WAKE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSION Thursday, March 20, 2014

Adopted MINUTES

(Audio Replays of the meeting are available upon request)

A meeting of the Wake County Fire Commission was held on Thursday, March 20, 2014, 7:00 PM, in the Wake County Commons Building, Carya Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Commission Chair Lucius Jones called the meeting to order.

The following members were present: Chief Tony Mauldin (South Region), Chief Tim Pope (North Region), Chief Mark Haraway (West Region), Chief Rodney Privette (East Region), Lee Price (Firefighter's Association), Barbara Poole (Citizen Consumer), Billy Myrick (Citizen/Consumer), Judge Keith Gregory (Citizen/Consumer), Commissioners Paul Coble (WC Commissioners), and Judge Michael Denning (Citizen/Consumer).

Other members present: Chief Ron Early (North Region Alternate), Chief David Price (South Region Alternate), Chief Bryant Woodall (West Region Alternate), and Chief Chris Perry (East Region Alternate).

The following members were absent: Bob Stagg (Citizen/Consumer), Commissioner Phil Matthews (WC Commissioner), and.

The following County officials and staff were present: Fire Services Director Mike Wright, Ricky Dorsey, Wake County Training Director, and Emergency Services Manager Demetric Potts.

Mr. Billy Myrick gave an invocation.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion of Billy Myrick and second by Chief Rodney Privette, the Fire Commission unanimously approved the Agenda.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Upon motion of Chief Rodney Privette and second by Judge Michael Denning, the Fire Commission unanimously approved minutes of the November 21, 2013, Regular Meeting.

Upon motion of Commissioner Paul Coble and second by Chief Rodney Privette, the Fire Commission unanimously approved minutes of the January 16, 2014, Regular Meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDER ELECTION OF FIRE COMMISSION CHAIR FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014

Fire Services Director Mike Wright opened the floor to accept nominations for Chair of the Fire Commission. Mr. Billy Myrick nominated Mr. Lucius Jones. Director Wright asked if there were other nominations and with there being none he asked Mr. Jones if he accepted the nomination. Mr. Jones stated that if the Commission wanted him to serve he would accept the nomination.

Upon motion of Mr. Billy Myrick, and seconded by Commissioner Paul Coble, the Fire Commission unanimously appointed Mr. Lucius Jones as Chair of the Wake Fire Commission.

CONSIDER ELECTION OF FIRE COMMISSION VICE CHAIR FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014

Fire Services Director Mike Wright opened the floor to accept nominations for Vice Chair of the Fire Commission. Chair Lucius Jones nominated Mr. Billy Myrick. Director Wright asked if there were other nominations and with there being none he asked Mr. Myrick if he accepted the nomination. Mr. Myrick stated that he would accept the nomination.

Upon motion of Chief Rodney Privette, and seconded by Commissioner Paul Coble, the Fire Commission unanimously appointed Mr. Billy Myrick as Vice Chair of the Wake Fire Commission.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REVISIONS to the WAKE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSION RULES OF PROCEDURE

Demetric Potts stated that the Fire Commission had requested that staff make revisions to the language in the Wake County Fire Commission Rules of Procedures, Section VIII. Committees: D. Standing Committees Procedures, to read as follows:

The Chair of the Standing Committee will supervise the meetings and all minutes and agendas. Each member of the Standing Committee or subcommittee of the Fire Commission shall be entitled to one vote. Since the Chair and Vice-Chair serve as voting members their vote shall be counted. Agendas are to be sent to all Fire Chiefs whose departments fall under the fire tax districts, Fire Commission members, and each voting member of the committee at least two (2) days prior to a meeting. Final meeting minutes are to be distributed to the same persons listed above within one (1) week of a committee meeting. A Standing Committee quorum will consist of a simple majority of the members (including the Chairperson).

Upon motion of Mr. Myrick, and seconded by Commissioner Paul Coble, the Fire Commission unanimously approved the recommended revisions to the language in the Wake County Fire Commission Rules of Procedures, Section VIII. Committees: D. <u>Standing Committees Procedures</u>.

CONSIDER BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION to the FIRE COMMISSION for APPROVAL OF EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE REQUEST FOR REVISION OF THE FY 2014 TURNOUR GEAR REPLACEMENT PLAN

Chief Price reminded the Fire Commission that at November 21, 2013 Fire Commission meeting, Eastern Wake Fire Department had requested additional sets of turnout gear above the normal replacement schedule to replace primary sets that had reached the end of their service life or were determined to be non-repairable. Eastern Wake provided the VFIS PPE Checklist for each set as

requested by the Equipment Committee to document the need for replacement. The Equipment Committee has reviewed the documentation and it supports the replacement of eleven sets. Mark Matthews, Budget Analysis has confirmed that sufficient funds remain to cover the cost within the budget line item. He stated that the Equipment Committee is recommending the replacement of eleven sets of gear at \$1,780.36 per set for a total of \$19,583.96.

Chief Price also informed the Fire Commission that in February 2014, the Town of Cary renewed the contract for turnout gear for the term of 1 year. This renewal included a 4% cost increase to the price per set bringing the total to \$1,780.36. He stated that the Equipment Committee also recommends raising the cost of gear ordered after the cost increase to the new amount.

Upon motion of Chief Haraway, and seconded by Lee Price, the Fire Commission unanimously approved the recommendation from the Budget Committee and Equipment Committee to revise the FY 2014 Turnout Gear Replacement Plan to allow Eastern Wake Fire Department to purchase and be reimbursed for 11 sets of turnout gear and to raise the reimbursement price to the new contract price of \$1,780.36 per set.

INFORMATION AGENDA

POST INCIDENT REVIEW UPDATE

Wake County Training Director Ricky Dorsey provided the following information to the Fire Commission as it relates to the Post Incident Review Program Update:

<u>Purpose</u>

This is a summary of the Post Incident Review meetings conducted July 1, 2013 – March 20, 2014. This is provided for informational purposes.

FY2014

Requesting Agency	Reviews	Incident Type
Apex	2	DOT Paint Trucks, Residential Structure Fire
Bay Leaf	3	2 - Residential Structure Fires, Church Fire
Fairview	1	Residential Structure Fire
Fuquay-Varina	1	Abandoned Structure Fire
Stony Hill	1	Residential Structure Fire
Swift Creek	1	Residential Structure Fire

Trending Discussion Topics

Rural Water Supply

Some incidents rural water supply operations went very well. Rural water supply was more challenging for some incidents. Some of the challenges were: Icy roads, large homes with large fire flow needs, subdivisions with limited access for multiple apparatus and dump tank set-up.

Staffing Levels

Some departments identified incidents where additional manpower would have helped. Others had incidents where they had good response from members and manpower was not an issue.

Accountability

Accountability went well for most incidents. Some incidents were more challenging to maintain good personnel accountability. There were no situations were personnel felt that accountability officers were not doing their job.

Transitional Fire Attack

In some incidents there were large homes where a Transitional Attach was deployed. In all of these cases there was success with this attack method. Many discussed learning more about this method and deploying this more frequently with the larger structures.

Unity of Command

With most incidents crews are following Incident Command assignments and have commented about how well crews are working together. There were a few situations where crews didn't follow assignments. In these cases the department is working with their neighboring departments to resolve the issues.

Salvage Operations

There were many cases when good salvage operations made a positive difference in saving property. Departments received good comments from neighbors and homeowners.

Local Tankers vs. Tanker Strike Team

Pros and cons were identified with the Tanker Strike Team concept. There were a couple incidents where using local tankers saved time for acquiring needed water supply.

CAD Unit Recommendations

In a few cases departments needed additional apparatus and personnel. When they made the request at Raleigh/Wake 911, their own apparatus was dispatched even though personnel from their district were depleted. This is being discussed with Chiefs currently to determine solutions.

COST SHARE STUDY UPDATE

Mark Matthews, Fiscal and Policy Analyst provided the following informational update on the status of the Cost Share Funding and Service Delivery Study being conducted by Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI):

- All the cost share meetings with the municipalities and departments are complete
- ESCI is completing their analysis of the information gathered at the meetings
- The consultant will be finalizing the financial document and cost share analysis
- ESCI will then develop future funding model considerations
- We expect to get draft recommendations for the Cost Share Committee to review around mid-April.

BUDGET COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Fire Tax Budget Committee met on 05 March 2014 at the EMS Training facility. The following information is the minutes from the meeting:

Overview

Mark Matthews started the meeting by reminding everyone of the base budget rules for budget submission, which were the guidelines provided to all departments during the budget kickoff in December. Mark stated that knowing that it is unlikely to be particularly strong revenue growth in the Fire Tax District as a whole and its single revenue stream, and wanting to treat all departments consistently throughout the process we provided the guidance at kickoff that all departments were to submit budgets that reflected their updated salary and benefits rates, which were their existing personnel with their salary are within the compensation guidelines, their revised benefits rates (health insurance increases, worker's comp), we were making adjustments as part of the base for those expenses. Operating expenses, as part of their base budgets departments were asked to submit budget requests that were in line with the FY 2014 adopted budget, so a \$1 increase in the adopted budget would require an expansion request. Mark stated that we recognize that there were a lot of valid business needs out there, but that is how we delineated any increase in any operating expense. That was to set the stage that the base budget was truly intended to FY 2014 operations with no provisions for inflation in cost growth.

Revenue Estimates

Mark stated that he was going to provide an update that was not particularly good news for the Fire Tax District, but the current revenue estimates (attachment 1) for the Fire Tax District that he received from Marcus Kinrade the Revenue Director, which were preliminary show that the projected net Fire Tax collection for FY 2015 is \$20,618,309. When plugged into the updated model this means that we are losing approximately \$300,000 in fiscal 2015 compared to what we estimated in the current model. Mark stated that while we don't expect to see the dip every year until we get better experience he was estimating a lower base. He further stated that even if we held everything flat, and even if health increases and other unavoidable increases did not occur we would be getting \$93,000 less in Fire Tax revenue in FY 2015 than we budgeted in FY 2014. Mark stated that this primarily due to tax and tag collections by the State.

Preliminary Base Budget Expenses

Mark distributed a spreadsheet handout of preliminary base departmental expenses (attachment 2) that shows all of the departmental appropriations across the county. Mark stated that there were some revenues that needed to be validated, there were items that we still needed to follow-up on with the departments on, but this at least gives a picture by object code where the dollars are going in the base across the county. Mark also stated that he had identified some benchmarking metrics such as FY 2013 incidents; population served, and heated square footage as indices as services drivers. Mark shared that staff was still in the process of evaluating the departmental budgets.

Chief Rich stated that he wanted to make the Budget Committee aware that historically that these numbers were based on FY 2012 actuals, and not FY 2013 projections. He stated that this is one gap that exists in the accuracy of these appropriations.

Mr. Myrick asked Demetric if the budget process would be handled similar to last year or the year before. Demetric responded that it would be handled similar to last year, a collaboration between the Budget Committee and staff.

Chief Poole asked if staff agreed with Chief Rich's opinion that the numbers were based on FY 2012 actuals and not FY 2013. Demetric responded that not in total of FY 2012's actuals. He stated that staff did look at specific line items, which were reverted back to FY 2012 actuals, but it was not the entire budget appropriation or every line item. Chief Poole stated that there could be a gap. Demetric responded that there could be a gap in some specific line items.

Benchmarking

Mark distributed a handout (attachment 3) that demonstrates a bit of benchmarking in an effort to show some normalized comparisons to evaluate relative funding levels. He stated that he would bring back an update once we have a less preliminary base.

Model Assumptions

Mark distributed a handout (attachment 4) that provided an overview of what we will need to contend with as we try to align the budget appropriations with the available revenues. He stated that the revenue distribution FY 2015 is 86% Operating, and other 14% goes to Debt & Capital, so that is applied to the estimated revenue level.

Operating Fund Balance

Mark provided a handout (attachment 5) that showed the model assumptions for the operating fund balance for the Fire Tax District. He stated that in FY 2015 before plugging into the model station increases, compensation increases, or any expansions we are already a half million dollars in the hole compared to estimated revenue. He stated that since we do have fund balance of approximately \$5.5 million dollars we can by policy spend down fund balance provided the Fire Tax District is sustainable for 5 years. In other words since we have fund balance available above the 16% threshold, and we maintain a minimum fund balance of 16% in next year's operating budget, that does give us some fund balance to smooth out the reductions so we don't have to make up whole \$500,000, but we certainly need to get closer than a negative \$500,000.

Mr. Myrick asked how much fund balance we had above the 16% minimum fund balance. Mark responded that the 16% threshold based on the model that in 2020 the 16% threshold would be approximately \$3.2 million based on the current base that was provided to the Committee today. If we added anything to that in terms of expansions and assume the same growth then that fund balance threshold would actually need to be higher. Mark stated that we would need to maintain a threshold of around \$3.2 million or 16% in 2020.

Chief Poole stated that this year there were expenditures out of Fire Tax Funds that they weren't aware of, and studies were one of those expenditures. He stated that he would like as the Budget Committee to get the information of other parties that are going to be exhausting the Fire Tax funds to see what they are proposing because it obviously affect our fund balance. He stated that if staff in considering hiring more consultants to do studies he felt it would be prudent for them to see what those expenditures were going to be, because if we were looking at a deficit already they should do their due diligence to understand what someone else is spending out of what they have asked to balance.

Chief A.C. Rich stated that he would like to see the handout electronically. Staff stated that they would provide to the Committee electronic handouts.

FIRE TAX FANANCIAL REPORT

Mark Matthews provided the following financial reports to the Fire Commission:

FY 2014 WAKE COUNTY FIRE TAX DISTRICT OPERATING FINANCIAL REPORT (As of March 10, 2014)

Appropriation: 5120N2500 Fire Tax District - System

Unit: F250 Fire Tax District System

Revenue Source!	Expenditure Object	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	PTD Actual	Commitments (excluding pending)	YTD Actual	Total Commitments + YTD	Amended Budget Less YTD Actual	YTD % of Amended Budget	Comments
T127 NC DMV Taxes		0.00	0.00	486,790.40	0.00	486,790.40	485,790.40	(485,790.40)	NA.	
T128 Refunds of NC DMV Taxes		0.00	0.00	(630,74)	0.00	(630.74)	(630.74)	630.74	NA NA	
T200 Special District Taxes		20,712,000.00	20,712,000.00	19,957,935.40	0.00	19,957,935.40	19,957,935.40	754,064.60	96%	
N132 Interest - NCDOT - DMV Taxes		0.00	0.00	157.56	0.00	157.56	157,56	(157.56)		
N140 Market vs Cost Investment Difference	0	0.00	0.00	16,041.99	0.00	16,041.99	16.041.99	(16.041.99)	NA NA	
N150 Interest Income/Pooled Funds		15,000.00	15,000.00	10,158.24	0.00	10,158.24	10,158.24	4.841.76	68%	
A370 Appropriated Fund Balance		0.00	34,995.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,995.00	0%	
Total Revenues	THE RESERVE TO SHAPE	20,727,000	20,761,995	20,470,453	0	20,470,453	20,470,453	291,542	99%	

Revenue Source/ Expenditure Object	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	PTD Actual	Commitments (excluding pending)	YTD Actual	Total Commitments + YTD	Amended Budget Less YTD Actual	YTD % of Amended Budget	Commen
2406 CONTRACTED SERVICES	0.00	34,995.00	6,832.30	55,985.70	6,632.30	62,818.00	(27,823.00)	180%	Fire Training Center and Cost Share Studies
3127 OFFICE SUPPLIES	0.00	0.00	423.94	0.00	423.94	423.94	(423.94)	NA.	0.14.0
3134 OTHER SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	0,00	0,00	1,968.50	0.00	1,968,50	1,968.50	(1,968.50)	NA.	
3601 ELECTRICITY	0.00	0.00	12,952.50	0.00	12,952.50	12,952.50	(12,952.50)	NA.	
3606 OTHER UTILITIES	12,500.00	12,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0,00	12,500.00	0%	
3617 DISPATCH SERVICE	182,289.00	182,289.00	0.00	170,054.00	0.00	170,054.00	12,235,00	93%	
3714 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF EQUIPMENT	17,665.00	17,665.00	5,640.61	0.00	5,640.61	5,640.61	12,024.39	32%	
4208 CITY OF RALEIGH HAZMAT PROGRAM	89,789.00	89,789.00	0.00	89,788.66	0.00	89,788.66	0.34	100%	
4224 NC DEPT OF NRCD - FORESTRY	67,362.00	67,362.00	31,089.07	36,272.93	31,089.07	67,362.00	0.00	100%	
4409 POSTAGE/CHARGES FROM GS	0.00	0.00	70.88	0.00	70.88	70.88	(70.88)	NA.	
4428 MISC CHARGES FROM OTHER DEPT/DIV	350,918.00	360,918.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	360,918,00	0%	
4446 800mhz charges from other dept	125,075.00	125,075.00	93,806.07	0.00	93,806.07	93,806,07	31,268,93	75%	
4447 CAD charges from other dept	8,663.00	8,663.00	6,907.14	0.00	6,907.14	6,907,14	1,755.88	80%	
4758 MV Tax Collection Costs	0.00	0.00	11,872.29	0.00	11,872.29	11,872.29	(11,872,29)	NA.	
8104 CONTINGENCY	76,492.00	76,492.00	0,00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76,492.00	0%	
9103 TRANSFER TO C/P CO CONSTRUCTION FUND	1,350,000.00	1,350,000.00	1,350,000.00	0.00	1,350,000.00	1,350,000.00	0.00	100%	
9109 TRANSFER TO DIS FROM TAX DISTRICT FUND	1,224,000.00	1,224,000.00	0.00	0.00	0,00	0.00	1,224,000.00	0%	
Total Expenditures	3,514,753	3,549,748	1,521,563	352,101	1,521,563	1,873,665	1,676,083	53%	
Subtotal Unit: F250									
Total Revenues	20,727,000	20,761,995	20,470,453	Control to the last	20,470,453	20,470,453	291,542	18.60	
Tota I Expenditures	3,514,753	3,549,748	1,521,563	352,101	1,521,563	1,873,665	1,676,083	42.86	

FY 2014 WAKE COUNTY FIRE TAX DISTRICT OPERATING FINANCIAL REPORT (As of March 10, 2014)

Department: 51 Fire and Emergency Management

Unit	Unit Name	Revenue Source/ Expenditure Object	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	PTD Actual	Commitments (excluding pending)	YTD Actual	Total Commitments + YTD	Amended Budget Less YTD Actual	YTD % of Amended Budget
F251	Apex FD	2406	707,525.0	707,525.0	530,643.8	176,707.2	530,643.8	707,351.0	174.0	75.0
F252	Bay Leaf FD	2406	1,535,189.0	1,535,189.0	1,158,752.0	376,437.0	1,158,752.0	1,535,189.0	0.0	75.5
F253	Cary FD	2406	70,000.0	70,000.0	0.0	70,000.0	0.0	70,000.0	0.0	0.0
F254	Duham Highway FD	2406	745,314.0	745,314.0	558,985.5	186,328.5	558,985.5	745,314.0	0.0	75.0
F255	Eastern Wake FD	2406	1,638,034.0	1,638,034.0	1,252,391.2	380,679.1	1,252,391.2	1,633,070.3	4,963.7	76.5
F255	Fairview FD	2406	1,141,926.0	1,141,926.0	856,444.5	285,481.5	856,444.5	1,141,926.0	0.0	75.0
F258	Fuguay Varina FD	2406	1,389,098.0	1,389,098.0	1,041,823.5	347,274.5	1,041,823.5	1,389,098.0	0.0	75.0
F259	Garner FD	2408	1,650,766.0	1,650,766.0	1,238,073.8	412,691.3	1,238,073.8	1,650,765.0	1.0	75.0
F260	Holly Springs FD	2406	422,737.0	422,737.0	317,053.5	105,684.5	317,053.5	422,738.0	(1.0)	75.0
F261	Hopkins FD	2406	722,842.0	722,842.0	542,131.5	180,710.5	542,131.5	722,842.0	0.0	75.0
F262	Morrisville FD	2406	794,122.0	794,122.0	595,591.5	198,530.5	595,591.5	794,122.0	0.0	75.0
F264	Rolesville FD	2406	559,803.0	559,803.0	419,852.3	139,950.8	419,852.3	559,803.0	0.0	75.0
F265	Stony Hill FD	2406	1,007,648.0	1,007,648,0	755,736.0	251,912.0	755,736.0	1,007,648.0	(0.0)	75.0
F266	Swift Creek FD	2406	485,939.0	486,939.0	376,454.3	65,484.8	376,454.3	441,939.0	45,000.0	77.3
F267	Wake-New Hope FD	2406	1,095,054.0	1,095,054.0	821,290.5	273,763.5	821,290.5	1,095,054.0	0.0	75.0
F268	Wake Forest FD	2406	699,366.0	699,366.0	524,524.5	174,841.5	524,524.5	699,366.0	0,0	75.0
F269	Wendell FD	2406	1,445,902.0	1,445,902.0	1,104,128.2	341,773.8	1,104,128.2	1,445.902.0	0.0	76.4
F270	Western Wake FD	2406	566,089.0	566,089.0	424,566.7	141,522.3	424,586.7	566,089.0	0.0	75.0
F271	Zebulon FD	2406	533,893.0	533,893.0	400,419.7	133,473.3	400,419.7	533 893.0	0.0	75.0

CHAIR REPORT

None.

FIRE SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

Fire Services Director Michael Wright informed the Fire Commission that Wake County Fire Services would be hosting a Fire Department Board of Directors Outreach meeting. He also stated that he would be exploring the opportunity for the Fire Commission to have work session in the off moths to discuss high level initiatives in advance of a Fire Commission meeting in which action would be needed.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned