Fire & Rescue Commission meeting July 21, 2011

Call to order by Chair Epperly at 18:30
Prayer offered by Chief Wells
No Public Address
Minutes from previous meeting (June 16, 2011) were approved upon a motion from Chief Wells seconded by Chief Hanks.

Mr. Brown reported that at the last meeting it was discussed that school bus availability was limited and the cost of selling verses donating was a problem. Mr. Brown suggested seeking donors to purchase the bus from the school system for the purpose of training. This matter was discussed. Mr. Brown complimented Mr. Fronk on the fire hydrant work the PSA had accomplished.

Mr. Meadows stated his efforts of working on the school projects had kept him busy recently.

Mr. Fronk reported the hydrant maintenance has been completed throughout the county. this included testing and flow rating, he will forward that to ESC for distribution as soon as completed. He stated the building at the Riner water tank was in need of maintenance. During this time power will be off to the radio building. Plans will need to be made by the agencies with equipment to provide generator service during the maintenance. Antenna may be in the way of one of the hatches.

Capital funding – Chief Carner will be looking after the spreadsheet for the capital funding issues and items. Thus far unit #77 SRS has been pushed back three years and units #51 and 52 have been moved back as well. Lt. Rogers BRS reported with pushing back replacement there will be an increase in maintenance costs.
Our current capital fund stands at $700,000 from the one cent on tax rate and an additional $50,000 for operations.

It was suggested that each department complete an inventory of all vehicles under the capital replacement and submit this to ESC by august 1, 2011 for distribution to Chief Carner and member of the F&RC. This was supported through a motion by Captain Akers and seconded by Chief Hanks. The motion carried.

ESC requested an answer concerning the establishment of a SCBA committee to study the feasibility of purchasing one type air pack for all county departments. Approximately 200 air packs will be needed this will include those for rescue. Comments were made to have the five Fire Chief's serve on the committee or have their representative serve to determine if this is possible. A motion by Chief Wells seconded by Captain Walters (Establish a committee for air packs comprised of five Fire Chief's or their representative to report back at the august meeting on consideration of one air pack manufacturer was passed. This committee will meet and report back to the commission at the august 18th meeting.

ESC asked for all requests for assistance to come from the Chief and captains rather than form individual members. Recently a group contacted the GIS department without permission of their captain. Their request was out of order and should have come from the Captain. From this point forward all requests will be either made from the Chief or captain personally or come through ESC. Other requests will not be honored.

ESC gave an overview of the "Fee for Service" meeting held at Christiansburg town hall. Much discussion ensued. One town council member is pushing to begin FFS immediately. The idea was discussed and the consequences far outweigh the benefits of going forward without fully exploring all options. Chair Epperly offered his assistance in speaking to the council member. Mr. Wilson made a motion and received numerous seconds to state to all municipalities involved that The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission will entertain the proposed "Fee for Service" ONLY upon receipt of a formal study of the proposal. There will be no endorsement or rejection of the proposal until this is delivered to the commission. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Hanks spoke briefly about the tower projects. He is meeting with Donna Brown soon to discuss the towers. He reported he is continuing to jump through the VSP hoops on all issues.

ESC – report attached to agenda

Discipline reports:
SRS – no report
LSMRS – received formal approval of RSAF Grant for repeater $15.000. thanked those assisting in Memorial Day drowning.
BFD – No report
EFD – quite in their area. Thanked Riner Rescue for invitation to Grand Opening
CRS – no report
BRS – no report
RVRS – Grand Opening. Great turnout. Got several applications.
Riner fire – Chief Lucas proposed a capital need and requested the commission's approval. Chief Lucas wishes to take the funds allocated for a new custom brush truck and accomplish a number of improvements for his department. 1. Purchase a pick-up style truck and skid unit, 2. Purchase a assistant Chief's response vehicle, and pay for the installation of his radio system on the Marshall radio tower site. In doing this he would save the county approximately $10,000. Motion was made by Chief Wells, seconded by Captain Roop to have the funds allocated for this purpose. Motion carried.
Mr. Wilson – no report
CFD – no report
Mr. Brown – Attended LSMFD/LSMRS 50th anniversary celebration. Congratulated them on a job well done. Also thanked ESC and all members of the Riner Rescue Squad for all the work to host the Grand Opening. He stated it was a pleasurable event.
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 19:58

Attendance:
Mr. Meadows, Mr. Brown, Mr. Fronk, Mr. Wilson, Captain Walters, Captain Shelor, Captain Akers, Captain Almon, Lt. Rogers, Captain Roop, Chief Hanks, Assistant Chief Carner, Chief Lucas, Chief Wells, Assistant Chief Rakes, Lt. Palmer, Chair Epperly, and ESC Turner.