



Cumberland County Fire Chiefs' Association

"Preservation of Life and Property through Organization"

Minutes of the November 22, 2021, Monthly Meeting



The monthly Chiefs' meeting was hosted by the Hope Mills Fire Department #21. We thank Chief Hodges and his staff for an excellent dinner and their hospitality.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Johnson at 7:00 pm.
Chief Hodges our host thanked everyone for attending and provided emergency building information and thanked Mission BBQ for providing the meal.

Opening Prayer:

Association Chaplain K. Tatum provided the opening prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance:

President Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Roll call was conducted with 16 departments and 10 associate members present.

Members Absent:

Fire/EMS Departments: **Fort Bragg, and Godwin-Falcon** (Both were excused)

Associate Members: **County Managers Office, NCSHP** (Both were Excused)

Approval of Minutes:

The October minutes were approved as presented.

Guests:

Dr. Larry Keen, FTCC
Dr. Mark Sorrells, FTCC
Honorable Charles Evans, Chairman, CC BOC
Honorable Michael Boose, CC BOC
Honorable Senator Kirk Deviere, North Carolina Senate
Honorable Representative Billy Richardson, North Carolina House
Honorable Representative John Szoka, North Carolina House
Attorney Robert Hicks, Candidate for Superior Court Judge

Vendors Present:

Ben Strickland with Colony Tires addressed the membership about his company's full tire and front-end needs. Pricing is in conjunction with the North Carolina State Contract, and they carry all the major tire brands. They are located across from the Crown Auditorium on Gillespie Street.

Chad with Highland Construction Company addressed the membership about Highland Construction services that are available to members of our community that find themselves in need of restoration services as a result of a fire or other catastrophic event. His company are big first responder supporters, and they sponsor the annual Valor Awards conducted in October at Manna Church each year.

Treasurer's Report:

No report. (Current Balance Sheet in packet)

Meeting Points of Interests:

Next Chiefs' Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 20, 2021, at 7 pm. In the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Detention Center, Hosted by Sheriff Wright – Christmas Dinner will be served.

- *Grays Creek VFD # 24* has air truck rotation during the month of December 2021 followed by *Fort Bragg Air-1* in January 2022.

Items of Interest Handouts

- ✓ **Assorted handouts in your packets:**
 - FTCC Swift Water Rescue Training, Power Point Slides
 - ESF#4 Firefighting Hand-Out
 - Updated Cumberland County Air Truck Rotation Schedule
 - December Training Classes Announcement
 - AH Finance / Admin Section Chief Class Flyer
 - Chief Johnson's Fire & Rescue Commission reappointment Letter
 - Thank You Note from Mrs. Kelly Autry reference CCFCA Retirement Plaque
 - Elizabethtown and Tar Heel FD Boston Butt Sale – Fund Raiser Flyer

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Dr. Larry Keen provided a Power Point and Video presentation of the approved Swift Water Rescue Training initiative along with an update of the building progress of our new Regional Fire and Rescue Training Center.
2. President Johnson updated the members on the revised mobile and base radio installation schedule. COVID-19 and personnel changes with Motorola caused a considerable delay. Please adjust your calendars out by two weeks. The new completion date is now the end of December; however, they should be at the Vander Fire Department by weeks end. That will complete the east side, and the remaining departments 3, 4, 5, 13, 18, 19, and 24 remaining. 13 and 19 are last on the schedule. Please be sure to check your radio after installation to insure all the talk groups are working and transmitting.
3. President Johnson thanked those departments that submitted nominations for the Arnold J. Koonce Legacy Award. The submission deadline is tonight at midnight. Submissions can be made on-line on our webpage or a hard copy directly to the secretary. The executive committee will meet to make our first selection and we will have an officer and firefighter receiving the AJK Legacy Award during our Christmas Dinner meeting next month at the Sheriff's Office.
4. President Johnson updated the membership on our phase II portable radio purchase progress. The county and Stoney Point have executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) authorizing SPFD to enter a five (5) year re-payment plan. We are currently working through the process but ran into issues with the Motorola Bank of America financing department in Chicago. We reached out to First Citizens who will provide us with the 2.8 million dollars and the exact same financing and repayment figures as Motorola. He also reminded the member that the rural Chiefs subject to the Cumberland County Fire Protection Service District grant approved the financing plan via a telephonic vote on November 7, 2021. To maintain transparency the approved telephonic motion, is therefore recorded and entered into these minutes.

MOTION: Fire Chief Richard Bradshaw (Vander Fire District) introduced a **MOTION** for all rural fire districts eligible and subject to the current Phase II Regional Stoney Point VFD Portable Radio Grant as part of the Fire Protection Service District Grant Program to authorize and participate in a Lease Purchase financing option within the amount of **\$2,850,243.61** providing a one (1) time down payment of **\$500,000.00** followed by five (5) annual payments of **\$517,149.21**. We also understand that for the next five (5) years while subject to the terms of the lease purchase financing plan our overall annual grant funds will be reduced accordingly. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Fire Chief Keith Matthews (Godwin-Falcon Fire District) and **APPROVED** by all fifteen (15) eligible and participating rural fire districts signing the **applicable signature page dated November 7, 2021**, and attached as an enclosure to these minutes.

We should be placing our order by the 30th of November. He also stated that Mr. John Briggs, Government Sales Representative with Motorola said that it should take about 60 to 90 days to complete the delivery. He also stated that it is possible to get a year ends delivery. Either way we should be able to switch over to the new talk groups and start issuing our new portables hopefully by March of 2022 or sooner.

5. With the high calls for overdoses and the associated cardiac arrest issues, along with the regular cardiac arrest rate we are already running low on defibrillation pads. We have ordered 75 replacement pads to put back into our rotation program. He stated that there was almost a 20% inflation increase in the price of the pads, since we purchased back at the beginning of the year to the \$192.32 each the current price. This price is expected to increase in the future as inflation is expected to rise. He stated that Commissioner Keefe is attempting to obtain funding from the Opioid Task Force fund.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. President Johnson advised the membership that with Governor Cooper signing and approving the two (2) year state budget, there is a tremendous financial windfall for Cumberland County within that budget thanks to our local delegation. Nearly a half a billion dollars has been designated for Cumberland County which includes \$20,000,000 for our regional fire and rescue training center which will allow a complete build out. It also includes a \$1,000,000.00 dollar influx directly to our association to address association projects like our expensive PFAS foam replacement project for starters. We will utilize this funding windfall wisely and strategically to enhance our association, and when we enhance our association our partner agencies across the board will benefit from the enhancements. We will address this more closely starting early next year. This one-time influx was made possible by Senator Kirk Deviere who has been working on this since July of this year.
2. Cumberland County Chairman of the Board of Commissioners Mr. Charles Evans addressed the membership and thanked us for what we do, day in and day out for our citizens here in Cumberland County. Chairman Evans also took the opportunity to let everyone know that he will be running for Congress in the new Congressional District #4 next year.
3. Assistant District Attorney Mr. Robert Hicks, a former Arson Prosecutor announced his candidacy for a judgeship in Superior Court next year, and asked the membership for support in his endeavor.

4. Commissioner Michael Boose provided a quick run-down of the complete list of funds coming into Cumberland County because of the arduous work of our local delegation. He was very appreciative of them bringing this funding windfall into Cumberland County.
5. Dr. Larry King also took the opportunity to say thank you to our local delegation on behalf of FTCC and what the college will be able to accomplish with the extra funding.
6. Senator Kirk Deviere provided a quick overview of the funding coming into Cumberland County and praised both Representative Richardson and Szoka. He stated this was a total Bi-partisan effort and they were able to make this happen. He expounded on the \$1,000,000.00 bonanza for our association.

Representative John Szoka, echoed Senator Deviere's comments and expounded on the large amount of funding, and informed the membership that all the credit for the \$1,000,000 dollars for our association was directly coordinated within the Senate by Senator Deviere who deserves all the credit for that action. He also informed the membership that he will also announce his candidacy for the newly created Congressional District 4 seat and will not be seeking re-election to the North Carolina House.

Representative Billy Richardson also resounded what both Senator Deviere, and Representative Szoka already stated, but stressed the bipartisanship to make this premium bonus to our county come to fruition.

At the request of President Johnson, the trio received a standing ovation from everyone present in the room for this first ever substantial windfall of this kind.

7. President Johnson briefly talked about the Air-Truck Rotation Scheduled which has been modified since County-Air 2 (281) was taken permanently out of service. He stressed to both 9-1-1 Director Adam Johnson to ensure that the updated copy in our handout is placed in the county dispatch center, and asked Assistant Chief Kevin Morgan to ensure a copy is placed in the COF dispatch center as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ID CARD COMMITTEE

- **FYI.** Fire Chiefs are required to send a signed letter or memo with a firefighter requesting an ID Card. For any questions or an appointment contact 424-0694 or e-mail at cjohnson.spfd@gmail.com

President Johnson again asked the members to please continue to recycle or return the clips used for our ID Cards. These clips are extremely expensive, and we need to reuse them as much as possible in order to hold down costs. Please collect clips when your members leave a department and recycle the clips. He also reminded the membership that we do not print blue tags, which are considered temporary tags only.

LIFE SAFETY/EDUCATION COMMITTEE Kevin Lowther (Fire Marshal)

E-Mail: klowther@co.cumberland.nc.us

- Fire Marshal Lowther updated the membership on current FLSE initiatives and Smoke Alarm Installations. A FLSE committee meeting is scheduled to meet next week Tuesday November 30th.

STANDARDS & POLICY COMMITTEE D/C Tracy Smith (Pearce's Mill FD) Chairperson,
E-Mail: pmfd0302@nc.rr.com

- No report.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE Chief R. Marley (Pearce's Mill) Chairperson,
E-Mail: pmfd0301@nc.rr.com

- No report.

TRAINING COMMITTEE Assistant Chief Kevin Murphy (Stoney Point) Chairperson
E-Mail kmurphy1903@gmail.com

- Assistant Chief Murphy discussed some training classes being held conducted and provided county-wide and a regional training schedule. He briefly discussed the new block schedule for training and its negative impact on volunteer firefighters.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Deputy Chief Freddy Johnson Jr. (Stoney Point) Chairperson,
E-Mail: spfd1302@nc.rr.com

- No report.

RESCUE COMMITTEE Deputy Chief Hank Harris (Cotton FD) Chairperson,
E-Mail: cfd402@nc.rr.com

- No Report

COMMUNICATIONS /DISPATCH STEERING / AVL COMMITTEE Chief Chuck Hodges (Hope Mills FD), Chairperson, E-Mail: clhodes@townofhopemills.com

- No report.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Division Chief Brandon Hanzal (Stoney Point) Chairperson, E-Mail:

- No report.

HOSTILE RESPONSE / ACTIVE SHOOTER – Assistant Chief Kevin Morgan (FFD) Chairperson,
E-Mail: kevinmorgan@fayettevillenc.gov

- No report.

RECRUITMENT / RETENTION COMMITTEE – Fire Chief Justin Nobles (SVFD # 23) Chairperson.
E-Mail: jnobles@stedmanfire.com

- No report.

JOINT INCIDENT / DISASTER RESPONSE COMMITTEE – Assistant Fire Chief Richard Bradshaw (VFD) Chairperson, E-Mail: rbradshaw1@nc.rr.com

- No report.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REPORT

COUNTY MANAGERS OFFICE – Assistant County Manager Tracy Jackson

E-Mail: tjackson@co.cumberland.nc.us

- No Report

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR/ ECC-911 (Gene Booth, Director),

E-Mail: gbooth@co.cumberland.nc.us

ES Director Booth –

- Introduced Ms. Laura Smith and Mr. Garry Crumpler with Emergency Management.
- Informed the membership that a grant through the Domestic Preparedness Readiness Region (DPRR) was awarded from DHS to purchase a rehab and bathroom trailer for use at large scale events.

Emergency Management Director Crumpler –

- Discussed upcoming Emergency Management Classes that have been posted on TERMS and further discussed Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 4. Fire.
 - Various classes including ICS-400 are upcoming through the EM Office
- **FM Lowther** – Provided during the FLSE report.
 - **Adam Johnson** – No Report

EMS DIRECTOR: David Grovdahl, EMS Chief E-Mail: dgrovdahl@capefearvalley.com

- Chief Grovdahl advised that there are currently about 30 COVID cases in the hospital with two (2) on ventilators, and there is a significant uptick in Flu cases. He also inquired about any plans specific to multi-patient incidents and mass gathering. We are working on a plan that is required for our EMS System and our Ambulance license with the state and I do not want to reinvent the wheel if a document already exists. Based on events in Houston recently at Astro World, this topic seems timely before we kick off a post-COVID spring festival season.

Chief Johnson will have our standards chairman contact Chief Grovdahl to move this project forward.

HAZMAT: AC David Richtmeyer - POC telephone for HAZMAT is 910-229-6938,

E-Mail: davidrichtmeyer@fayettevillenc.gov

- No report.

FORESTRY DISTRICT Craig Gottfried, County Ranger, E-Mail: craig.gottfried@ncagr.gov

- Craig discussed the current dry conditions and stated that we are in a moderate drought status, but we received about four tenths of rain today, and every little bit helps. He stated that he and his assistant as well as the equipment operator are ready and to call them if needed. He wished everyone a very happy Thanksgiving Holiday.

FTCC Steve Drew, E-Mail: drews@faytechcc.edu

- Steve Drew discussed the block schedule and upcoming training programs. **President Johnson** stated that the block schedule will re-surface at a future Fire and Rescue Commission (FRC) meeting. He realizes the impact the new block style is having not only on volunteer firefighters but also on instructors in terms of teaching the extended number of hours in a reasonable period.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE Sheriff Wright ewright@ccsonc.org (Sr. Sgt. Steven Hodges) Email - shodges@ccsonc.org

- Sr. Sergeant Steve Hodges reminded everyone about the December meeting at the Sheriff's Detention Center Annex starting at 7 pm.

FAYETTEVILLE POLICE – Police Chief Gina Hawkins, Email ghawkins@ci.fay.nc.us
(Captain Jay Devane) jdevane@ci.fay.nc.us

- No report.

NC HIGHWAY PATROL – Colonel Freddy Johnson Jr. Commander NCSHP.

E-Mail: Freddy.johnson@ncshp.org or Sergeant S. Johnson SHP Raleigh Training Center

E-Mail sean.johnson@ncshp.org

- No Report

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Boose gave a brief update on Commissioner Keefe's business trip to Las Vegas and thanked our members for what they continue to do for our community.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

1. Chief Hodges invited any Fire Chief that wants to place a truck in the upcoming Christmas Parade on Saturday December the 4th starting at 3:30 pm. Line up starts on Rockfish Road in front of Town Hall but do not come before 3:30.
2. The town of Stedman is having their nighttime Christmas Parade and invited everyone out to participate as well. There are no fees for public safety vehicles. The parade is scheduled for Saturday December 11, 2021. Call Stedman VFD for additional information.
3. President Johnson wished the members and guests a very safe and blessed department and family Thanksgiving Holiday.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn by Fire Chief Gary Brock seconded by Assistant Chief Kevin Murphy and the meeting was adjourned at 2120 hours.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Freddy L. Johnson Sr.

Freddy L. Johnson Sr., CFO
Fire Chief / President

Mark A. Melvin

Mark A. Melvin, CFO
Fire Chief / Secretary

Enclosures – 2.

- 1 – November 22, 2021, attendance roster
2. – Telephonic Motion Record and Signature Page dated November 7, 2021

	MEMBERS PRESENT (19)	19	16	19	18	17	18	00	17	15	16	17	
	ASSOCIATES PRESENT (10)	08	05	08	07	06	07	00	07	06	10	07	
	Number of total personnel in attendance	NA	30	53	74	30	52	00	28	31	47	50	
	CC Fire Chiefs DEPARTMENTS & ORGANIZATION Chief's Only Meeting	25-JAN-21 - PMFD-Zoom	22-FEB-21 - PMFD-zoom	22-MAR-21 - SLFD COVID	26- APR-21 - SVFD	24-MAY-21 - PMFD-Zoom	28-JUN-21 - GCDFD 24	26-JUL-21 - Cancelled	23-AUG-21 - PMFD -Zoom	27-SEP-21 - PMFD - Zoon	25-OCT-21 - BDFD 26	22-NOV-21 - HMFD-21	20-DEC-21 - SHERIFF
	MEMBERS	MEETING DATES											
01	BEAVER DAM STA 26 & 27	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
02	BETHANY STA 12	P	P	P	P	A	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
03	COTTON STA 4	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
04	CUMBERLAND ROAD STA 5	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
05	EASTOVER STA 1	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
06	EMS EMERGENCY MED SVC	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
07	FAYETTEVILLE FIRE DEPT	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
08	FORT BRAGG FIRE DEPT	P	E	P	P	E	P	N/A	P	P	P	E	
09	GODWIN - FALCON STA 17	P	E	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	E	
10	GRAYS CREEK STA 18	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
11	GRAYS CREEK STA 24	P	E	P	P	A	P	N/A	P	P	A	P	
12	HOPE MILLS STA 21	P	P	P	P	P	A	N/A	A	P	A	P	
13	PEARCE'S MILL STA 3	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
14	SPRING LAKE STA 22	P	P	P	E	P	P	N/A	P	A	A	P	
15	STEDMAN STA 23	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	A	E	P	P	
16	STONE POINT STA 13 & 19	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
17	VANDER STA 2 & 8	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
18	WADE STA 16	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	E	P	P	
19	WESTAREA STA 15-20 & 25	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	A	P	P	
	ASSOCIATE MEMBERS												
01	CC EMERGENCY SERVICES	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
02	COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	A	A	P	p	A	P	N/A	A	P	P	P	
03	COUNTY MGR OFFICE	P	P	P	E	P	P	N/A	P	A	P	E	
04	FAYETTEVILLE PD	P	A	P	P	A	A	N/A	P	A	P	P	
05	FORESTRY	P	A	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	
06	FTCC	P	P	P	P	P	A	N/A	P	P	P	P	
07	HAZMAT	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	A	P	P	A	
08	HIGHWAY PATROL	P	P	P	P	P	A	N/A	P	P	P	E	
09	RETIRED FIRE CHIEFS	A	A	P	A	A	P	N/A	A	A	P	P	
10	SHERIFFS OFFICE	P	A	P	A	A	P	N/A	P	A	P	P	

N/A - Due to the 2020 COVID closures the July 2021 meeting was canceled to allow for the opportunity for Chief Officers to take time for family vacations missed in 2020.

**“CUMBERLAND COUNTY FIRE CHIEF’S ASSOCIATION
VOTE ROLL CALL 2021**

MOTION: Fire Chief Richard Bradshaw (Vander Fire District) introduced a **MOTION** for all rural fire districts eligible and subject to the current Phase II Regional Stoney Point VFD Portable Radio Grant as part of the Fire Protection Service District Grant Program to authorize and participate in a Lease Purchase financing option within the amount of **\$2,850,243.61** providing a one (1) time down payment of **\$500,000.00** followed by five (5) annual payments of **\$517,149.21**. We also understand that for the next five (5) years while subject to the terms of the lease purchase financing plan our overall annual grant funds will be reduced accordingly. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Fire Chief Keith Matthews (Godwin-Falcon Fire District) and **APPROVED** by all fifteen (15) eligible and participating rural fire districts signing the **applicable signature page dated November 7, 2021**, and attached as an enclosure to these minutes.

1. Voting Record - CCFCA 800 Mhz TDMA Upgrade - Regional Portable Radio & Accessories Grant - Financing Plan

MBS PRESENT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE (20)	15																		
DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION	7 November 2021020 Telephonically & In Person Signature																		
* Chief's Only Meeting																			
MEMBERS																			
BEAVER DAM STA 26 - 27	Yes	2601																	
BETHANY STA 12	Yes	1201																	
COTTON STA 4	Yes	0401																	
CUMBERLAND ROAD STA 5	Yes	0501																	
EASTOVER STA 1	Yes	0102																	
EMERGENCY SVC DIRECTOR	N/A																		
EMS-DIRECTOR	N/A																		
FAYETTEVILLE FIRE DEPT	N/A																		
FORT BRAGG FIRE DEPT	N/A																		
GODWIN-FALCON STA 17	Yes	1701																	
GRAYS CREEK 18	Yes	1801																	
GRAYS CREEK 24	Yes	2401																	
HOPE MILLS STA 21	N/A																		
PEARCE'S MILL STA 3	Yes	0301																	
SL - MANCHESTER STA 11/22	Yes	2201																	
STEDMAN STA 23	Yes	2301																	
STONEY POINT STA 13 - 19	Yes	1301																	
VANDER STA 2 - 8	Yes	0201																	
WADE STA 16	Yes	1601																	
WESTAREA STA 15 – 20 - 25	Yes	2501																	
TOTAL YES VOTES	15																		
TOTAL NO VOTES	None																		
Abstained	0																		
MOTION CARRIED	15 - Yes																		


Special Notes:

CODES: (YES) – Voting in the Affirmative (-A)-Absent (N/A)- Vote Does Not Apply to Organization NO) - Voting against

Additional Signature Page dated November 7, 2021


The undersigned Fire Chiefs representing the rural Volunteer Fire Departments in Cumberland County hereby acknowledge participation in the **FY21/22 Portable Radio - Regional Cumberland County Fire Service District Grant Fund Opportunity** through a five (5) year lease purchase or payment agreement plan submitted and executed by the Stoney Point Fire Department Inc. on behalf of all the rural Fire District listed herein.


Beaver Dam Fire Department


Bethany Fire Department


Cotton Fire Department


Cumberland Road Fire Department


Eastover Fire Department


Godwin - Falcon Fire Department


Grays Creek # 18 Fire Department


Grays Creek # 24 Fire Department



Pearce's Mill Fire Department


Spring Lake/Manchester


Stedman Fire Department


Stoney Point Fire Department


Vander Fire Department


Wade Community Fire Department


Westarea Fire Department