

Mission Statement

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The principal reason and purpose of the Accomack County Fire and Rescue Commission is to provide professional guidance to the County of Accomack, its citizens, and its Fire and Rescue Agencies. The Commission will strive to enhance the quality of services provided by the Fire and EMS Agencies of Accomack County. Members of the Accomack County Fire and Rescue Commission are dedicated to serve the citizens of our County. The overall goal to improve Fire and EMS services in our County will be done through planning and implementation. Planning for today and tomorrow will be aimed at one common goal: The improvement of delivered Fire and EMS Services to safeguard lives and property in the County of Accomack.

By-Laws

Accomack County Fire and Rescue Commission

Article I

Section 1 This Commission, which is duly recognized and chartered by the County of Accomack, Commonwealth of Virginia, shall be known by the name of the Accomack County Fire and Rescue Commission.

Section 2 Members shall represent each Fire and Rescue Company in the County of Accomack. Other members of the Commission will consist of the Accomack County Department Director of Public Safety, and one member of the Accomack County Board of Supervisors. Each Fire and Rescue Company in the County must submit a name of their representative and three (3) alternates, to the Accomack County Board of Supervisors by December 15th of each year. The Board of Supervisors will ratify all members of the Fire and Rescue Commission at the January meeting. Names can be submitted at any time to replace members that are unable to fulfill their term on the Commission. A list of representatives who serve on the Commission shall be attached to these bylaws, and will be updated at the next regularly scheduled meeting if a change of membership occurs. The Chairperson has the authority to appoint committees that may include non-members of the Commission.

Section 3 Members of the Fire and Rescue Commission who fail to be present at three (3) consecutive meetings and have failed to be represented by their alternate will void their membership on the Commission. It will be the sole responsibility of the members to send their alternate to the meeting they cannot attend. Members shall submit their request in writing to the Chairperson to be reinstated. The request will be voted on at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting. Those requests receiving majority approval shall be reinstated with a penalty of six (6) months loss of voting privileges commencing on the date of reinstatement. The Tangier Fire and Rescue Company will be exempt from this rule because of the burden of traveling to the mainland on a monthly basis.

Section 4 The Commission shall conduct a regular business meeting on the third Thursday of every other month.

Article II

Section 1 Elected officers of the Accomack County Fire and Rescue Commission shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, and Secretary.

Section 2 If a vacancy should occur among elected officers, such vacancy shall be filled at the next regular or special called meeting by elective process.

Article III

Section 1 The government of the Commission is entrusted to its duly elected officers. New officers shall serve a one (1) year progressive term. Elections will be held annually on the regular meeting night of the month of January. Officers elected shall take office at the January meeting.

Article IV

Section 1 The Commission shall hold meeting every other month, and special meetings may be called at any time the Chairperson deems necessary. The Chairperson has the right to cancel or postpone meetings. Executive sessions can be requested by any voting member of the Commission and passed by a majority vote according to State statute.

Article V

Section 1 It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to conduct all meetings of the Fire and Rescue Commission, and to have supervision over the business and the affairs of the Commission, and such officer shall be the Executive Officer.

Section 2 Six (6) members will represent a quorum. When the voting process is required in decision making, the majority of the Commissioners present are empowered to make decisions binding on all. A majority means a simple majority of one-half the members present plus one (1). One (1) Commissioner one (1) vote. Alternate cannot vote when the Commissioner is present. A tie vote would be defeated.

Section 3 Tangier Fire and Rescue Company will be allowed the opportunity to participate in meetings via telecommunications.

Article VI

Section 1 The Vice-chairperson shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of the Chairperson in the absence of or disability of the Chairperson, or when called upon by the Chairperson.

Article VII

Section 1 The Secretary shall have charge of and keep a full and correct record of all proceedings of all meetings, keep such other records as the Commission may direct, render reports of membership when called upon at a meeting, and handle, under the direction of the Chairperson, all correspondence of the Commission. The Secretary shall have roll call at all regular meetings. The Secretary shall handle the financial affairs of the Commission, keep a record of all money received and expended, and render an account of the status of all financial affairs to the Commission at each regular business meeting.

Section 2 The Eastern Shore Regional Fire Training Center Chairman shall submit a financial statement to the Secretary each month for all allocations of training funds.

Article VIII

Section 1 The By-laws may be amended at any regularly scheduled or special meeting of the Commission by an Extraordinary Majority. Two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the meeting, provided that each member is notified by personal contact that such an amendment is to voted on at a specific meeting constitutes an Extraordinary Majority. To amend the By-laws, it has to lie on the table for thirty (30) days.

Article IX

Section 1 Distribution of County funding to Fire and Rescue Companies is outlined in the terms and conditions of the County Funding Agreement and in accordance with approved County financial policies.

Standing Committees

Apparatus Testing
Eastern Shore Regional Fire Training Center
EMS Council
SOP Committee
Communications
