

**St. Mary's County Emergency Services Board
Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 1900.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Shawn Davidson, County Rescue Chief
JA Nelson, President of Fire Board Association
C P Miedzinski, County Fire Chief
Ken Hicks, Rescue Squad Association
Hattie Norris, Vice Chairperson of ESB
Gary Bell, Chair of ESB
Jen Aubert-Utz, Director of Emergency Services

Members Not Present:

Jason Finkelstein, Jurisdictional Medical Director

A. Review & Approve Minutes

I move to accept the minutes from the October 9, 2024, meeting as presented.

Motion by Shawn Davidson, second by Ken Hicks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Shawn Davidson, JA Nelson, C P Miedzinski, Ken Hicks, Hattie Norris, Gary Bell

3. PRESENTATION

A. Fire & Rescue FY26 Budget Submittals Status

Director Jen Aubert-Utz provided a reminder that all budget submittals were due to Deputy Director Gerald Gardiner and/or Deputy Director Kiersten Shea by November 13, 2024, and due to Finance no later than January 2nd, 2025. There were 2 tax increases received and zero revolving loan fund requests.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Committee Reports

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Property Tax Incentive

J.A. requested to have DES follow up with the Commissioners regarding the property tax incentive.

B. Emergency Services Report

Director Jen Aubert-Utz provided an update on the operations of Emergency Services. Distribution of the first 92 of the XL 400 radios has started and an additional 85 radios will be purchased. Director Aubert-Utz discussed that the Commissioners authorized a mid-year pay raise for EMS.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Tax Increase Leonardtown VRS

I move to endorse the tax increase request from the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad and forward to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Motion by JA Nelson, second by Shawn Davidson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Shawn Davidson, JA Nelson, C P Miedzinski, Ken Hicks, Hattie Norris, Gary Bell

B. Tax Increase Hollywood VRS

I move to endorse the tax increase request from Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad and forward to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Motion by Ken Hicks, second by C P Miedzinski.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Shawn Davidson, JA Nelson, C P Miedzinski, Ken Hicks, Hattie Norris, Gary Bell

7. BOARD MEMBER

Hattie wished everyone a safe and happy holiday and thanked Gary and C.P. for their work while on ESB.

J.A. discussed starting the meetings next year at 1800. Motion was made. J.A. also discussed the Fire Board Association changes and how it will affect ESB. He also thanked Gary and C.P. for all their work they did on ESB. J.A. reminded everyone to water their Christmas tree and don't overload the plugs.

A. Meeting Start Time

I move to amend the start time for next year and have the start time 1800.

Motion by JA Nelson, second by Shawn Davidson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Shawn Davidson, JA Nelson, C.P. Miedzinski, Ken Hicks, Hattie Norris, Gary Bell

C.P. thanked everyone for their support while he was fire chief. He also wished everyone a happy and safe holiday.

Shawn thanked C.P. and Gary for everything and he wished everyone a happy holiday.

Jen thanked C.P. and Gary as well. She thanked all the first responders for protecting our communities. She also wished everyone a safe and joyous holiday season.

Ken thanked Gary and C.P. as well and wished everyone a happy and safe holiday.

Gary wished everyone a happy holiday and thanked everyone for their support while he was on the board.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments

9. ADJOURN

A. Adjourn

I move to adjourn the meeting at 1923.

Motion by Shawn Davidson, second by C P Miedzinski.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Shawn Davidson, JA Nelson, C P Miedzinski, Ken Hicks, Hattie Norris, Gary Bell

Angelique Clem, Recorder

Minutes approved by the St. Mary's County Emergency Services Board on 2/26/25.