

ESAC MEETING MINUTES

09/15/21

Members Present:

Rick Baker, Linas Saurisitis, Gene Curfman, Dan Plunkert, Lynn Karr-Kratz, Deric Dunn, Mike Karolenko, Dave Coe, Bruce Fleming, Commissioner Steve Wantz, and Director Mike Robinson

Members Absent:

Eddie Ruch, Dr. Mike DiNapoli. The ESAC is short 2 members, a non-union employee and citizen representative.

Chairman Baker called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests in attendance:

Susan Mott- 1st. VP of CCVESA

George Wentz- 2nd. VP of CCVESA

Ryan Dyson- Secretary of the IAFF Local 5184 and employee of Mt. Airy VFC

Director Robinson was introduced and gave a briefing of his background.

A motion to accept the July meeting minutes was made by Dan Plunkert, seconded by Dave Coe, and passed.

Chairman Baker asked if there were any public comments, hearing none, the meeting continued.

Committee reports:

FROPS- no report

EMSOPS:

Dave Coe reported that there's a Statewide issue with red and yellow alerts at hospitals. He also reported there have been issues with hospital by-passes and re-routes in the region lately.

Old Business:

Statistics-

Chairman Baker stated he has started receiving information from EOC from the CAD system and continues to work with Scott Campbell and Jack Brown. He's working to get a raw data dump from the CAD system, but it's been a problem getting data from the CAD vendor. He's trying to get data on late and no responses that includes all calls (including out-of-county calls) and staffing numbers on units.

Deric Dunn indicated that he had previously received some data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) from the former Director and had returned the data, having done some collation of the data, but never heard back from the Director. Deric believes the data can easily be extrapolated and imported into a database. He stated that he thought the CAD system data could also be used, given the right parameters were set.

Chairman Baker will send a letter to Director Robinson, copying the Commissioners and County Administrator Windham, requesting the information ESAC needs for analysis and assistance in providing meaningful statistics.

Linas Saurisitis stated that the daily staffing levels for each station is also needed to better determine where assistance is needed.

Commissioner Wantz reported on County Issues:

The Health Department is losing two key employees- the staff Doctor, and the Health Officer Ed Singer. He indicated that 8 Health Officers across the State have stepped down recently.

He indicated that the County continues to work under a hybrid method in dealing with COVID, and that he had sat-in on a briefing today regarding a new variant (Mu), which appears worse than the current Delta variant. Commissioner Wantz stated that the County's IT Director has been directed to get the internet and telephone systems in the Training Center up and running under the County's systems.

Commissioner Wantz stated that the 2 vacant ESAC positions will be addressed on Thursday, September 23rd. by the Board of Commissioners.

Linas Saurisitis asked Commissioner Wantz how the Commissioners will measure success developing the new combination fire department. Commissioner Wantz said when the citizens at-large are being taken care of, and when the County is matching dollar-for-dollar, and success of getting boots on the ground.

Comments from Director Robinson:

Director Robinson indicated that he wants to do some strategic planning of priorities with ESAC over the next 60 to 90 days, and he would like to bring in a facilitator to oversee the process. He said he wants to do planning on staffing; administration; and SOP's. This is not an all-inclusive list of topics. Director Robinson indicated that he still needs to check with County Human Resources (HR) on where we are on job analysis; job specifications; the County hiring process; and what can and can't be done. County HR will be bringing on 4 people to support starting up the combination fire department. Director Robinson mentioned that he wants to use National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), NFPA 1720 as a guideline for developing the county fire department.

Action Items:

1. Letter to the Director on what statistical information ESAC needs. Baker
2. Introduction of Richard Koons (CCVESA Liaison) to Deric Dunn. Baker
3. Get Eddie Ruch up to speed and get his group involved in the statistic project. Baker
4. Chairman Baker and the Director to meet and discuss developing the strategic planning process and determining sub-committees for the process. Robinson and Baker
5. Provide update on getting county IT to transition the Public Safety Training Center to the county IT infrastructure. Wantz

A motion to adjourn was made by Linas, seconded by Dave Coe, was passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2105. The next meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2021.