

Santa Rosa County
Emergency Services Advisory Committee
May 16, 2007
2:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Members present:

James Chalmers
Stephen Cozart
Ryan Jenkins
Werner Panchenko
Don Vanderryt

Members absent:

Joe Diamond

Staff present:

Brad Baker
Deb Grinde

Agenda approved as submitted for this meeting with one exception: Election of Vice Chairperson will be removed from New Business and completed at the beginning of this meeting.

Election of Vice Chairperson

James Chalmers made a motion to nominate Ryan Jenkins to serve as the Vice Chairperson of this committee. W. Panchenko seconded that motion and motion carried unanimously.

Minutes for meeting held on April 18, 2007 approved as drafted with no exceptions.

Persons to Appear

None

Reports and Statistics

Reports reviewed for the month of April. Noted that the statistics for "No Response" category was outstanding and may have been the best month to date. S. Cozart reviewed Rural Metro's response time and questioned how long Rural Metro would be serving the county and J. Chalmers indicated that they plan to continue through the month of September and anything further than that would be speculation.

Correspondence

Fire Hydrants

Reports submitted by the Point Baker Water System and the Berrydale Water System were reviewed by this committee. S. Cozart noted that he received a phone call from the Holley-Navarre Water District and they stated that they would follow up the report that was phoned in with a written report which has not yet been received.

S. Cozart stated that the report submitted by the Point Baker Water System looks like it does contain all of the information that this committee requested. It was noted that the diameters of the water mains in the Berrydale system are in some instances only 3 and 4 inches. W. Panchenko stated that those are most likely flush hydrants. It was also noted that some of Berrydale's PSI test results are low.

Discussion ensued and it was stated that the Point Baker system intends to implement the color coding system in the near future.

S. Cozart pointed out that the ESAC letter to the BOCC recommended that the color coding be mandatory.

B. Baker stated that the Pace Water System and others are being very cooperative in helping to establish the reporting criteria. The intention is to report the information on an email format.

R. Collins, Pace, FL

- According to an article Mr. Collins read in the Press Gazette a fire hydrant with a PSI of 70 is sufficient. Mr. Collins questioned what the minimal standard PSI actually is. Discussion followed and the general consensus is no less than about 50 PSI.
- Mr. Collins suggested that the report submitted by Berrydale indicates that it may be that those mains (if they are not flush hydrants) should be capped. Mr. Collins would like the standard to be determined. B. Baker stated that he did speak with the sender and will contact that person again to determine if the reported data is valid.

Both R. Jenkins and S. Cozart commended them for attempting to submit the information. This committee will assist in validating the information.

D. Vanderryt stated that it is possible that the Berrydale System is only lacking a procedure to provide the information. It is also possible that they did not measure correctly or the equipment malfunctioned.

Old Business

Fire Services Plan

Upon re-affirming this committee's support for the Fire Services Plan during the last meeting, a draft letter was drawn up by S. Cozart and distributed for review by this committee with the intention of submitting to the BOCC.

D. Vanderryt questioned whether the request of the fire districts to submit their budgets on the same format was not included in the letter.

W. Panchenko questioned whether we would include a request to include civilian personnel on the committee. S. Cozart suggested that it should be left up to the County Commissioners to select a person to serve.

R. Jenkins stated that initially he was not in favor of including a civilian but now wonders whether we should include a person from the north area and the central area (more than one). S. Cozart is concerned about the non-civilian members not being familiar with the technical aspects. However, he noted that they would still be able to provide valuable input.

R. Collins, Pace, FL

- Mr. Collins stated that he also agrees that two additional civilian members would be an improvement. Mr. Collins did say that having only one may be overwhelming to that person and a second person would help. It may also help provide a necessary forum in order to get discussions started.

R. Jenkins made a motion that the recommendation be changed to include two (2) members of the general public on the Executive Committee. W. Panchenko seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

B. Baker advised this committee that as the Executive Group has been meeting they have developed some views about different issues. They do not have a problem with input from the public. Any time they have a discussion or meeting regarding budgets, that meeting will be open to the public. Other non-financial meetings will be held at the fire stations. These types of meetings are more operational than financial.

S. Cozart stated that the districts are still recognized as their own entities. Consequently, many things will need to be handled at a district level and not at a county level. We must respect the time that the volunteers contribute.

R. Collins, Pace, FL

Mr. Collins pointed out that he believes that 99% of the general public is not aware of what is taking place within the fire departments.

Mr. Collins believes that an updated web site for each of the departments will help to enhance each of them. The information provided on the web sites will help to educate the public including the reasons for requesting new equipment. The commissioners do not have the time to visit each of the departments and updated web sites will be helpful to them also.

S. Cozart stated that he would make the changes to the letter and send to the commissioners immediately. He will provide a copy of the letter to the committee at the next meeting.

New Business

EMS RFP

S. Cozart advised this committee that the Board of County Commissioners unanimously selected LifeGuard as the ambulance service for Santa Rosa County. S. Cozart completely agreed with their decision after listening to the presentations. We are looking forward to working with LifeGuard in the near future through this committee.

Public Forum

R. Collins, Pace, FL

Mr. Collins requested that the issue of updating the MSBU fire district web sites be included on the agenda for the next meeting. He requested that a packet that includes information about each of the districts should be made available to each of the committee members prior to the next meeting for discussion by this committee.

R. Jenkins stated that he believes the sites should be standardized for each department. We should also include input from each of the departments.

R. Jenkins requested that the minutes be emailed prior to the meeting for review by the committee members.

No further discussion and meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM

Next meeting date and time is changed to: Wednesday, June 27, at 1:00 PM