

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE ROOM
MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2008 5:00 PM**

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Members Present:

**David Laurrell, County Administrator
Eddie Gunter, Board of Supervisors
Rodney Lawson, Public Safety
Tommy Neal, Altavista P.D.
Bill Bigham, Fire Commission
Karen Briggs, Public Safety
Bruce Stratton, Rescue Commission
Claude Owen, Fire Commission**

**Benny David, Animal Control
J.D. Puckett, Board of Supervisors
Major Steve Hutcherson, CCSO
Tracy Fairchild, Public Safety
Aubrey Cheatham, Public Safety
Ricky Cousins, Brookneal P.D.
Roger Vassar, Rescue Commission**

Members Not Present:

Jason Stroud, Public Safety

Guests:

**John Webb, SSI Services
Rusty Himelwright, SSI Services
John Breon, SSI Services**

Mr. Cheatham welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 5:03 PM.

- I. Aubrey Cheatham, Director, Public Safety, stated that the EMS Captains are currently working on line item budgets as part of the revenue recovery program to identify surplus reimbursement levels and current needs for FY 09. The Fire Commission voted to explore line item budgeting at their January meeting. He would like to see line item budgeting back into the Boards Goals and Initiatives for FY 09 as a priority 1 initiative. This will be used to justify \$35,000 yearly contributions and identify areas of verifiable need. RFP's for an outside consultant for the Need's Assessment study will be sent out later this year. It will focus on apparatus, facilities, and the organization.
- II. Aubrey Cheatham, Director, stated that the Fire Commission has approved the lettering for the new aerial apparatus. Each member of the committee received a copy of the design. Bill Bigham, Fire Commissioner stated that construction has been completed at the Lyn-Dan Heights Volunteer Fire Department building. He was pleased to report that the project came in under budget.
- III. Bill Bigham, Fire Commissioner stated that Mike Watson, Chief, Lyn-Dan VFD asked if a representative from VDOT could be contacted about placing warning lights on the south bound side for the stop light located at RT. 29 and English Tavern Rd. He stated that there are warning lights on the northbound side, but not

south bound. He feels that lights on the south bound side would help in preventing some of the motor vehicle accidents. Aubrey stated that he would speak with Don Austin in reference to this matter.

- IV. Aubrey Cheatham, Director, stated that the EMS Memorandum of Agreement has been revised due to Judge Gamble's order from County of Campbell vs. Altavista Life Saving and First Aid Crew, Incorporated. It has been signed by everyone except Altavista Life Saving and First Aid Crew. Bruce Stratton, Rescue Commissioner stated that the document was signed by the captains in good faith, but there are possible revisions that will be addressed at a meeting later this month. A copy of Judge Gamble's order was provided for each committee member for informational purposes.
- V. Major Steve Hutcherson, CCSO, stated that the Sheriff's Office would like an additional two vehicles at an approximate total costs of \$40,000.00 added to the CIP for FY 13 due to additional staffing needs and trade in of high mileage police vehicles. Chief Ricky Cousins, Brookneal Police Department, stated that they are at full staff with three officers. He thanked the county for their assistance.
- VI. There were no Animal Control Items.
- VII. Rodney Lawson, Fire Marshal, stated that the fire flow and plans review policy is in draft form. Once completed, it will be a policy and guidance tool through Community Development. David Laurell, County Administrator, stated that once complete, he would like this policy adopted by the Board of Supervisors.
- VIII. Aubrey Cheatham, Director, stated that there have not been any communications system complaints received since the last meeting. A general discussion was opened about dead spots in the county. The communications upgrade should alleviate some of the problems, but frequent overloading of the system by responders is being discussed by the Communications Committee. Two personnel complaints were received, investigated, and resolved.
- IX. Aubrey Cheatham, Director, gave an update on the communications system. Introductions of the SSI Services representatives were made. The final walk thru of the Brookneal site has been completed. The lease agreement for the Concord tower should be complete within the next 30-45 days. Progress has been made with Liberty Broadcasting for equipment movement on Johnson Mountain. Mr. Chuck Hirtz will begin work next week on the microwaves. Once complete, voters can be moved from Long Mountain to the Campbell County Public Safety Building. RFP's will be sent out for licensed microwave links, shelters, generator's, and site improvements (fencing) to be located at the Brookneal and Concord sites. The projected finish date is June 30, 2008.

- X. Aubrey Cheatham, Director, stated that the new Campbell County Emergency Operations Plan has been completed and approved by The Virginia Department of Emergency Management. It will go to the Board of Supervisor's for adoption at the middle meeting in January.
- XI. David Laurrell, County Administrator, stated that he had received a reply from Mr. Michael Cline, Virginia Department of Emergency Management in reference to questions about FY 07 NIMS Compliance. The letter clarified that the county is responsible for NIMS Compliance requirements for all applicable responders, including its volunteer responders. Failure to certify will put the county's grant funding in jeopardy. To date, Rustburg Fire Department and Altavista Life Saving and First Aid Crew have not been certified. Roger Vassar and Bill Bigham asked for copies of the letter, so that it could be given to each department. Altavista Life Saving and First Aid Crew will be sent another letter requesting certification by certified mail.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM

The next meeting will be April 7, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.