

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2010

A public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County, Maryland, ("Board") for Tuesday, September 28, 2010, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commissioner Jan Gardner, *President*. Present were Commissioners David Gray, *Vice President*; Kai Hagen, John L. Thompson, Jr. and Blaine Young. Also in attendance were Ron Hart, County Manager and Patti Morrow, Recording Secretary.

(Official minutes of the Board of County Commissioners' meetings are kept on file in the County Manager's Office; the meetings are also video recorded. Approved minutes are available on the county's website. To receive a copy of meetings recorded on videotape or DVD, please contact the Board of County Commissioners at 301-600-1100 or visit the county's website at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov.)

The meeting began with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

The Board proclaimed the week of October 3, 2010, as Fire Prevention Week in Frederick County.

WORKSESSION

Fire and Rescue Services Division (DFRS) Alternative Service Delivery Task Force (Task Force) Report – Tom Owens, DFRS

Chief Owens briefed the Board on a fire service benefit charge that has been used by several fire districts in Washington State.

Doug Brown, DFRS, presented a briefing on an optimal regional deployment.

Wayne Powell, Vigilant Hose Company and Micky Fyock, President, Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (FCVFRA), presented an initial response to the Alternate Service Delivery Task Force Report.

Mike Gastley, Finance Division, commented on the fire tax districts.

John Neary, President, Career Fire Fighters Association of Frederick County Maryland, Inc., Local #3666, International Association of Fire Fighters, presented a report on the Alternative Servicing that also included information from the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Public comment was heard from:

- Ray Hinkle, President, Myersville Volunteer Fire Company
- Keith Brown
- John Patton
- Mike Stull, Lewistown Volunteer Fire Company No. 22
- Ed Arnold, Carroll Manor Fire Company, Inc.

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Commissioner Young moved to direct the Task Force to further evaluate the fire service benefit charge; how it was put in place; how they determined it; whether it would be feasible, less volatile and more stable; and whether the taxpayers would favor it. Commissioner Hagen seconded the motion that failed 2-3 with Commissioners Gardner, Gray and Thompson opposed.

It was indicated that Mr. Hart would contact the State Department of Assessments and Taxation regarding the information needed to calculate a fire service benefit charge.

Commissioner Thompson moved that as of July 1, 2011, the taxpayers of Frederick County would no longer fully maintain or insure any vehicles operated by the fire chiefs. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion.

Doug Orner, Office of the County Manager, commented on the motion.

There was no action taken on the motion.

Commissioner Thompson moved that as of July 1, 2010, the taxpayers would no longer fuel, maintain or insure Brush Truck No. 126. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

Commissioner Gray moved to direct the Task Force to finish vetting Option No. 3. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion.

Commissioner Hagen moved to amend the motion to include the further vetting of Option No. 4. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion that passed 3-2 with Commissioners Gray and Thompson opposed.

The vote on the main motion to further vet Option 3 and Option 4 was 4-1 with Commissioner Thompson opposed.

(Commissioner Gardner passed the gavel to Commissioner Gray.)

Commissioner Gardner moved to direct the Task Force to review and determine whether any extra equipment could be sold or not fueled, maintained or insured; and determine if Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants would be feasible for the hiring of fire fighters and for the Task Force to return to the Board with the information within 30 days. Commissioner Hagen seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

(Commissioner Gray passed the gavel back to Commissioner Gardner.)

Commissioner Gray moved to ask the Task Force to provide feedback regarding the utilization of paid on-call and part-time staffing. Commissioner Hagen seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR REQUESTS

None.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11 p.m.

Patricia A. Morrow
Recording Secretary