

LOUDOUN COUNTY FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Meeting

20 January 2016

1900 hours

DTCI Large Conference Room, 801 Sycolin Road

The January meeting of the Loudoun County Fire Operations Committee was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2016. FOC Chairman Cook presided and called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The following attended:

Co. 1/20	Jim Cook
Co. 2	Bob Dryden
Co. 4	Gene Thomas
Co. 5	Absent
Co. 6	Miguel Quijano
Co. 7	Russell Furr
Co. 8	Rick Pearsall
Co. 9	Chris Meier
Co. 10	Robert Honec
Co. 11/18/24	David Short
Co. 12	Rob Berka
Co. 17	Absent
LCFFA	Absent
LCFR:	AC Johnson, AC Tobia, DC Shank, BC Nally, and Christine Langley-Obaugh

Public Comments

No public comments.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Lt. Honec to approve the November minutes. The motion was seconded by Deputy Chief Shank. Motion passes. Minutes approved.

Chair's Report

Discussion ensued regarding safety, national news and local news. Chief Cook shared regarding a recent incident at station 20 in which law enforcement had to be called. Please be aware of your surroundings.

LCFR Department Report -Deputy Chief Randy Shank

COG Senior Operations Chiefs

- Thursday, December 3rd, teleconference was cancelled
- Met on Thursday, January 7th at FS403

- See attached agenda. Minutes not posted at this time

NOVA Senior Operations Chiefs

- Held a teleconference on Thursday, December 3rd, 2015 and met at FS403 on Thursday, January 7th, 2016
 - See attached agenda. Minutes not posted at this time

Apparatus

CURRENT PROJECTS:

- Brush 626
 - Arrived, Currently mounting equipment
 - Hope to have in service this month
- Drop-in Number Program
 - All County owned ambulances have been completed
 - All County owned engines except E610 and E619 have drop-ins
 - Hope to have all completed by the end of January
 - Tankers and Rescues will be completed next
 - Draft GO written, in review process at the Senior Staff level
- All 4 Battalion Chief Vehicles are now in service
- Utility 619
 - Plow mounted last week
 - Lights and sirens installed
 - Awaiting Graphics Contractor
- Hazmat Support 619
 - PO cut
 - Pre-Construction meeting complete
 - Waiting for start date
 - Hope for a late Spring/early Summer delivery date
- Tankers (Middleburg, Kirkpatrick Farms)
 - PO cut
 - Pre-construction before the first of the year
 - Waiting for start date
 - Hope for a late Spring/early Summer delivery date

FUTURE PROJECTS:

- Kirkpatrick Engine
 - Delivery expected late Winter 2017

- Kirkpatrick Ambulance and replacement of 40053, 40054, 40055
 - Delivery expected late Winter 2017
- Replacement of Hazmat 619
 - Delivery in late Spring/Summer 2017

Volunteer Battalion Chief Program

November 2015

23 of 30 nights were covered by VFBC's (76.6%)

Short – 3
Shultz - 4
Starling – 4
Stephens - 3
Davis - 5
Firmin – 3
Buchanan – 1
Cook – 0
LCFR – 7

December 2015

21 of 31 nights were covered by VFBC's (67.7%)

Starling- 5
Schultz- 4
Cook- 3
Davis- 3
Firmin- 2
Short- 2
Stephens- 2
Buchanan- 0
LCFR- 10

For calendar year 2015, the Volunteer Fire Battalion Chief program covered 308 nights out of 365 (84.38%). This was the second highest amount covered in VFBC program history. The highest was 2014= 329/365, 90.14%.

Bill Graham has applied and completed all training to join the VFBC Program. He was released to operate as a VFBC effective Monday, January 11, 2016. This brings us up to 9 VFBC's.

County Meter Program

Effective January 1st, the Loudoun County Meter Program Meter Technicians will be discontinuing our normal “Meter Monday” checks. With the amount of upgrades that have taken place in the past 5 months with our new MSA Altair 4X Meters, the complete change out of our single-gas EMS CO Meters, and the most recent replacement of the Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN) meters on our BC vehicles, the need for our program to send someone out monthly to do calibrations is now not needed. Our technicians will continue to do day to day work with our meters and address issues as they arise in-house at FS19.

Moving forward, the meter technicians will be coordinating with SO600 monthly for meter calibrations of their “specialty” meters and will have to work with personnel from FS20-Leesburg to periodically test their Sensits/GasTrac devices. The only item not addressed at the moment is the maintenance/testing of our personnel radiation detectors (PRD’s) which are carried on our BC vehicles (they get tested against a radioactive source to ensure integrity). We will come up with a plan, likely on a quarterly basis, to ensure that these devices continue to function as designed.

Significant Incident Reports

- 11-16-15 101-C.S. Maple Avenue Purcellville (Inc. #201525848)
 - Structure Fire- BC Pisauro
- 12-22-15 111 S. 29th Street Purcellville (Inc. #201528636)
 - Structure Fire Chief Dryden (Purcellville Fire) *SIR is pending
- 12-28-15 14123 Seyzal Lane Loudoun Heights (Inc. #201529093)
 - House Fire- BC Scott
- 12-29-15 37146 Mountville Road Philomont (Inc. #201529205)
 - House Fire Chief Dryden (Purcellville Fire) *SIR is pending
- 01-03-16 43234 Chase Street Dulles South (Inc. #201600180)
 - House Fire- BC Menzenwerth

Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards

The selection committee meeting was held last week. There were 38 total applications this year from LPD, LCSO, LCFR as well as civilians. As you may recall, a year ago a system member was present and represented another organization that pushed a change through that eliminated Life Saving Awards (Cardiac Arrests). Conversation ensued and the change was reversed, thus we will be giving awards for cardiac arrests saves.

LCFR did well this year, specifically the fire on Market Street and Round Hill. Crews from 2, 4 and 5 will be receiving awards. The Glen Drive dump truck incident will result in an award. Other various awards will be distributed.

Valor Awards will be held around April 7th at the National Conference Center.

NOVA Senior OPS Follow-Up

Chief Johnson stated that manuals are under review, but specifically command officers have sent comments back to the NOVA Ops Board and they will be updating both the manual and the command board.

NOVA EMS Council

Chief Johnson stated that Sam Dahl, Director, resigned from the EMS Council and his position was filled by Jeannie Collins, who was a BC in Prince William. Jeannie Collins has accepted another job in North Carolina. The Council is considering appointing a six month interim director and decisions about the future of the EMS Council are being discussed. Several proposals are under review and to include abolishing the Council, keeping it the same or combining it with NVERS. Additional information will be forthcoming once known.

LCFR Training Report – Captain Scott Brazier

No Report Submitted

Training Center MISC

**Check the VDFP Website (www.vafire.com) for current information and a listing of classes being offered in other jurisdictions such as:

FIRE OFFICER III – January 30 thru March 6, 2015 RAAP Division 4 Office (276)
646-0266

Upcoming Events from Around the State

2016 Virginia Fire Rescue Conference Virginia Beach February 24-28, 2016

Committee Reports

- **Equipment Standards Committee: Chief Stephens**

There are four or five pieces of apparatus that are being specked right now.

- **Communications Committee: Chief Quijano**

Chief Quijano was unable to attend the last committee meeting due to a work conflict.

- **Health & Safety Committee: Chief Quijano**

The Health and Safety Committee is working on an SWP that will go to the EC concerning essential job functions for EMS providers. In addition, they are finalizing the policy on exhaust capture systems. Lastly, they are putting together

a new work group to examine better exposure reporting procedures (part of the cancer prevention program). An email to all Chiefs will be sent out to garner assistance. A presentation on mental health was also provided whereby additional assistance with mental health issues in the fire service can be offered.

- **Training Committee: Chief Graham**

Minutes provided in packet.

Duty crew drills, please email Captain Brazier to check on availability.

Chief Johnson stated if there are concerns about the EMS and Fire Training enrollment and Wait List SWP, then those comments need to be shared with the Training Committee and the SWP should be amended. Chief Johnson will follow-up regarding CPR cards. Chief Johnson also reached out to Chief Gottholm to increase system participation in the training committee. Currently, we have representatives from EMSOC, FOC and LCFR participating. It should be noted that the training officers from each Company are not participating. Chief Cook stated we could go back and increase the representatives for this committee. Chief Johnson relayed that only 5 members attended last month.

Discussion also ensued regarding Fire School. Consideration regarding placing Hazmat Ops back in Fire School was also discussed.

- **IAFF: Scott Stonesifer**

Nothing to report.

Old Business

Nothing noted

New Business

Station and Equipment Security SWP

Chief Tobia stated that this SWP was drafted based on the need to safeguard our stations, our personnel and our equipment. There is no current policy. Major attacks have occurred to include the utilization of EMS units to gain access to areas. The significant and likely issue is that an intoxicated college kid may jump into an ambulance at the scene of a call or at the hospital on a dare and take that ambulance on a joy ride. Obviously, this would impact our operational ability. It is not meant to separate us from our communities. It is meant to ensure the safety of our personnel. There have been incidents of violence against emergency responders in fire stations. We do not want our good will to be taken advantage of. This policy presents guidelines that will make it harder for people to do so.

The SWP was referred to the sub-committees and will be coming back to the Executive Committee this month. It provides a framework for expectations. The

SWP relies on system leaders, specifically Chief's to provide guidance to their folks.

Discussion ensued regarding sections "J" and "L". Questions also arose regarding sending apparatus out to be repaired. Specifically, regarding what equipment needs to be pulled off of the apparatus as we cannot ensure the vendor will secure the piece of apparatus. Chief Cook stated, at a minimum, all radios, all SCBA's, thermal imaging cameras and the computers come off prior to the piece of apparatus being sent out for repair.

Chief Tobia submitted that there needs to be an educational piece as well as an accountability piece.

Motion made by Robert to accept the Station and Equipment Security SWP with minor changes and forward it to the Executive Committee. A second was made by Chief Cook. The motion passed 11-0-0-2.

Dispatch Algorithm Committee:

Chief Cook mentioned that this committee will examine changing dispatch algorithms. Chief Tobia asserted new CAD is slated to go live May 23rd, but we can make proposals now. If the FOC agrees, then we will formally ask the EC to form this committee. The Companies can identify key structures within their first due that they want to change. We can present dispatch algorithm changes as a unified group. Discussion ensued about adding two from Communications in addition to two from FOC, two from EMSOC and two from LCFR. No issues arose. All were in agreement.

Equipment Standards Committee:

Chief Cook stated that he received an email from Chief Stephens requesting removal as the Chair of this committee due to conflicts and time constraints. Chief Cook reiterated that Chief Stephens would like to continue as a member of this committee. Chief Cook extended an opportunity to all FOC members to determine if there was interest in the Chair position. Chief Cook stated this committee creates county standard specs. The request is that the Chair would be someone familiar with apparatus and design and processes and NFPA standards.

Chief Tobia will reach out to Captain Davis to determine interest in the Chair position.

FOC Chair Election:

Chief Cook was nominated for the position. Chief Cook stated he would be willing to remain in the Chair position for 2016. Motion made to reaffirm Chief Cook as FOC Chair. The motion was seconded and carried 11-0-0-2.

FOC Vice-Chair Election:

Chief Cook made a motion to keep Miguel Quijano as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded and carried 11-0-0-2.

Council Delegate Comments:

Co. 9: Contract signed for two pumpers with Seagrave. A pre-construction meeting will take place February 1st. Late November/December timeframe.

Co. 10: Jeep was sold, so they are down to 1 brush truck.

Chief Shank: Announced his new assignment effective February 11th.

Chief Nally: Announced he will be participating in FOC meetings and he is excited about his new role.

Chief Johnson: Announced he would like to hold a teleconference tomorrow regarding the upcoming snow storm. An IAP will be distributed. A 24 hour operational period from Friday 0600 to Saturday 0600 and continue on for the following three days. Chief Nally will mostly be on duty throughout the period overseeing the Battalions. A second safety officer and a second EMS supervisor will be up. Chief Tobia has been working hard on obtaining an understanding on who will be plowing what throughout the storm. We will have a cadre of plows strictly dedicated to plowing out facilities. The teleconference tomorrow will be an opportunity for Chiefs to identify needs and present what they are able to provide. Most classes at the training academy will be cancelled this weekend. Sunday is critical due to EMT testing. If that is cancelled then it could delay the EMT written test which is scheduled to be taken later next week. A message was emailed regarding cancelling shift trades. In addition, no annual leave will be approved. We have a significant overtime list, but it is not unlimited. More than likely, the EOC will be open so we will have to staff portions of the EOC.

Chief Tobia: Chief Tobia inquired regarding plows. Sterling Fire and Sterling Rescue have plows and will take care of 11/18. 24 is covered by County contract. Station 2 has a plow and the town assists. Station 6 also has their own plow. Chief Tobia stressed asset availability will be discussed tomorrow. Chief Tobia stated that they will also be asking if extra personnel are available and able to ride in other areas. Chief Cook stated OEM does have cots available.

The next Executive Committee meeting is February 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. and the next Fire Operations Committee meeting is March 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Langley-Obaugh, M.Ed., CVA
Executive Liaison