



Council of Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squads, Inc.

September 16th, 2020:

Virtual Meeting

Minutes:

Members in attendance: Tanya Barnes (4), David Coulling (5), John Neumayer (14), Brian Abeyta (14), Bonita Teaford (16), Dee Haberdash (17), David Wheeler (MRT), Bobby Hill (Foundation), Chief Joey Hundley (VBEMS), Asst. Chief Ellen McBride (VBEMS), Chief Ed Brazle (VBEMS), Mary Ellen McClean (Foundation), Jennifer Long (VBEMS), D. Volske (6), Julie Barnes (17), Joan Davis (17),

Approval of Minutes – Tabled for additions and corrections

President's Report – David Coulling

- 2020 will be Dave's last year as Council President
- PAVRS has been meeting with City Council.
- Rescue Council can continue to use website that Dave is hosting because it is free.

Treasurer's Report -Attached to this report. Noted that some fees owed on report have been paid.

Department of EMS Report, Q&A – Chief Ed Brazle

- PPE regulations remain unchanged operationally, may relax in the coming weeks. Dept has enough PPE for now if burn rate, supply and resources stay consistent. Recommend using respirators more frequently to conserve supply of N95 masks.
- Career medics will be getting COVID hazard pay. The Dept was awarded \$60,000 from the CARES act for recruitment and retention. Volunteers who ran shifts during COVID will be getting "goodies".
- Funding is on hold. There have been no cuts, but there is a freeze on spending
- Jennifer Long accepted position with the Foundation. Her position is now open.
- Strategic Session on the 26th to discuss sustainability of VBEMS
- EMS Liaison- caused processing time issue with calls. New EMS dispatching system being implemented to improve processing of calls. Chief Hundley and Dr. Martin overseeing new program. Hoping for rollout in 90 days.
- Staffing levels have not been good. Staffing levels have taken a dip due to COVID and which also caused a delay in getting academies started up again. Night staffing is the worst it's been in 5 years. Dept is working on taking a new approach to recruitment and retention-what can each Squad do?
- Charging for services is coming.
- New City Manager is very interested in EMS. There is a detailed briefing scheduled with hopes of having him meet with Rescue Council as well.
- **Chief McBride** is overseeing new Sustainability Committee. Wants to promote squad "ownership" of system, wants to work along side Rescue Council to strengthen system overall.
 - **Q&A** - Brian Abeyta(14) asked if there has been a change in the process of releasing interns. He received an email from a "training chief" informing him that one of his interns was released without his knowledge or permission. Chief Brazle responded that it sounded like a miscommunication and that he prefers interns be released at the squad level. There was a brief discussion on the lack of consistency in releasing interns.



Coordinator Reports-

-Rescue Foundation-

-Administration Report- Mary Ellen McClean

- Department wide campaign is progressing, discussing multiple options, working on getting buy in from the squads.
- Working on holiday campaign and fall fund drive. Discussing the concept of making a donation in someone's honor or just making a Christmas donation and getting a token of appreciation in return.
- Grant applications are due October 2nd. Please apply. Submit application on line 1st. Foundation can help with acquiring and submitting financial documents after application is submitted.
- **Jennifer Long**- thanked everyone for a great time with VBEMS and is looking forward to working with the foundation.

-Recruitment Report- Bobby Hill

-Multi-Squad Fund Drive Coordinator- Jay Kerr

Not in attendance will send written report.

-Recruitment Coordinator- Jay Kerr

Not in attendance will send written report.

-Jr. Rescue Squad Liaison- Jay Kerr

Not in attendance will send written report.

Unfinished Business- Update bylaws to reflect new dates for officers. Motion to change elections from December to March. Dave Wheeler seconded motion to have to be made effective immediately. Per the motion agreed tonight, the following changes to the Bylaws will be voted on at the next meeting (November 2020) and effective immediately. Replace strikethrough text with red text. Section IV Paragraph A

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. Election of officers shall be held annually at the ~~March~~^{March} meeting. Voting shall be by ballot. A majority of voting members present shall be necessary to elect. The newly elected officers will take office on ~~April~~^{January}-1st.

New Business-

- John Neumayer suggested that we (as squads) cooperate with the Foundation and the Sustainability Committee in hopes of improving purchasing, training, and recruiting. Discussion was held regarding the status of various VBEMS committees and when or if the committees will be meeting again in the near future. Committees only work with participation and cooperation or we are meeting just to meet. Rescue Council can take the lead on many issues to get things done.
- John also mentioned he has IT items to share such as Microsoft software, SharePoint portal (which he suggested be used for Squad Commander Handbook), also has Nack Dashboard, similar to Oscartrack, which can be used to track vehicle maintenance, etc. These items can definitely be helpful to the smaller squads who may not be able to afford expensive software.



Station Reports –

- **MRT** – Doing well, Military obligations have caused some staffing issues. Internal training is going well, released some members.
- **Ocean Park (1)**-Wants to do cart/ATV trainings, 14 has cart/ATV trainings with helmets, Chief Hundley suggested official training at the Creeds training center with VBPD.
- **Davis Corner (2)** -
- **Chesapeake Beach (4)**- Membership stable, fundraising/community events still on hold, car washes have been successful, hoping membership in Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce offers opportunities for more exposure.
- **Virginia Beach (14)** -Fleet is strong, Requests to borrow ambulances should go to duty officer as soon as possible, cart 14 had manufacturing defects, cart is waiting on graphics. Oyster roast postponed until March 2021, not holding banquet in January this year due to decreased funding, COVID has made impact on staffing , but have been able to staff 3 ambulances per shift, Will be offering community CPR again in October.
- **Plaza (16)**- 1 truck out of service, 1623 is in service now, working on grant for 1620.
- **Sandbridge(17)**-

Meeting adjourned at 7:18p.m.

Next meeting date: November 18, 2020