
Fayetteville City Funding Pending YTD \$	0.00
Approved Town of Hope Mills Contract FY 18/19 Budget \$	\$ 78,692.00
Town of Hope Mills Contract Funding Received YTD \$	78,692.94
Hope Mills Budget Funding Pending YTD	72,692.00
(HM Funding Last FY received August 2018)	66,992.00
	,000.00
Town of Hope Mills Full Responder Contract Fee = \$69,692.00 based on last	year's pay out
Town of Hope Mills 1 time Debt Assumption Payment \$ 16.451.06-Outsdand	

Combined County / COF / & Hope Mills Approved FY 18/19 Budget S 1,476,991.82

Combined City / HM & County Budget Received YTD - \$	1,414,170.91
Combined City, HM & County Budget Pending - S	72,692.00
Other Income /Tax Refund (Sales & Fuel Tax) - \$ Goods (Property) Sold	36,823.08 5,000.00

Total Board Funds YTD received 18/19 to date ALL SOURCES

- Treasurer Gary Turlington presented the financial transactions for the month of January 2019 for review by the members of the board. After a complete review and discussion on the transaction report by all members in attendance Chairman Brown called for a motion to approve or disapprove the monthly transaction and oversight memorandum as presented. Member Jerry Hall made a MOTION to approve the monthly transaction report as presented. The motion was SECONDED by Member Roger Hall and unanimously APPROVED by all members present. (See Enclosure # 2)
- 2. Auxiliary Account Treasurer Tracie Johnson via text message provided the Auxiliary treasurer's fund balance as of today at \$ 200,109.96 with purchases being made to support the up-coming 2019 TOT.



- Miscellaneous Firefighter Account (Ice & Cans) The Chief stated that the current fund balance as of March 31, 2019 is \$ 6, 095.82. On March 5, 2019 a check in the amount of \$ 1,000.00 was written for the upcoming June 25th Annual Valor Awards Gold Sponsorship.
- 4. Relief Fund Vice Chairman Townsend updated the membership on our Firemen's Relief Fund balances. There are \$ 73,827.26 in the form of a CD and a total of \$ 11,094.87 in our associated check book with North State Bank, for a combined total of \$ 84,922.13.
- 5. Child Passenger Safety Seat Account The current CPSS fund balance with Wells Fargo (\$1,350.75) and BB&T (\$509.00) combined is \$1,859.75. This fund is exclusively for CPS equipment and is maintained by donations.

F: REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

1.	Policy Committee -	No Report
2.	Building & Grounds Committee -	No Report
3.	Small Tools & Gear Committee -	No Report
4.	Equipment & Vehicle Replacement Committee -	No Report
5.	Budget Committee -	No Report

G: OLD BUSINESS:

1. Chief Johnson again reminded the board about the June 25, 2019 Valor Awards at Manna Church on Cliffdale Road. He stated that we have another board meeting about a week before the valor awards and we could finalize attendance. (See Enclosure #)

The Chief passed around another copy of the GIS aerial map pertaining to the tract of land adjacent to our Station 19 property that was discussed during our April 2019 meeting. Vice Chairman Townsend and Member Roger Hall met with the owners Dwight and Sarah Lawing and Member Roger Hall briefed the board about their discussion. Mr. Hall stated that Mr. & Mrs. Lawing accepted their cash offer of \$ 10,000 per acre. Because he reduced his price from \$ 12,000 per acre to \$ 10,000 per acre he requested the FD take care of the surveying costs. Another discussion amongst all members present concerning the land purchase followed, when Chairman Brown inquired if there was a motion to officially purchase the land or forego the purchase. At that time Member Jerry Hall made a MOTION to purchase the land for \$ 10,000 per acre with the department taking care of the appropriate surveying costs with attorney Neil Yarbrough's office handling the real estate transaction on our behalf. The motion was **SECONDED** by member Joel Siles and APPROVED by all members present. Once the survey is completed and the final and accurate acreage is defined the Fire Department will pay \$ 10,000 per acres utilizing a cash pay off. The board advised Chief Johnson Sr., to coordinate all the administrative requirements associated with the land purchase and contact the board members via telephone if the transaction is ready to be finalized prior to our June 2019 meeting.

2. Chief Johnson Sr. stated that there has been no further discussion with Hope Mills Fire Chief Chuck Hodges reference his memorandum concerning extension of the full responder contract for another 5 years as outlined in his memorandum last

month. The Chief stated that he will get with Chief Hodges after Memorial Day to further pursue the contract update.

- 3. The Chief stated that there has been no further action on behalf of the County Manager's Office concerning the new funding formula briefed last month. The final budget meetings are forthcoming but according to all the available information from our last meeting is that the county is ready to propose the tax increase coupled with a new fire protection contract. He passed around another copy of the proposed funding formula, which caps our fire districting funding at .10 cents and provides supplements from the remaining .5 cents from the total proposed .15 cents special fire service district property tax evaluation. (See Enclosure # 3)
- 4. The new county fire protection contract was reviewed by attorney Neil Yarborough and returned to the county for update on May 7, 2019 for their review. On May 13, 2019 via memorandum from County Attorney Rick Moorefield returning the contract for further modifications, whereas several key points were rejected by the county. A meeting was conducted with all the county fire chiefs and a representative from their perspective boards with Neil Yarborough concerning the contract issue at Pearce's Mill FD on Thursday May 16, 2019 at 7 PM. (See Enclosure # 4)
- 5. He stated that on Wednesday May 15, 2019 was Fire Service Legislative Day in Raleigh
 - and he, along with Pearce's Mill Fire Chief Ronnie Marley, Fayetteville Fire Interim Fire Chief Mike Hill, Deputy Chief Hugh Sifford and Battalion Chief T.J. McLamb attended the event in Raleigh. Only Representative John Szoka was at work in Raleigh on the 15th from the Cumberland County Delegation. We did meet with Representative Garland



Pearce who represents Hoke County and is a supporter of the North Carolina Fire Service. We addressed with both representatives current legislative bills that directly affect the North Carolina Fire Service. (See Englosure # 5)

- 6. Received documentation from FEMA approving our submitted Hurricane Florence Public Assistance request. A final meeting with both FEMA and NCEM personnel is scheduled here at Station 13 on Tuesday June 4, 2019 at 1 PM. The majority of the reimbursement is for labor and the rest is operational reimbursements. The Chief stated that Division Chief Hanzal has the labor breakdown.
- 7. The Chief advised that our On-Line Training with Rescue-One will take effect on July 1, 2019 and will require 10 hours per month per member with an additional 10 hours per month during weekly shift hours. Starting July 1, 2019 we will go to one (1) department wide monthly administrative/training meeting which will be set monthly for the last Thursday of each month, while each members' weekly duty shift will serve as their weekly training night. Any critical administrative information that needs to be passed

on prior to the monthly administrative meeting will be disseminated through shift leadership or social media.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

- Received a bill from Attorney Neil Yarborough for his work on the most recent donut-hole annexation that was attempted by the Town of Hope Mills. The annexation did not move forward. The bill will be split four (4) ways with Cotton, Cumberland Road, Pearce's Mill and our department.
- 2. The Chief advised the members of the board that he participated with the COF Fire Chiefs assessment center on April 30th and May 1st. There were five (5) candidates that appeared during the assessment center.
- 3. The Chief stated that our Department was represented and assisted with the funeral service for former Lafayette Village Assistant Fire Chief Grover Green. Assistant Chief Green was a charter member of the former Lafayette Village Volunteer Fire Department and served from 1959 until 1979. He passed away on Saturday May 11, 2019. (See Enclosure # 6)
- 4. The Chief passed out a NFPA Research Study outlining the Number of U.S. Fire Departments by state. The report shows that North Carolina currently is reporting 1,267 active fire departments within the state. The report also reported the total firefighters listed by age group with the largest percentages reported within the 20 to 39 year age group. (See Enclosure # 7)
- 5. The Chief reminded the members of the board that our next meeting in June will be our annual general membership meeting on Tuesday June 18, 2019 at 7:30 pm at Station 19 our corporate office. The meeting will be announced in the newspaper, on-line and on our signboard out front at Station 19.
- 6. The chief discussed a recent study concerning the declining numbers of volunteers within the fire service. A study shows that the United States Fire Service has lost well over 100,000 volunteers and is down from a high of 800,000 to 700,000 during the most recent study. He stated that although we continue to benefit from walk in recruits our other county departments are having difficulty with recruiting. Our county was one of fifteen with the state that was awarded a recruiting and retention grant with the IAFC and the NC AFC. He showed the board the most recent recruiting video posted on our webpage. (See Enclosure # 9)
- 7. The Chief invited the members of the board to join us on Monday June 24, 2019 at Station 19 when we host the Cumberland County Fire Chiefs Association (CCFCA) at 7 PM. Dinner will be served. At 6 pm there will be an association finance committee meeting where the Chief will ask the committee to support 0the construction of another building to store all the CCFCA assets here on our property. We currently house four (4) assets; the Mobile Command Bus, Caisson Apparatus, Foam Trailer and Fire Safety House as well as another small fire prevention trailer. All are parked in the open with the natural elements deteriorating those assets. All of them need to be stored out of direct sun light. We are proposing to build a 50 X 100 building containing three (3) enclosed sides with the front open to store the assets. The remaining open space will be utilized by us to store our equipment. We will run electricity to the building. We have already prepared the site for such facility.

- 8. Chairman Brown inquired with Chief Johnson Sr., about the status of the Trail of Terror (TOT) property inventory which is overdue and needs to be completed. The Chief stated that with other more pressing issues coming up this has been pushed back, he will however have Division Chief Hanzal mark all the purchased property and enter it into our Firehouse RMS and have a printout available for Vice Chairman Townsend to check the inventory to the Auxiliary (TOT) credit purchases since 2014. Vice Chairman Townsend already has all the credit card transactions information in his possession. He will have Chief Hanzal identify property that is damaged and no longer used. This property will be placed on our surplus and damaged property list and taken off our overall inventory.
- 9. The Chief briefed the members concerning the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and informed the members about their purpose and mission. The LEPC meets quarterly and the Chief handed out copies of their February 2019 minutes. (See Enclosure # 8)

CLOSED SESSION - WHEN APPLICABLE

1. Not Applicable

J: ACCIDENT/MISHAP TRACKING

This section was created to track injuries, accidents and mishaps involving department owned vehicles, apparatuses, equipment and real property. The chart below represents tracking information only. A complete accident report prepared by the department safety officer is available and on file. The chart will be updated on a monthly basis for board review during the Fiscal Year July 1 through June 30 each year.

	Fiscal Year 2018	3 – 2019 Reportab	le Acciden	its
DATE	TYPE OF ACCIDENT	EMPLOYEE	COSTS	REMARKS
11/01/18	Broke scene light on 1351 during cab raising	Lieut. Fitzpatrick	1500.00	Repaired by Eng. Stewart
11/15/18	MVA - 1331- Hit passenger vehicle	Lieut. Austin	15,000.00	Other Driver transported to CFV
12/10/18	MCT not secured (No 360) Fell off & ran over	Eng. Long / Dubois	4,000.00	Disciplinary Action Pending
03/15/19	Medic Unit Backed Into Front Garage Door	Outside Agency	5,000.00	EMS Insurance Claim
		Current Total	30,500.00	

1. There have been no reportable accidents since our last reported accident on 03/15/2019. Safety is continually being stressed by our chain of command.



K: ADJOURNMENT

With no further business Chairman Brown entertained a motion to adjourn. A <u>MOTION</u> was made by Member Joel Siles to adjourn. The motion was <u>SECONDED</u> by Member Jerry Hall and <u>APPROVED</u> by all members present. The meeting adjourned at 2016 hours. The next meeting in June will be our annual membership meeting at 7:30 pm June 18, 2019 at Station 19.

Respectfully Submitted:

Angus Pato ANGUS PATE Secretary

Cc.

Each Board Member

1 - Board File / Minutes Book / Web Page

Accountant File Copy

9 Enclosures:

- 1. SPFD Board of Directors Attendance Roster May 21, 2019
- 2. January 2019 Oversight Memorandum
- 3. Proposed 2019-2020 FY Funding Formula
- 4. Proposed Cumberland County Fire Protection Contract Attorney Yarborough Edition
- 5. Fire Legislative Brochure
- 6. Assistant Chief Grover Green
- 7. NFPA Research Paper Number of US Fire Departments
- 8. LEPC February 2019 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
- 9. NFPA Report Finds Significant Decline in Volunteer Firefighter Numbers

2019

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S & PRIMARY STAFF

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

		7	ALIE	SIN DA	I EINDAINCE NOSIEN	NO2	IEN							
##	NAME	NV.	F1.18	FEB	MAR	Y.L.	NN	\][\	Mil.	M.G.	478	100	VOV	DEC
		(1.5)	(F)	(56)	(61)	(23)	([])	(18)	(16)	(20)	E E	(5)	(19)	(17)
		Sta. 13	Sta. 19	Sta. 4	Sta, 13	Sta. 19	Sta. 19	Sta. 19	Sta. 13	Sta. 19	Sta. 13	Sta. 19	St 1.19	Sta. 19
01	Daniel C. Brown - President(2020)	Ь	P	Ь	l d	Ь	Ь		Y.Y	N/A				
02	Larry Townsend V-President (2022)	Ь	Ь	Ь	×	Ь	Ь		N/A	V/Z				
03	Angus Pate - Secretary (2020)	Ь	Ь	Ь	×	Ь	Ь		N/A	NIA				
04	Gary Turlington - Treasurer (2022)	4	4	Ь	Ь	×	Ь		N/A	N/A				
05	Joel Siles – (2022)	Ы	Ь	Ь	×	Ь	Ь		NA	N/A				
90	Jerry Hall – (2022)	Ь	4	Ь	- P	×	<u>م</u>		NA	N/A				
07	Roger Hall (2020)	Ъ	Ь	Ь	Ь	Ь	Ы		NA	N/A				
80	Freddy Johnson Sr Chief (Annually)	Ь	P	Ь	Ь	Ъ	Ь		NA	N/A				
60	Freddy Johnson Jr Deputy Chief	Ь	P	Ь	Ь	×	Ь		NA	N/A				

P-Present - A-Absent - N/A - No Meeting Conducted A-E - Absent & not required to attend by invitation only. N/A No Meeting-P-T telephonic participation.

- ngust 2019 unless there is a Due to <u>summer vacations</u> Board of Directors meetings are not scheduled for the months of <u>limin</u> and pressing need or emergency.
- With the exception of the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief Assistant Fire Chief Officer are not required to attend the monthly board meetings unless directed by the Fire Chief.

Enclosure # 1 Board Minutes May 21, 2019

PROPOSED CUMBERLAND COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020 FIRE TAX DISTRICT FUNDING MATRIX*

8,947,090	75,000	225,000	90,000	402,500	330,000	414,815	7,409,775		TOTALS
1,027,239		75,000	5,000	35,000			912,239	6	Westarea (3)
392,046			5,000	17,500	30,000	82,963	256,583	5	Wade
1,011,193		50,000	7,500	35,000	30,000		888,693	5	Vander (2)
1,094,806		50,000	7,500	35,000	50,000		952,306	ω	Stoney Point (2)
316,816			5,000	17,500		82,963	211,353	6	Stedman
882,786			5,000	35,000	30,000		812,786	5	Pearce's Mill
159,472	75,000		7,500				76,972	9	Manchester
462,209			5,000	35,000	30,000		392,209	5	Grays Creek #24
462,203			5,000	35,000	30,000		392,203	5	Grays Creek #18
373,220			7,500	17,500		82,963	265,257	6	Godwin-Falcon
291,147			7,500	35,000	30,000		218,647	5	Eastover
552,036			5,000	35,000	40,000		472,036	4	Cumberland Road
1,056,562			7,500	35,000	30,000		984,062	5	Cotton
424,195			5,000	17,500	30,000	82,963	288,732	5	Bethany
441,160		50,000	5,000	17,500		82,963	285,697	7	Beaver Dam (2)
TOTAL BY	GRANT PROGRAM	MULTIPLE STATIONS	EXTRICATION RESPONSE	EMS	ISO 5 OR LESS**	ADDITIONAL 1/4 LOW WEALTH	TOTAL PAY OUT FY18	ISO	DEPARTMENT

Funding Area	Amount (Cents)	Current Estimate*	FY20 Expense
Low Wealth Supplement (FY18 supplement + new supplement)		1,050,000	1,034,935
ISO 5 or Less Supplement		350,000	330,000
EMS Supplement		402,500	402,500
Extrication Response Supplement (CCFCA Funding)		350,000	90,000
Multiple Station Supplement		300,000	225,000
County District Grant Program		1,047,500	75,000
Total:	0.05	3,500,000	2,157,435

^{*} Does not include other revenue sources; Fire District Tax only

Green Highlight indicates Low Wealth Fire Dept

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^{**}ISO 5 = \$30K/year; ISO 4 = \$40K/year; ISO 3 or less = \$50K/year

EMS Supplement County District Grant Program Extrication Supplement (CCFCA Funding) **Multiple Station Supplement** ISO Rating Supplement Low Wealth Supplement **Funding Area** Amount (Cents) | Current Estimate* 0.05 3,500,000 1,047,500 1,050,000 402,500 350,000 300,000 350,000 FY20 Expense 1,532,315 225,000 414,815 90,000 300,000 402,500 100,000

*ISO 5 = \$30K/year; ISO 4 = \$40K/year; ISO 3 or less = \$50K/year

Green Highlight indicates Low Wealth Fire Dept

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2019 FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

_____ Fire Department, Inc.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND

	IS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this the day of,, 2019, by and tween CUMBERLAND COUNTY, hereinafter referred to as "County", and Inc., a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of	
No	orth Carolina, hereinafter referred to as "Fire Department";	
	RECITALS:	
A.	WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 69-25.5 provides that the board of county commissioners may provide for fire protection in a Rural Fire Protection District by contracting with any incorporated nonprofit volunteer or community fire department or with any incorporated city or town; and	
В.	WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §153A-233 provides that a county may contract for fire-fighting or prevention services with one or more incorporated volunteer fire departments, and may for these purposes appropriate funds not otherwise limited as to use by law; and	
C.	WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §153A-301 provides that the board of commissioners of a county may define a service district in order to finance, provide, or maintain fire protection in addition to or to a greater extent than it is financed, provided or maintained for the entire county; and	
D.	WHEREAS, County has established the Fire Insurance and Response District of Cumberland County with boundaries defined by the most current description on file maintained by the Cumberland County Geographic Information Services in the County Manager's Office, hereinafter referred to as the "Response District;" and	
E.	WHEREAS, Fire Department has secured equipment, land and buildings for the operation of its Fire Station or stations for the provision of fire services within the Response District; and	
F.	WHEREAS, by Resolutions adopted June 5, 1989, and County's Board of Commissioners established a single Fire Protection Service District encompassing the territory of all the Rural Fire Protection Districts within the county for the purpose of financing, providing, or maintaining fire protection, to include emergency medical, rescue, and/or ambulance services medical services as defined by North Carolina General Statute § 153A-309, to a greater extent than provided or maintained for the entire county, hereinafter referred to as the "Service District;" and Page 1 of 17	

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G. WHEREAS, County and Fire Department desire to enter into this Service Provider Agreement for Fire Department to provide fire protection to include emergency medical, rescue, and /or ambulance services for and within the Response District.

AGREEMENT

Section 1. USE AND AMOUNT OF SERVICE TAX LEVIED

County shall fund Fire Department from the proceeds of the tax levied within the Service District. The amount of such Service District tax levy shall be determined by the Board of the County Commissioners from year to year. For each fiscal year, the funds provided from the Service District shall be based on the needs projected in the budget request jointly submitted by Fire Department and the County staff to the County Commissioners and as approved by and deemed necessary by the County Commissioners for furnishing fire protection within the Response District.

For all purposes in this agreement, fire protection services shall include emergency medical, rescue and/or ambulance services.

All funds paid to Fire Department by County shall be used solely for fire department operations, and fire protection services in the Response District and other areas of response as dispatched and to meet the standards established by this Agreement.

The base funding for each fiscal year of this Agreement shall be that amount calculated to be what an equivalent of \$.10/\$100 valuation will generate within the Rural Fire Protection District in which Fire Department is located or is providing services under this Agreement.

Section 2. ACCOUNT MAINTAINED FOR RECEIPTS FROM SERVICE DISTRICT TAX

A separate account shall be maintained by County for the receipts from the special tax levied for the Service District. Out of this account:

- County will pay for the services that are specified in this Agreement.
- County will pay Fire Department its approved total budgeted appropriations as taxes are collected in monthly payments during the following month collection.

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Section 3. SERVICES FURNISHED BY THE COUNTY

County shall furnish the following services to Fire Department for the term of this Agreement:

- a. Fire cause and determination investigation services through the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, and
- b. Periodic Fire Inspections performed by staff of the Cumberland County Emergency Services Department in compliance with the North Carolina State Building Code – Fire Prevention, adopted appendix sections and associated state administrative code addressing frequency of periodic inspections. The County will confer with Fire Department's Fire Chief where the Fire Chief is the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).
- d. Comply with national consensus standards for emergency communications, such as, but not limited to, NFPA 1221 Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Emergency Services Communications Systems. County is to determine realistic goals and performance measures then produce periodic performance reports related to County's actual compliance with national standards and provide such reports to Fire Department upon request.
- e. Assistance on emergency incidents by Cumberland County Emergency Services Staff as resources available to assist.

Section 4. SERVICES FURNISHED BY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Department shall furnish fire protection services as set forth in this Agreement within the Response District and shall provide the equipment, personnel and those things necessary for providing these services. The services shall be provided in accordance with the minimum standards set forth in this Agreement and all future amendments adopted in accordance with this Agreement. Fire Department shall furnish fire protection services without charge to all persons and property located in the Response District in an efficient and workmanlike manner. This provision shall not prohibit Fire Department from entering into contracts with the Federal, State or local governments, or utility companies for the provision of fire protection services exceeding the scope of this Agreement for a fee. This requirement shall not prohibit Fire Department from billing for certain services, including but not limited to hazardous materials

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mitigation responses and or responses to motor vehicle accidents, based on a fee schedule or other cost recovery program, provided that such fee schedule has been approved by the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners. Furthermore, this shall not prohibit the Fire Department from requesting reimbursement for specialized incidents.

Section 5. INSURANCE

Fire Department shall obtain and keep in force during the term of this agreement such insurance coverage as is required by law, and such other insurance coverage as its Board of Directors determines.

Section 6. AUDITS

Fire Department agrees to provide County an annual audit and accompanying management letter prepared according to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and generally accepted auditing standards by an independent certified public accountant for the preceding fiscal year no later than 5:00 PM on the last working day of December of each fiscal year. Fire Department is responsible for submitting its data to the CPA in accordance with this timeline.

The financial records and data used for the audit shall be presented to the Cumberland County Manager, or specified designee, in the manner and format requested.

In the event that the audit or management letter reveals a reportable and/or material issue(s) with regard to compliance with generally accepted accounting principles, Fire Department shall provide a written statement that contains an explanation of such issue and an action plan (with implementation timeline) for resolving each such issue, and shall provide periodic reports to County on progress made in resolution of each issue. If resolution of such issues requires professional advice on the part of Fire Department's or County's auditor, Fire Department shall bear the full cost of obtaining such advice.

Section 7. COUNTY INSPECTION OF BOOKS OF ALL PUBLIC FUNDS

County may inspect the financial books and records of Fire Department at reasonable times during regular business hours of County with at least seven (7) business days' notice. Fire Department agrees that it will supply such financial books, records, and information or verification as may be requested by County. Fire Department shall maintain an accurate accounting system which provides adequate documentation of all of its receipts and disbursements including, but not limited to, those related to the expenditure of funds subject to this Agreement. Generally, thorough inspection of books and records by auditors will occur when there is not a clean audit.

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Section 8. FIRE DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT

Fire Department agrees that if its financial records are judged to be un-auditable for purposes of audit or establishment of a budget by County's Director of Finance, or if a regular or special audit by a Certified Public Accountant reveals competent evidence of reckless or willful financial mismanagement practices or intentional or criminal wrongdoing, Department's Board of Directors will immediately notify County, at which time County and Board of Directors will jointly name an independent, third-party trustee who will assume responsibility for management and financial decision-making for Fire Department until such time as County and the Fire Department's Board of Directors agree that Fire Department's finances have been stabilized to the extent required to satisfy the financial management provisions of this Agreement. In the event that Fire Department serves multiple local governments, County will notify the other impacted local government units regarding the designation of the independent third-party trustee and the reasons therefore.

Further, with reasonable notice, the Cumberland County Manager shall be entitled to utilize Internal County Audit staff to audit the financial records and operations of Fire Department at County's discretion.

Section 9. FIRE DEPARTMENT FAILURE OF PERFORMANCE

a. Non-Compliance by the Fire Department

If County's Finance Officer believes there is evidence that Fire Department has violated any provision of this Agreement, County will provide Fire Department written notice of the possible noncompliance and initiate an audit to verify compliance. If County determines that Fire Department has failed to render the fire protection and services as provided in this Agreement or has otherwise operated in a manner that violates the provisions of this Agreement, then County shall give Fire Department ninety (90) days advance written notice that the funds budgeted or allocated for Fire Department are subject to suspension and shall additionally provide a list of the corrections required for compliance. If during the ninety (90) days period, Fire Department makes the required corrections satisfactory to County, no suspension shall occur. During the ninety (90) days period, Fire Department is not relieved of its responsibility to provide fire protection services in a manner otherwise consistent with the terms of this Agreement. If after the ninety (90) days period, Fire Department has failed to make the required corrections to comply with this Agreement, then County may suspend any or all the monthly payment of funds allocated to Fire Department pursuant to this Agreement.

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b. Authority to maintain delivery of services

In the event that Fire Department's Board of Directors determines that Fire Department is unable to reliably deliver the services described herein, for reasons including, but not limited to, resignation or withdrawal of volunteer, part-time or full-time members or other withdrawal or loss of ability to deliver services, Fire Department's Board of Directors shall immediately notify the Cumberland County Manager, or designee, at which time Fire Department authorizes County to suspend the monthly payment to Fire Department and to use such Department facilities and equipment as are necessary to maintain the delivery of fire protection services in the Response District (to the extent the Fire Department exercises operational control and/or ownership interest over such facilities and equipment), so that an interruption of Fire Department's ability to deliver services will not interfere with the standards of fire protection service provided for in this Agreement.

c. Mismanagement Remedies

Should such use become necessary, upon the request of Fire Department, the Cumberland County Board of County Commissioners and Fire Department's Board of Directors will jointly select an independent third-party trustee who will regularly evaluate County's use of such Fire Department facilities, equipment and resources on behalf of Fire Department. During the time that Fire Department is unable to provide services; the Board of Directors of the Fire Department shall fully cooperate with County. County shall determine if and when Fire Department is able to resume delivery of reliable services. In the event that Fire Department serves multiple local governments, County will seek agreement from the other impacted local government units regarding the designation of the independent third-party trustee.

Section 10. BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS

a. Because of Fire Department's extensive reliance on public funds for its operations, the public has a continuing interest in Fire Department's decision-making processes and decisions regarding the spending of those funds. To ensure public trust, Fire Department agrees that its Board of Directors' meetings will be open to the public and conducted as if the provisions of Article 33C of Chapter 143 of the North Carolina General Statutes, Meetings of Public Bodies, apply. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall only include those gatherings of a quorum of the directors for the purpose of transacting Fire Department's business. In addition, Fire Department, consistently with the statutes referenced in this section, shall: hold at least one annual meeting of the Board of Directors, which shall be advertised in accordance with the provisions of Article 33C as referenced above;

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- b. provide public notice of all other meetings of Fire Department's Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of Article 33C as referenced above;
- c. make and keep minutes of all meetings of its Board of Directors that would enable a person not in attendance to have a reasonable understanding of what happened, and to make draft minutes of those meetings available to the public within thirty (30) days of the meeting covered by the minutes.
- d. The bylaws of the Fire Department shall have reasonable provisions enabling citizens to participate in the affairs of the Fire Department.

Section 11. LIQUIDATION OR DISSOLUTION OR MERGER

In the event of dissolution, the assets of the Fire Department shall be disbursed or distributed pursuant to the Non-Profit Corporation Laws of the State of North Carolina.

In the event of merger with another entity providing similar fire protection services, the assets of the Fire Department shall be disbursed or distributed pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement.

Local Firefighter's Relief Funds shall be used and distributed in accordance with the law governing such funds.

Section 12. BULK PURCHASING

Whenever possible, Fire Department will use bulk purchasing conducted between local fire departments and/or public safety agencies including Cumberland County Government.

Section 13. TRAINING LEVEL

Fire Department agrees to comply with all currently adopted standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the Cumberland County Fire Chiefs' Association related to initial and annual firefighter and fire officer training requirements. It is the desire of County that all firefighters in the county operate in a systematic method and follow best practices as well as industry standards to the greatest extent possible and practical. Should Fire Department not be able to meet any of these SOPs, Fire Department has the responsibility of notifying County in writing and immediately developing an improvement plan with a timeline to gain compliance.

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Section 14. SPECIALIZED RESCUE SERVICES

Fire Department may choose to participate in specialized rescue services, provided Fire Department obtains a Certificate of Need issued by County which designates Fire Department a provider agency for the specialized rescue service. Participation is voluntary, however, each participating department must comply with state statutes and with the eligibility criteria established by the North Carolina Association of Rescue and Emergency Medical Services, Inc. If Fire Department chooses to provide specialized rescue services, it shall adopt guidelines that address the appropriate functions. Examples of specialized rescue services include:

- Agricultural Rescue (2012 v2)
- Ambulance Rescue Provider (2012 v2)
- Confined Space Rescue (2012 v2)
- Heavy Rescue (2012 v2)
- High Angle Rescue (2012 v2)
- Light Rescue (2012 v2)
- Medical Responder (2012 v2)
- Medium Rescue (2012 v2)
- Rescue Resource Provider (2012 v2)
- Structural Collapse Rescue (2012 v2)
- Trench Rescue (2012 v2)
- Water Rescue Dive Rescue (2012 v2)
- Water Rescue Surface Water Rescue (2012 v2)
- Water Rescue Swift water Rescue (2012 v2)
- Wilderness Land Search & Rescue (2012 v2)

Fire Department must obtain a Certificate of Need from Cumberland County prior to initiating any specialized rescue service programs. Approval from County is needed if county tax dollars are required for the implementation and operation of any specialized rescue services. Likewise, Fire Department must give the County 180 days written notice of its intent to end or stop providing the specialized rescue service at the end of the fiscal year in which such notice is given. The fiscal year shall end on June 30.

Once County issues a Certificate of Need for specialized rescue services to a fire department, the fire department must fully comply with all current requirements for that specialized rescue service as defined and officially approved by the State of North Carolina and/or the North Carolina Association of Rescue and EMS, Inc.

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Section 15. INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE, INC. RATING

Fire Department shall make a good faith effort to maintain or improve its current rating with the North Carolina Department of Insurance, and Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO). Fire Department shall continuously comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations. If Fire Department loses or receives a worsened ISO rating, this will be examined by the Cumberland County Manager, or designee, who will make a report to the Board of County Commissioners containing recommendations for corrective action. Fire Department will within sixty (60) days present the Board of County Commissioners with a written corrective action plan and agree to implement said plan after its completion and approval subject to availability of funds as approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Cumberland County desires that all geographic areas of the County be rated at least at an ISO Class "5".

Section 16. STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

Fire Department shall furnish fire protection services in a professional, efficient and workmanlike manner, in particular so as to meet the requirements of and comply with rules and regulations of the North Carolina Department of Insurance, Insurance Services Office, Inc., and other pertinent federal, state and County laws, regulations and standards. Fire Department agrees to participate jointly with the County in development and implementation of countywide fire service system performance standards and make adjustments as necessary.

a. Staffing and Deployment Reporting

Fire Department shall report its demonstrated performance in the following manner for all emergency calls occurring in their rated fire insurance district for the time period requested:

- 1) For 80% of all typical residential structure fire incidents, at least one initial arriving fire apparatus along with at least four (4) adequately trained firefighters (including automatic aid responses) arrived within _____minutes total response time and prepared to take immediate action in accordance with department protocols.
- 2) For 80% of all typical residential structure fire incidents in areas equipped with fire hydrants, an effective force of at least fifteen (15) adequately trained firefighters (including automatic aid responses) arrived within _____ minutes total response time. The effective response force established a command, appointed a site safety officer, provided an uninterrupted water supply, advanced an attack line and back up line for fire control, complied with the OSHA requirements of two-in and two-

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out, completed, forcible entry, searched and rescued at-risk victims, ventilated the structure, controlled utilities, and performed salvage and overhaul. These Operations were completed in accordance with department standard operating protocols while providing for the safety of responders and the general public. This is considered a full complement response.

3) For 80% of all typical emergency medical response incidents, at least one initial arriving fire apparatus along with at least one (1) adequately trained firefighter(s) (including automatic aid responses) arrived within ____minutes total response time and prepared to take immediate action in accordance with department protocols.

b. Turn out Time

If within two minutes after initial dispatch, a unit has not checked en-route, dispatch will realert and add an additional out of district station in order to assure an emergency response.

c. Response Time

To encourage the safe operation of emergency vehicles, response time is not addressed in this Agreement. It is understood that ISO recognizes that each road mile of travel from a fire station represents approximately 141 seconds.

d. Medical Certification of Personnel

Fire Department shall have in place a program to ensure the wearing of respiratory protection meets the expectations of the Respiratory Protection Standard, 29 CFR 1910.134. Fire Department shall participate in the county respiratory pulmonary function test annually for firefighters that are sent into immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) environments.

e. Background Checks

Fire Department shall conduct background checks on members/employees which shall be conducted by the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office or the Provost Marshal. The Fire Department shall also conduct drug testing on members/employees in accordance with a written departmental policy that complies with applicable Federal laws.

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f. Automatic and Mutual Aid

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacted into law an act to authorize automatic aid assistance between fire departments whereby full authority may be exercised by fire departments to send firefighters and apparatus beyond the territorial limits which they normally serve, codified as Chapter 58, Section 83-1, of the General Statutes of North Carolina. The County has written automatic aid protocols which are maintained and utilized by the Cumberland County Communications Center and are utilized on all structure fires where they simultaneously dispatch the automatic aid departments. The purpose of this agreement is to provide each of the parties through their mutual cooperation, a predetermined plan; as agreed upon in dispatch protocol, by which each of them render aid to the other in case of any incident. It is deemed to be in the public interest for the department to provide automatic aid assistance in order to increase fire defenses and to assure proper fire control, as well as providing reserves needed to assure the community of adequate protection.

- To activate automatic mutual aid, due to conflagration, holocaust, civil disorder or natural disaster, upon notification that an emergency does, in fact, exist and that aid is needed, the County will dispatch available apparatus equipment and manpower into action to assist the needed party.
- It shall be the responsibility of the officer of the fire department of the responding party
 that all personnel responding to the assistance are responsible persons and that the
 conduct and actions of said personnel shall be the responsibility of the party sending
 assistance.
- The party responding to the automatic aid under the terms of this agreement shall
 assume all liability and responsibility for damage to its own apparatus and/or
 equipment. The party responding shall also assume all liability and responsibility for any
 damage caused by its own apparatus while responding to or returning from a specific
 location.
- Each party to this agreement shall assume all costs of salaries, wages, bonuses or other
 compensation for its own personnel that responds for duty under the terms of this
 agreement and shall also assume all cost involving the use of apparatus, equipment,
 tools used specifically in response to the request for aid and shall make no charge for
 such use to the party requesting assistance.
- When fire department personnel respond pursuant to the agreement, the jurisdiction, authority, rights, privileges, and immunities including coverage under worker's compensation laws shall be extended to department personnel during the entire incident until completion.
- When any party contained in this agreement is providing automatic aid to another party, it is agreed to respond with a minimum of one piece of fire apparatus capable of carrying a minimum of 750 gallons of water.

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 Fire Department shall comply with the above-stated requirements to provide automatic and mutual aid.

g. Incident Reporting

Fire Department shall participate in and comply with the requirements of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) system with the North Carolina Department of Insurance/Office of the State Fire Marshal.

h. Fire Prevention and Public Education

Fire Department shall have an annual Fire Prevention and Public Education plan as well as a Community Risk Reduction plan commensurate with the respective needs of its Response District, as determined by Fire Department. Fire Department shall have a goal of reaching at least 25% of the total population of their Response District each calendar year.

i. North Carolina Motor Vehicle Laws

Fire Department shall promote that members/employees as a representative of Fire Department comply with all applicable motor vehicle laws. If a member/employee is cited for a motor vehicle violation, this shall not be a breach of this Agreement. Disciplinary action shall be at the discretion of Fire Department; however; Fire Department shall have standard operating guidelines, or equivalent, that clearly address this issue for all members/employees.

j. Budget

Fire Department will cooperatively participate in the annual budgeting process of Cumberland County to include utilizing the County's format by which the budget data will be presented to the County and the schedule for presentation.

k. Fire Investigation

Fire Department shall attempt to determine the origin and cause of all fires within its Response District. Assistance may be requested from the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office.

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I. Disposal of Surplus Equipment

Fire Department shall establish a written process for disposal of surplus equipment. This process shall address first offering surplus equipment to other departments within Cumberland County at a stated price (which could be \$0) before offering such surplus equipment to departments outside of Cumberland County. If Fire Department services multiple local governments, the process shall provide a fair method for offering for sale or donation of surplus equipment among departments in the multiple local governments' respective jurisdictions.

m. Training

Fire Department shall have an annual training plan to ensure appropriate training is conducted for new and existing members/employees, including communications and MAYDAY training. In addition, Fire Department shall establish a training plan for all departmental ranking officers to provide periodic instruction in management and leadership. This plan must be in compliance with the policies adopted by the Cumberland County Fire Chiefs' Association and shall address the level of training to a standard, leadership training with Emergency Management, involvement of communications center employees, annual training of all fire department employees and volunteers, and use of NFPA 1410 benchmarks.

n. Standard Operating Procedures, (SOPs), General Operating Guidelines (GOGs)

Fire Department shall adopt all SOPs/GOGs approved by the Cumberland County Fire Chiefs' Association and adhere to all operating policies agreed upon with other entities such as with Emergency Communications radio systems.

Section 17. RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

Fire Department is an independent contractor of the County and none of its employees shall be considered employees of County. The relationship between the parties shall be limited to the performance of this Agreement in accordance with its terms and County shall not be responsible for any of Fire Department's acts or omissions.

Section 18. TERM OF AGREEMENT

The term of this agreement shall be for five (5) years, beginning on July 1, 2019 and ending on June 30, 2024, unless terminated earlier in accordance with any provision in this Agreement. This term is subject to the continued legal existence of the Response District and Fire Department.

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Section 19. NON-ASSIGNABILITY

This agreement may not be transferred, assigned, or subcontracted by Fire Department without the written consent of the County.

Section 20. NO WAIVER

Failure of County to enforce any of the provisions of this Agreement at any time, or to request performance by Fire Department pursuant to any of the provisions of this Agreement at any time, shall in no way be construed as a waiver of such provisions, nor in any way affect the validity of this Agreement, or any part thereof, or the right of County to enforce each and every provision. In the event there is disagreement between County and Fire Department as to the interpretation of, or operation under, this Agreement, the parties will endeavor in good faith to mediate the disagreement, and agree to select and share the cost (if any) of the services of a trained mediator to conduct the mediation. Nothing herein, however, shall be construed to prevent either party from seeking immediate legal or equitable relief in a court of competent jurisdiction with or without prior mediation.

Section 21. AMENDMENTS

Any amendment to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by both parties in order to be effective. All Agreement amendments shall become part of this Agreement.

Section 22. NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES

This Agreement is not intended for the benefit of any third party. The rights and obligations contained herein bind and accrue exclusively to the parties hereto, and shall not confer any rights or remedies upon any person or entity.

Section 23. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

The terms and provisions herein contained constitute the entire agreement by and between County and Fire Department and shall supersede all previous communications, representations or agreement, either oral or written between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof; except, that this paragraph shall not be construed to supersede any existing and applicable Mutual Aid Agreements

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Section 24. NOTICES

All notices, reports, records, or other communications which are required or permitted to be given to the party under the terms of this Agreement shall be sufficient in all respects if given in writing and delivered in person, by confirmed facsimile transmission, by overnight courier, or by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the receiving party at the following address:

If to Cumberland County:

Cumberland County Manager Cumberland County Courthouse 117 Dick Street Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301 With copy to:

Cumberland County Attorney Cumberland County Courthouse 117 Dick Street Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301

If to Fire Department:	With Copy to:
	Yarborough, Winters & Neville, P.A. 115 E. Russell Street Fayetteville, NC 28301
Email:	
Telephone:	

Section 25. GOVERNING LAW

North Carolina law shall govern this Agreement.

Section 26. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement shall be determined to be unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination will not affect any other provision of this Agreement.

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Section 27. COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original.

Section 28. VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE WORK AUTHORIZATION

Fire Department attests and affirms that it is aware and in full compliance with Article 2 of Chapter 64, (NCGS 64-26(a)) relating to the E-Verify requirements.

Section 29. ADDENDUMS

The Parties may add specific addendums to this Agreement that are for specific services or conditions unique to Fire Department or Response District. Any addendums shall supplement and become part of this Agreement. Examples of addendums include, but are not limited to:

- Low Wealth Fire Department Staffing Supplements
- **Specialty Rescue Services**
- **Local Grant Funding Program**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, County has caused this instrument to be executed by the Cumberland County Manager, and Fire Department has caused this instrument to be signed in its name by its President, attested by its Secretary, and its corporate seal hereto affixed, all by authorization of its Board of Directors duly given.

This th	neday of	20
CUMB	ERLAND COUNTY	
BY:	Amy Cannon Cumberland County Manage	

This instrument has been pre-audited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget

Finance Director

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This person is responsible for mon	itoring the Agreem	ent pe	erformance requirement is:
		a.	λ
- Lie		inc.	
BY:			[SEAL]
It's President			
ATTESTED TO:			
BY:(title here)		



North Carolina Fire Service Legislative Day

Support NC Firefighters We are 53,000 Strong





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Support SB 349, Protecting Benefits for Firefighters Act

Support SB 416, Recruit/Retain Volunteer Firefighters

Support HB 159 and SB 396, Search and Rescue Funds

Support HB 278 Study Parity for First Responders

See enclosed for full listing of Support Actions and Bill Numbers

NCSFA/NCAFC Legislative

Committee

3101 Industrial Drive, Suite 200 Raleigh, NC 27609

www.nesfa.com

May 15, 2019

NC Fire Service Legislative Day 2019









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N.C. Fire Service Legislative Day – Brochure
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2019 Legislative Day - Support NC Firefighters

Please support the North Carolina State Firefighters' Association and NC Association of Fire Chief's Membership. We represent over 53,000 career and volunteer firefighters/ chief officers statewide.

Support Senate Bill 349 - Protect Benefits for Firefighters Act

This bill increases the Gross Premium Assessment on Fire and Lightning Insurance from .074 to .125. This will provide incremental increases in the Firefighter's Relief Fund, Volunteer Safety Workers Compensation fund, and Volunteer Fire Department Grants, returning each to their 2013 funding level. Most importantly, it will provide necessary increases to offset General Fund Appropriations that support stabilization in our Fire and Rescue Workers Pension fund.

Support SB 416 - Recruit/Retain Volunteer Firefighters

This bill provides a loan forgiveness program for firefighters taking degree work in Fire Protection at the Department of Community Colleges; provides free hunting and fishing licenses for being a volunteer firefighter; a reduced property tax to eligible volunteer firefighters; and increases the Fire and Rescue Pension to \$180 for fire and rescue personnel.

- **Support** HB 159 and Senate Bill 396 Search and Rescue Funds Provides funding for NC Search and Rescue Teams through the Department Public Safety. This is currently included in the House Budget.
- **Support** Senate Bill 179 and House Bill 278 Parity for First Responders

This bill provides a committee of combined Senate and House members to study firefighters in the State and Local Government Retirement System, possibly allowing them to retire at age 50 with 30 years' service. The study considers providing a supplement until they reach the age, they are eligible for unreduced social security benefits, and how to fund the provision. Law enforcement officers have had this benefit since the 1980's. The supplement allows a firefighter to afford retirement until they can receive social security benefits.

Support House Bill 466 - Firefighters' Line of Duty Diseases/Funds

This bill adds 3 additional type appropriates funds for the adc

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N.C. Fire Service Legislative Day – Brochure

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- Support HB 622 Provide Workers Comp for PTS in First Responders Provides Workers Compensation for PTS in firefighters within 1 year of occurrence for certain types of exposures.
- Support HB 520 Firefighters Fighting Cancer Act Creates a presumption that for certain type cancers prevalent in the fire service, that they are work related and covered by Workers Compensation.
 - Support House Bill 213 Provide Equal Income Tax Treatment of Government Retirees' Benefits This bill creates an equal treatment of Government employees in North Carolina by phasing in the same income tax exemptions that State and Local Employees that were vested before 1989 received. Sometimes referred to as the Bailey Act, State and Local employees who were vested after 1989 do not receive the same state income tax relief, and this bill balances a phase in of those benefits based on your retirement vested date. This is a huge benefit for our career state and local firefighters, as well as any state, local, or military employee in NC.

The NCSFA and NCAFC's opposes the following bills and issues:

- Oppose HB 615 and SB 566 NC Consumers Fireworks Safety Act Increases the size, use and availability of consumer fireworks in NC, and will result in increased injuries and fires across NC.
- Oppose SB 374 Repeal Risky Retirement Payments This bill will close three of the current benefit payment options to members who retire after July 1, 2020. The payment options being closed are: Option 4: Social Security Leveling; Option 6-2: Modified Joint & Survivor 100% for named beneficiary with pop-up to maximum allowance if beneficiary predeceases the member; and Option 6-3: Modified Joint & Survivor 50% for named beneficiary with pop-up to maximum allowance if beneficiary predeceases the member.

Thank you for your support of firefighters! If you have questions, concerns or need assistance from the NC State Firefighters' Association or the NC Association of Fire Chiefs, please feel free to contact our Raleigh representatives for the fire service.

Your Contact:	Debbie Clary NC Strategy Partners 2624 Laurelcherry Street	Tim Bradley Exec. Director NCSF 3101 Industrial Drive
	Raleigh, NC 27602 704.277.3424	Raleigh, NC 27609 919-821-2132

In Loving Memory

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down
in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

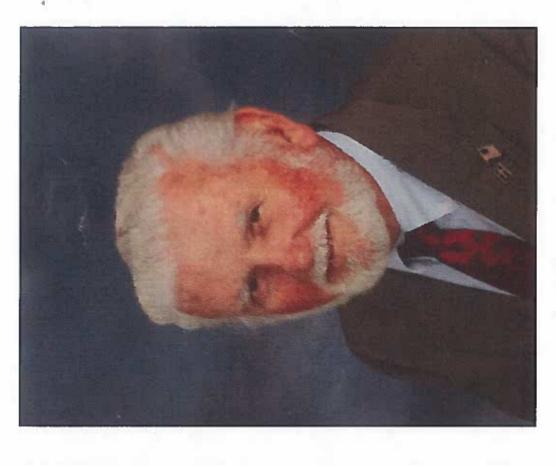
yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou prepares a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oif;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life:
all will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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Assistant Chief Grover Green Obituary
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The Family would like to express

their sincere thanks to: Cumberland County Fire Chief's Association

Emergency Services Honor Guard



Grover Green

Apríl 19, 1931 - May 10, 2019

Obituary

Grover Green passed away at home in Fayetteville, NC on May 09, 2019 at the age of 88.

Grover is predeceased by his wife Dorothy "Dot" Green; sisters, Lib and Dorothy; brothers, Jim, Bob and Jackie

VA; son, David Green and his wife, Marlyn of Bremerton, NC; son, Robert Green and his wife, Flora, of Chesapeake Elaine Blanchard and her husband Jimmy of Hope Mills WA; 10 Grandchildren; 13 Great-Grandchildren; and Grover is lovingly remembered by his daughter 2 Great-Great-Grandchildren.

"United States Navy from 1951-1954 before working at Pope An avid Duke fan, golfer and hunter; Grover served as a volunteer fire fighter serving as Assistant Fire Chief at Air Force Base for 30 years. Additionally, he was a Born is Alma, NC on April 19, 1931, he served in the Lafayette Village Fire Station No. 7. marshal at Baywood Golf Club.

Burial Service to follow at: Oak Grove Cemetery Maxton, MC magoo:1

Grover Green

April 19, 1931 - May 10, 2019

Order of Service

Welcome Pastor Damion Quaye

Opening Prayer Pastor Damion

Reading of Scripture Pastor Damion

Memories of Grover Green Elaine Blancha

"Go Rest High on that Mountain"

Words of Comfort

"Amazing Grace"

Patrick McAre

Pastor Damion

Closing Prayer

Pallbearers:

Church: Emergency Services Honor Guard

Graveside: Brian McDaniel Aaron Mathews

Zachary Green Tyler McDaniel Jacob Matherys Dakota Green

Pastor Damion Enclosure # 6 SPFD Board Minutes 05-21-2019 Assistant Chief Grover Green Obituary Page 2of 4



NUMBER OF U.S. FIRE DEPARTMENTS BY STATE

Hylton Haynes November 2017

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Number of U.S. Fire Departments, by State

State	Rectype 2 Fire Departments <10,000	Rectype 3 Fire Departments <10,000	Total Fire Departments <10,000	Total Fire Departments > 10,000	Total Fire Departments
AK	181	0	181	8	189
AL	783	20	803	87	890
AR	672	20	692	56	748
AZ	151	2	153	65	218
CA	410	74	484	311	795
CO	230	2	232	74	306
CT	151	51	202	103	305
DC	0	0	0	1	1
DE	37	0	37	24	61
FL	219	117	336	192	528
GA	467	47	514	137	651
HI	0	0	0	4	4
IA	779	0	779	61	840
ID	155	0	155	29	184
IL	881	5	886	265	1,151
IN	629	10	639	160	799
KS	582	18	600	50	650
KY	621	28	649	108	757
LA	342	4	346	84	430
MA	184	1	185	178	363
MD	133	125	258	54	312
ME	381	0	381	20	401
MI	722	1	723	233	956
MN	659	1	660	113	773
МО	545	0	545	133	678
MS .	459	8	467	. 62	529
MT	313	5	318	29	347
NC	730	441	1,171	96	1,267
ND	321	0	321	12	333
NE	446	0	446	22	468
NH	204	1	205	29	234
NJ	302	314	616	191	807
NM	241	24	265	27	292
NV	86	22	108	16	124
NY	865	698	1,563	184	1,747

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Number of U.S. Fire Departments, by State (Continued)

State	Rectype 2 Fire Departments <10,000	Rectype 3 Fire Departments <10,000	Total Fire Departments <10,000	Total Fire Departments > 10,000	Total Fire Departments
OII	012		010	205	1.000
OH	913	0	913	295	1,208
OK	456	0	456	61	517
OR	251	0	251	62	313
PA	1,675	240	1,915	292	2,207
RI	44	0	44	28	72
SC	207	97	304	99	403
SD	318	0	318	13	331
TN	322	3	325	105	430
TX	1,161	74	1,235	301	1,536
UT	155	10	165	45	210
VA	393	121	514	107	621
VT	222	0	222	10	232
WA	192	209	401	76	477
WI	671	1	672	121	793
WV	385	1	386	52	438
WY	114	8	122	19	141
Total	21,360	2,803	24,163	4,904	29,067

Rectype 2 = admin + fire response

Rectype 3 = fire response only

<10,000 = fire department protecting less than 10,000 population

>10,000 = fire department protecting greater than 10,000 population

All local and municipal fire departments. Federal, state, military, industrial or private fire response entities are not included.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2014-2016.

NFPA Research, Data and Analytics Division

E-mail: research@nfpa.org Phone: 617-984-7451

NFPA Index No. 2816

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EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

LEPC Meeting

Thursday, April 25, 2019 10:00 AM

Location: Fayetteville Fire Department Station 12

Agenda:

- A. Call to order.
- B. Introductions.
- C. Approval of minutes of February 2019 Meeting.
- D. Membership Update.
- E. Tier II grant funds.
- F. Aqueous Film-Foaming (AFFF).
- G. Tier II walkthrough.
- H. Next Meeting: July 25, 2019. Location to be determined (Calvin Bishop).

If you are interested in hosting the next meeting, please contact Jason Faragoi via email at <u>jfaragoi@co.cumberland.nc.us</u> or by phone at (910) 321-6734.



Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting Minutes February 7, 2019

The Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee met on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at Fayetteville Fire Department Station 12.

Members in Attendance:

James Bullard, Chair LEPC, Cape Fear Valley Emergency Medical Service
Gene Booth, Cumberland County Emergency Services
Calvin Bishop, At-Large
Henry Eisenbarth, At-Large
Caleb Stoker, Hexion
Robert Melvin, Eaton Corporation
Mark Ingram, Chemours
Brett Chandler, Fayetteville Police Department
Johnathan T. Morgan, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office
Fred Williams, Fayetteville Veterans Affairs

Others in Attendance:

Scott Bullard, Fayetteville Fire Department Dean DeMark, Ft. Bragg Marsha Lunt, CEM-Fayetteville Jason Faragoi, Cumberland County Emergency Services Christina King, Cumberland County Emergency Services

The meeting was called to order by James Bullard who welcomed everyone in attendance and discussed the membership updates that was not recorded in the previous meeting minutes. James informed the group that we will continue to follow the by-laws policy regarding membership attendance. He stated that we are going to identify and track the members who have not attended the previous meetings and will remove their membership from the committee. James also stated that we are going to continue to recruit more people to join the LEPC and fill our two vacant positions. The preceding meeting minutes were accepted and approved by members and the membership updates that were discussed would be added to the previous meeting minutes.

Introductions and Emergency Services Updates:

- James congratulated Gene on becoming the new Emergency Services Director.
- James also thanked everyone who hosted a LEPC meeting last year. He stated that the meetings were all well invested in and he received a lot of good information and ideas from everyone. He hopes that we can take the information that we've learned from those meetings and use it as our committee grows and expands in the future.
- Gene thanked everyone for coming and updated everyone on the upcoming changes that are going to take place in Emergency Services. He informed the group about the new Emergency Services building that the county purchase at 500 Executive Place Drive. He stated that the new building will house our Emergency Operation Center, the 911 call center, and the Fire Marshal's office. Gene also stated that the city's 911 center will

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Exercise Update:

- James mentioned that there had been a delay in conducting the exercises. However, the exercise team will be having a meeting tomorrow to discuss a date and time for our next exercise.
- Gene stated that once the team finalizes a date and time for the exercise, he will send out an email to the group with that information.
- James asks that everyone who plans to attend the exercise to give a weeks' notice so that we can account for everyone attending for safety purposes.

Tier II fee purchasing and planning:

- Gene stated that we bought an iPad with the last \$1,000 grant. The iPad is used in the LEPC meetings, for tier II reporting, and the fire inspectors also use it in the field.
- Gene would like for the group to come up with a plan on how to use this year's \$1,000 grant that we have until December 31st to use. He stated that Jason Faragoi will get an updated form on what are allowable expenses for 2019.
- Gene would like the group to brainstorm on ideas that we can do as we move forward. He also mentioned conducting a workshop as a possible idea and having a speaker to come out and do a day or a half a day training session.
- James stated that he would like that to be a topic of conversation in our next meeting.

Discussions:

- James informed the group that we have two vacant positions that needs to be filled. One is for a local environment liaison and a utilities liaison. He is hoping to get someone from South River Electric to join our committee.
- Gene mentioned that the EM coordinator position will be moved to an ex-officio member on our membership spreadsheet.
- Gene also informed the group that as his duties increase, Jason Faragoi who is the Emergency Management Planner will be filling in with some of the Emergency Management Coordinator duties in the future.
- Gene also stated that Jimmy Keefe is no longer the LEPC liaison for the county. Marshall Faircloth has been appointed to his position as the Fire Chief's Association liaison and the LEPC liaison for 2019.
- Calvin Bishop with At-large passed out a handout on the dangers of using Class-B firefighting foam, Aqueous Film-Foaming (AFFF). He informed the group that the AFFF foam is used to put out fires and does more harm than good to the environment.
- Calvin also informed the group that the AFFF foam has a high cancer risk and that anyone that uses it should limit themselves to some of the exposure. Calvin also stated that it is ruining the water systems and there is no way to filter it out. He stated that it has not been advertised from the State Fire Marsal's office, but it is taking a national stance in other states.
- James asked the group if anyone would like to host any of the upcoming meetings for the year.
 - o Fayetteville Fire Department Station 12 will host the April 25th meeting.
 - Calvin Bishop with At-large is interested in hosting the July 25th meeting but will let us know once the location is confirmed.

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Cumb. Co. EMC	HAZ-MAT	Fort Bragg	Emerg. Ser. Dir.	Fay. City Manger	County Manager		Cumb. Co.	Cumb. Co.		Ublitles	EW	uocal Environ	Hospital	Fire Highting	Medith	. Nepreproduez	©9mmunity	State and Logal Blected	1000000	WET	ŀ	EMS			Facilities		BroadcastMedia	Print&		
Gene Booth	Robert Brinson	Dean DeMark		Doug Hewitt	Tracy Jackson	Ex-Officio Members	Calvin Bishop	Henry Eisenbarth	County Committee Members				Hred Williams	Ronnie Willet	Greg Phillips	lanet Renae Latson	Stephen Rapers	Jimmy Keefe	Bremighangler	Çaph J.T. Morgan	Lt. Freddle Johnson up	James Bulland	Caleb Stoker	Trany Colledo	Robert Melvin	Markingram	Sean Swain	Geneve Mankel	Title III of SARA Membership	
						5	At Large	At-Large	nbers				Fay. Vet. Admin.	F.F.D.	C.C. Rubligi Health	Parker/Gas/Commay	SDRC	Board of Commissioners	H.P.D.	C.C.S.O.	NIGISHIP.	GGEMB	Hexton	Valley Proteins	Eaton Comp.	Chemours	(O)(4)(O)(5)(D)	Cumb. (ca PIO	epskija	Attendance
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		Attendance	2/7/2019	4/25/2019	7/25/2019	10/31/2019
	Title III of SARA Membership	rship			The state of the s	
Print &	Geneve Mankel	Cumb. Co PIO				
BroadcastMedia	Sean Swain	CCSO PIO				
	Mark Ingram	Chemours	×			
Escilition	Robert Melvin	Eaton Corp.	×			
i aciitica	Tony Collado	Valley Proteins				
	Caleb Stoker	Hexion	×			
EMS	James Bullard	CCEMS	×			
	Lt. Freddie Johnson Jr	N.C.S.H.P.				
Law	Capt. J.T. Morgan	C.C.S.O.	×			
	Brett Chandler	F.P.D.	×			25.25
State and Local	Marshall Faircloth					
Elected		Board of Commissioners				
Community	Stephen Rogers	CDRC				
Transportation	Janet Renae Larson	Parker Gas Compnay	EA			
Health	Greg Phillips	C.C. Public Health				
Fire Fighting	Ronnie Willet	F.F.D.	ΕA			
Hospital	Fred Williams	Fay. Vet. Admin.	×			
Local Environ						
EM						
Utilities						
	County Committee Members	bers				
Cumb. Co.	Henry Eisenbarth	At-Large	×			
Cumb. Co.	Calvin Bishop	At Large	×			
	Ex-Officio Members					
County Manager	Tracy Jackson					
Fay. City Manger	Doug Hewitt					
Emerg. Ser. Dir.	Gene Booth		×			
Fort Bragg	Dean DeMark		×			*
HAZ-MAT	Robert Brinson					
Cumb. Co. EMC	Vacant					



NEW NFPA REPORT FINDS SIGNIFICANT DECLINE IN VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER NUMBERS

April 16, 2019

Last month, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) published its 2017 U.S. Fire Department Profile report (https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Data-research-and-tools/Emergency-Responders/US-fire-department-profile). The report, which is based on data collected via a national survey of fire departments, estimated that there were 682,600 volunteer firefighters in the United States in 2017. That is down significantly from the 814,850 and 729,000 volunteer firefighters that the NFPA estimates were active in the U.S. in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

The volunteer firefighter numbers for 2016 and 2017 are the lowest recorded levels since the NFPA began the survey in 1983. There was no NFPA U.S. Fire Department Profile report released in 2016, and the 2017 report is the first time that the data for 2016 or 2017 has been made available.

Number of Firefighters in the U.S., 1983, 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2015-2017

Year	Total	Career	Volunteer
1983*	1,111,200	226,600	884,600
1990	1,025,650	253,000	772,650
2000	1,064,150	286,800	777,350
2010	1,103,300	335,150	768,150
2015	1,149,300	345,600	814,850
2016	1,090,100	361,100	729,000
2017	1,056,200	373,600	682,600

*Note, this is the first year for which firefighter numbers are available from the NFPA. Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for U.S. Fire Experience

"This report should be a wake-up call for everyone who serves in, is protected by, or cares about the volunteer fire service," said National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Chair Kevin D. Quinn. "We know many volunteer fire departments are struggling to maintain adequate staffing. However, the scale of the loss of volunteer firefighters estimated in this report is really disturbing and something that we need to work as a community and a nation to address."

It is important to note that these numbers are estimates based on responses to a survey of a sample of U.S. fire departments that is designed to be representative of the overall U.S. Fire Service. Approximately 8.7 percent of fire departments surveyed responded to the survey. Any annual differences reflect both actual changes in what is being measured as well as year-on-year statistical and sampling variability.

According to the report, 83,550 of the 132,250 reduction in volunteer firefighters between 2015 and 2017 occurred in fire departments protecting communities with populations of 2,500 or fewer residents. The NFPA estimates an overall decline of 83,900 firefighters (career and volunteer combined) in those communities, a reduction of more than 20 percent over a two-

year span. It should be noted that the dataset as a whole because th communities, where response rate

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New NFPA Report Finds Significant Decline in Volunteer Firefighter Numbers - National Volunteer Fire Council

In addition to the decline in the number of firefighters serving in the smallest communities, the average age of those firefighters continued to increase in 2017. Fifty-three percent of firefighters serving communities with populations of 2,500 or less were over the age of 40, and 32 percent were over the age of 50 in 2017. This continues an aging trend that has been happening for years among the population of firefighters in small communities.

Age Range of Firefighters Protecting Communities with Populations of 2,500 or Less

Year	Under 30	30-39	40-49	Over 50	Under 40	Over 40
1987	29.7%	33.5%	20.9%	15.9%	63.2%	36.8%
1907	(132,908)	(149,913)	(93,528)	(71,153)	(282,821)	(164,681)
2000	24.4%	29.9%	26.8%	18.9%	54.3%	45.7%
2000	(100,601)	(123,278)	(110,496)	(77,925)	(223,879)	(188,421)
2010	23.7%	24.5%	23.1%	28.7%	48.2%	51.8%
2010	(89,497)	(92,500)	(87,214)	(108,357)	(181,997)	(195,571)
2015	23.9%	23.6%	21.6%	30.8%	47.5%	52.4%
2013	(96,687)	(95,474)	(87,382)	(124,601)	(192,161)	(211,983)
2017	24.0%	23.0%	21.0%	32.0%	47.0%	53.0%
2017	(90,804)	(76,383)	(69,741)	(106,272)	(156,087)	(176,013)

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for U.S. Fire Experience

In 2015, at the request of the NVFC, the NFPA added a question to the survey about the tenure of active volunteer firefighters. While it is difficult to extrapolate very much from just two years of data, having information about volunteer firefighter tenure combined with the other data in the report will be useful in helping to identify trends in volunteer service moving forward.

Volunteer Firefighter Tenure Profile

Year	1 year or less	1-5 years	6-10 years	10 or more
2015	77,450 (9.5%)	207,950 (25.5%)	189,200 (23.2%)	340,250 (41.8%)
2017	71,000 (10.4%)	179,600 (26.3%)	148,000 (21.7%)	284,000 (41.6%)

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for U.S. Fire Experience

Although the 2017 report contains new data suggesting a troubling trend in volunteer firefighter staffing, it has been clear for years that recruitment and retention of volunteers is a public policy challenge that all levels of government have a role in helping to address. This year, the federal government will award more than \$40 million to local fire departments to help pay for volunteer recruitment and retention efforts through the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program, funded out of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Efforts are underway in Congress to make volunteer fire and EMS personnel eligible for student loan forgiveness and housing assistance, as well as to modify the tax code to make it easier for local communities to offer incentives.

"We need to redouble our efforts to help local communities bolster volunteer staffing levels," said Quinn. "We should also start thinking about the practical implications of lower volunteer numbers, and how fire protection and emergency medical services are delivered by agencies that are struggling to maintain volunteer staffing. Finally, it is important to recognize that the staffing needs in every fire and EMS agency are unique. Departments in super rural areas are going to have very different challenges than departments that are in or near a large population centers, for instance. There is no such thing as a 'typical' fire department, and I would caution against making based on the data in this or any other national- or state-leve

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