



Minutes of the Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1
March Commission Meeting
Thursday, March 27th, 2025 @ 1730 hours
Northampton County Board Chambers - Eastville

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Bill McCready, *Chairman, Atlantic Volunteer Fire Company*
AJ Ferebee, *Vice-Chairman, Captain, Northampton County Sheriff's Office*
Jeff Renas, *Area 31 1st Sergeant, Virginia State Police*
Ben Byrd, *Wachapreague Volunteer Fire Company*
Donald Hart, *Accomack County Board of Supervisors*
Greg DeYoung, *Northampton County Department of EMS*
Charlie Kolakowski, *Northampton County Administrator*
Mike Mason, *Accomack County Administrator*
Bobby Taylor, *Lieutenant, Accomack County Sheriff's Office*
Jeff Parks, *Accomack County Board of Supervisors*
Adam Zieger, *Eastville Volunteer Fire Company*
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Krista Kilmon, *ESVA 9-1-1 Deputy Director*
Katie Brewster, *ESVA 9-1-1 Supervisor/ Recording Secretary*
- COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Ernest Smith, *Northampton County Board of Supervisors*
- REMOTE PARTICIPATION:** Scott Chandler, *ESVA 9-1-1 Consultant* and Jeff Flournoy, *ESVA 9-1-1 Director* both participated remotely.
- OTHERS ABSENT:** None
- CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Bill McCready called the meeting to order at 17:30.
- INVOCATION:** Commissioner Donald Hart delivered the opening invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Bill McCready led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There was no public participation at this meeting.
- MINUTES:** *A motion to accept the minutes from the February 2025 meeting was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Ben Byrd. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.*
- CONSENT AGENDA:** There was no consent agenda items at this meeting.



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BUDGET REPORT:

FY25- Director Flournoy reported that there were no concerns or anomalies to the revenue or expenditure side of the budget. Eight months of the Wireless Surcharge has come in from the state at about \$168,000. For the Communications Tax, eight months have come in from Accomack County at about \$162,000, six months have come in from Northampton County at about \$54,000, and Chincoteague is right on track at about \$21,000. Around April 1st, the request will go to Accomack for the fourth quarter for the fiscal year. Through the end of February 2025, the following has been spent: 60% of the Capitol Budget, 61% of the Operational Budget, and 80% of the Other Budget, totaling 66% spent overall. The Other Budget's percentage is due to costs associated with still maintaining the current radio system, as well as paying for costs associated with the new radio system. FY26- There were no major changes to the status of funding requests/budget formulation status from the 9-1-1 Commission (to the counties) since last meeting. It was understood that the latest state budget includes a 1.5% bonus for fulltime positions; once solidified the 9-1-1 Center request for FY26 would include the expected benefit related increases.

A motion to approve the budget report was made by Vice-Chairman AJ Ferebee with a second from Commissioner Jeff Renas. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Meetings- Director Flournoy reported that on 3/7/25 he attended a meeting with Station 7 leadership discussing the use of their house siren for fire incidents and using a different alert for weather alerts, specifically tornado warnings. Work continues on moving forward with this topic. On 3/13/25, Supervisor Hodgson and CO Hall attended the after-action review meeting regarding the Haz-Mat incident that occurred in February 2025. Personnel- All 11 F/T CO positions are filled, with one in training, and we currently employ 4 P/T CO's. The most recent part-time hire is no longer employed by the ESVA 9-1-1 Center. Two of our PT COs are on a leave of absence. Other- National Telecommunicators Week is April 13th-19th. ESVA 9-1-1 Center has agreed to be a participating agency with Peninsula Regional Communications Center in a VDEM FY26 multi-jurisdictional grant allowing opportunity for additional training and educational sessions.

RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE:

ACI Dispatched- A PMI check of the Channel 7 system at Belle Haven due to potential performance issues was conducted. There was an investigation of MDC codes not displaying intermittently at dispatch console positions. They were also involved in issues with the T-Mon voter monitoring system. Radio System Issues- There was a failure of power supply/power amplifier for back-up F1 transmitter at ACSO site and it remains OOSV. The issues with position 3 radio console stopping transmitting when using the mouse appears resolved. The failure of EMS Operations receiver at the Eastville site also appears resolved.

OTHER:

Director Flournoy then turned the meeting over to Deputy Director Kilmon to provide her report. ECW- There is still one open ticket that we are likely going to close due to it being 6 months since the issue had occurred. If reoccurs, we will open a new ticket. 2023 VDEM SHSP Grant- We now have the NOMAD equipment and are



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working with Northampton County I.T. to establish connectivity to them, which has to be accomplished outside of our agency firewall. We will need to go ahead and purchase the needed SIM cards for remote connectivity. New Hire Training- Our F/T new hire has moved to the dispatch floor and is performing well. She did have previous dispatch experience and it's anticipated for her to be released by mid-April/early May. Server Replacements- These have been completed for Freedom and Message Switch. The next one to replace is the RAVE server, which also houses the CAD Resource Monitor. Premises- Supervisor Brewster has completed the beginning of the year premise verifications, with the next being mid-year. Training- Two F/T COs, Press and Boggs, attended the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy and graduated on 3/19. TOTY- On 3/4/25, the 2024 Telecommunicator of the Year was selected by a panel that consisted of Greg DeYoung (NCEMS), John Greer (ACDPS), Bryan Rush (CEMS), and Michael Rydberg (Station 9). NPSTW- Our supervisors are working on Telecommunicator Week; reaching out to local businesses to acquire donations so that we can put on a celebratory week for our staff.

Deputy Director Kilmon then turned the meeting back over to Director Flournoy to provide an update on the ESVARRS system. Funding- To date, 13 drawdown requests have occurred using the ASAP reimbursement system, totaling about \$7 million. There remains about \$1.1 million COPS federal funds available for use toward the ESVARRS Project. We continue to complete and submit all required reporting to DOJ/COPS, with the next one being due at the end up April 2025. Radio Installations- Installation of mobile and portable radios on apparatus/units began in early January 2025 and is continuing into its 12th week. This effort will overall stop after this week, with the shift to control station installations starting mid-April and is expected to last 4-6 weeks. Most Fire/EMS and Law Enforcement vehicles now have L3 Harris mobile radios installed however, are still operating on the existing (Legacy) system, just on a new radio. While there has continued to be some issues during vehicles installations related to programming, antenna connections, external speaker issues, etc., it overall has gone well. At the end of last week, approximately 260 vehicle installations had been completed. With limited exceptions, ESVA 9-1-1 Commission Staff have been at locations where installations were occurring, including Chairman Bill McCready assisting a few days. L3 Harris Effort- Past Overview: Efforts for use of the Belle Haven site remain in progress and L3 Harris has been directed to formally provide information as to how/why this site was determined to ESVA 9-1-1 for understanding and review. As part of the revised system, modifying/changing the antenna designs/patterns used at other sites will occur. New updates: During a contract amendment meeting with L3 Harris, it was communicated that with only the antenna system changes/improvements at the five existing RF sites, coverage guarantee could potentially be achieved. The direction remains on the addition of a sixth site to the ESVARRS system currently, but this is a focus in ongoing discussions with L3 Harris. The overall message to them is that they are responsible for providing the system design providing the coverage and performance contractually required and what was advertised/expected. While liquidated damages, based on current project timelines could have started in mid-March 2025; they have not occurred as efforts continue towards the needed project amendment. There have been numerous discussions with the 9-1-1 Commissions legal firm to review a project amendment in the future. This will address the new system design, revised timelines, liquidated damages, cost impacts, and other topics related. The CTA Consultants have also been heavily engaged and participating in these contract discussions. The contract discussions will continue and it is hoped to have a special meeting in May to consider the Amendment. Other- ESVA 9-1-1 Personnel (Flournoy, Lewis, Chandler) are attending a training for ESVARRS management at L3 Harris facility at the end of March. The additional connectivity between



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ESVA 9-1-1 and ACSO dispatch is complete. 9-1-1 Center staff met with ACSO leadership several days after the last Commission meeting and options were reviewed related to the MDC/alias tone for the ACSO mobile radios. The direction from ACSO leadership was to shorten the tone at the beginning; by doing so, it will reduce the likelihood of the MDC code for the radio alias to display at the ACSO dispatch consoles.

A motion to approve the 9-1-1 Director's report was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Ben Byrd. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

ACTION ITEMS: A. Proclamation – 2025 National Telecommunications Week – Approval

Director Flournoy requested to adopt the Resolution of Appreciation for our dispatch staff.

A motion to approve this action item was made by Commissioner Greg DeYoung with a second from Commissioner Jeff Parks. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

B. Annual Report – 2024 – Approval

Director Flournoy requested approve the 2024 Annual Report completed by Supervisor Gibbons.

A motion to approve this action item was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Greg DeYoung. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

CONSULTANT'S REPORT:

Consultant Chandler reported that aside from his routine items of email correspondence and updating the website, he has also been involved in weekly and monthly project reviews, site visits, contract negotiations and installation monitoring.

A motion to accept the 9-1-1 Consultant's report was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Jeff Parks. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman McCready thanked the Core Team for their heavy involvement in the ESVARRS project.

OTHER BUSINESS: There were no other business items.

PAYABLES: *A motion to pay the bills was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Adam Zieger. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.*

ADJOURNMENT: *Vice-Chairman AJ Ferebee made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Commissioner Bobby Taylor. There were no oppositions and the meeting was adjourned by at 18:14.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Brewster, *ESVA 9-1-1 Supervisor / Recording Secretary*