



Minutes of the Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1
December Commission Meeting
Thursday, December 18th, 2025 @ 1730 hours
Northampton County Board Chambers – Eastville

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Bill McCready, *Chairman, Atlantic Volunteer Fire Company*

AJ Ferebee, *Vice-Chairman, Captain, Northampton County Sheriff's Office*

Dane Lawson, *Seargent Virginia State Police*

Greg DeYoung, *Northampton County Department of EMS*

Charlie Kolakowski, *Northampton County Administrator*

Bobby Taylor, *Lieutenant, Accomack County Sheriff's Office*

Adam Zieger, *Eastville Volunteer Fire Company*

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Chandler, *ESVA 9-1-1 Consultant*

Jeff Flournoy, *ESVA 9-1-1 Director*

Leah Hall, *ESVA 9-1-1 Communications Officer / Acting Recording Secretary*

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Jeff Parks, *Accomack County Board of Supervisors*

Ernest Smith, *Northampton County Board of Supervisors*

Donald Hart, *Accomack County Board of Supervisors*

Ben Byrd, *Wachapreague Volunteer Fire Company*

REMOTE PARTICIPATION: Mike Mason, *Accomack County Administrator*

OTHERS ABSENT: Krista Kilmon, *ESVA 9-1-1 Deputy Director*

Katie Brewster, *ESVA 9-1-1 Supervisor/ Recording Secretary*

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Bill McCready called the meeting to order at 17:34.

INVOCATION: Chairman Bill McCready delivered the opening invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Bill McCready led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There was no public participation at this meeting.



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MINUTES:

A motion to accept the minutes from the November 2025 Commission Meeting was made by Commissioner Gregory DeYoung with a second from Commissioner Adam Zieger. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: There was no consent agenda items at this meeting.

BUDGET REPORT:

Director Flournoy provided an update on the budget report. FY26- For the Wireless Surcharge, five months were received and is coming in over what was anticipated. For the Communications Tax, five months were received from Accomack and is slightly less than anticipated. Three months were received from Northampton, also slightly less than anticipated. Five months were received from Chincoteague and remains on track. There are no concerns or anomalies for the revenue coming in or the budget. For the budget, 37% of personnel costs and 40% of other costs, totaling 37% of the budget utilized.

A motion to approve the budget report was made by Vice Chairman AJ Ferebee with a second from Commissioner Adam Zieger. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Operations: Staffing- Currently, nine of the eleven 9-1-1 CO F/T and three 9-1-1 CO P/T positions filled; Niasia Scarborough continues an extended medical leave of absence. Director Flournoy conducted final interviews on Saturday, 12/13/2025. Budget- FY27 – No capital requests included in Accomack County budget with no capital requests submitted from the 9-1-1 Commission. Accomack County issued operational budget request (due 12/19/2025). Northampton issued budget request (due 1/2/2026). Unable to utilize DCJS Wellness Grant for APCO's Wellness Summit due to staffing limitations. Continuing to work on efforts related to the one-time VDEM 150,000 dollar grant reward with assistance from public works.

Radio Infrastructure: Radio System Issues- Channel 5 remains on back up due to continued issues. The antenna for EMS Operations channel at Accomack County Sheriff's Office not functioning properly. Director Flournoy and a radio tech attempted to fix the Tangier channel 1 receiver but determined that it was not possible at this time. Wallops receiver is down. Channel 15 remains on back up. The claim submitted to VACO in late August 2025 related to flooding was denied due to not meeting the deductible of 25,000 dollars.

Other: Director Flournoy advised the following were included in the packet: Radio log (issues) spreadsheet, November 2025 – Report of ESVA 9-1-1 Operational Data, VACO claim, email for FY27 VDEM grants list, Deputy 9-1-1 Director Report.

Deputy Director Report: ECW- Two new examples were added to the stuck transfer ticket. Ticket remains open. Dispatch Failsafe- Deputy Director Kilmon and Supervisor Brewster are awaiting shipping information related to a USB that was sent 12/16/2025. 9-1-1 Back-Up Center Relocation Project- Northampton IT ran the lines throughout Northampton County Sheriff's Office attic and will complete installation within the next few days. NOMAD- Deputy Director Kilmon developed an instructional sheet and is working to develop a policy for NOMAD use. ESVARRS Related Tasks- Deputy Director Kilmon continues to assist with the ESVARRS



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project and attended sessions for radio user training in early December. Hiring Process- On 11/25/2025, Deputy Director Kilmon, Supervisor Brewster, and Sharitah Goodwyn (Northampton County Human Resources) conducted interviews with 3 candidates. Director Flournoy conducted final interviews on 12/6/2025. All candidates have prior dispatch experience and were suitable for hiring, beginning employment on 12/29/2025.

ESVARRS: Funding- There are no changes to report. To date, sixteen drawdown requests have occurred for a total withdraw of approximately \$7,557,320; there remain approximately \$687,679 of COPS federal funds available to use towards the ESVARRS project. In early December, Director Flournoy reached out to a COPS representative to request an additional project period extension. This request was granted and the project was extended to 4/30/2026. Accomack County put in for a \$75,000 dollar USDA grant relating to radio dispatch console expenses. All documentation was given to the USDA for review. Expected to hear back in the next few months. Subscriber Radios- Most ESVARRS portable radios were handed out to field personnel. Additional training sessions were set up throughout the month to practice portable usage and operations. Expected to provide an opportunity for dispatch staff to become more familiar with the new system. Northampton County Public Schools cut over to the new radio system 12/15/2025 and will be responsible for paying their invoice, approximately \$240,000. Interoperability Solutions/Needs/Gateways- It was understood that NASA/WFF would be responsible for covering costs associated with subscriber radios, however, due to federal and staffing changes, that may no longer be accurate. NASA/WFF mobile radios will not be able to transfer onto the new system. NASA/WFF portables can transfer to the new system with a \$1,000 expense. 6 portable radios from Chincoteague unit Rescue 3 will be repurposed temporarily for communications with NASA/WFF until a permanent solution can be found. We continue to work with Worcester County on ISSI planning to connect networks for extended coverage. Currently do not have a date for cutover for Fire/EMS/Law. Plans continue to implement 10 gateways to communicate with other systems. This will not impact the planned cutover in January. Installations- Installation of mobile radios, including NCPS radios, on units/apparatus and control stations is complete. Portable radio chargers (Fire/EMS units) started installation in mid-October and is now complete with the exception of units that were unavailable during installation. Pagers- Delmarva Two-Way completed programming and delivery of the pagers for Fire/EMS personnel. The distribution process should begin the week of 12/22/2025. Fire/EMS leadership were advised to work with Delmarva Two-Way to program pagers already issued. RF Sites – No change at Eastville VSP site. At the Belle Haven site, work/efforts from Amendment 5 is overall complete. It is understood that new generator is fully commissioned/functional. Work for the additional microwave connectivity is on-going. At the Craddockville site work/efforts from Amendment 5 is overall complete. The needed microwave/tower work at this site is on-going. ESVA 9-1-1 is still awaiting a formal report relating to the interference issue that occurred in early August 2025. The site is experiencing other interference unrelated to the issue from August, impacting 1 of the 5 frequencies. At the Accomac – VSP – site, work/efforts from Amendment 5 is complete. At the Mappsville site, work/efforts from Amendment 5 are complete. At the Chincoteague site, work/efforts from Amendment 5 are complete. While the Northampton County Water Tower is not an RF site, Williams and Big Wood Electric have moved the existing generator from the current Cape Charles site to the Northampton County Water Tower and is functional. Several generator/UPS related issues are ongoing with L3 Harris working on resolutions. Timelines- The current timeline for cutover for Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement to the ESVARRS system continues to be the week of 1/12/2026. NCPS cutover to the ESVARRS system on 12/15/2025. The microwave spur between the Belle Haven site and the Craddockville site is expected to be in



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place and functional prior to mid-January 2026. Punch list work remains ongoing. The “30 Day Burn in Period” is complete as of 11/29/2025. This is a period when our system should remain functional, with no major issues, for an extended period. The ESVA 9-1-1 is awaiting the final report. Formal cutover plans are currently being developed. Coverage Testing- The first 9 pages of the Coverage Acceptance Test Report testing report were provided in the packet. Director Flournoy discussed the maps included in the report. Trainings- 23 training sessions were held for all Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement users between 12/1/2025 and 12/5/2025 including one for Station 21 on Tangier. While awaiting final rosters from L3 Harris trainers, it appears that approximately 300 personnel attended one of these sessions. Agency/station leadership will have responsibility for ensuring training for any responders that did not participate in the offered training. NCPS had separate user training sessions held on 12/10/2025 and 12/11/2025. Governance- Expect initial governance to be promulgated from the 9-1-1 Director position. Some later ratification by the 9-1-1 Commission may be presented as an action item. Insurance- Effective 1/1/2026, efforts were completed with VACORP to insure ESVARRS equipment. This includes L3 Harris RF system infrastructure, Williams Microwave system infrastructure, and subscriber radio equipment; approximately \$17,500 additional annually. Other- ESVARRS is now integrated the new Exacom logging recorder. Efforts to expand accessibility to other dispatch centers and additional configuration efforts are ongoing. Dragon Force continues to be a significant focus and is now functional with additional configuration efforts ongoing. After discussion with the 9-1-1 Commission’s legal counsel, it is understood if the 9-1-1 Commission has the radio records available from the records request for law enforcement radio traffic, the FOIA statutes would expect the 9-1-1 Commission to release/not release. The appropriate law enforcement agency is still expected to handle a request for records on their talk-group, but ultimately the 9-1-1 Commission has radio records requested, the 9-1-1 Commission staff will need to follow the FOIA statutes. Change Orders- The following change orders were included in this report: Subscriber Spare/other equipment, estimating cost of \$22,000.

A motion to approve the Director’s report was made by Vice Chairman AJ Ferebee with a second from Commissioner Adam Ziegar. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

ACTION ITEMS: A. Continuing Services – CTA Consultants

Continuing to use CTA Consultants services after cutover. Expected to allocate \$46,000 for 4 additional months of CTA services.

A motion to approve this action item was made by Commissioner Adam Ziegar with a second from Commissioner Greg DeYoung. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

CONSULTANT’S REPORT:

Consultant Scott Chandler reported that along with his routine administrative duties, he also attended 3 weekly project review meetings relating to the ESVARRS project. He also held a meeting to work out monitoring customization of DragonForce, reviewed radios with the NCPS to ensure functionality, conducted radio alias updates and radio ID plans for the school system, began work on drafting an initial cutover plan and key tasks, identifying steps that must be carried out for Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement systems cutover. He developed PowerPoint slides for radio users’ presentation for buses and administrative support staff along with a user guide for the control station for the public school systems. A large portion of the month was dedicated to instructing 23 different training sessions for Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement.



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A motion to accept the 9-1-1 Consultant's report was made by Vice Chairman AJ Farebee with a second from Commissioner Adam Zieger. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman McCready had nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman McCready expressed gratitude to Directory Flournoy, Consultant Scott Chandler, District Radio Manager Greg Lewis, and all those involved in the radio project. Director Flournoy acknowledged Commissioner Kolakowski's retirement as county administrator.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS – 2026

A motion to keep positions as they stand was made by Vice Chairman AJ Ferebee with a second from Commissioner Adam Zieger. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

PAYABLES: *A motion to pay the bills was made by Vice-Chairman AJ Ferebee with a second from Commissioner Greg DeYoung. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.*

ADJOURNMENT: *Vice-Chairman AJ Ferebee made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Commissioner Adam Zieger. There were no oppositions and the meeting was adjourned by at 18:35.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Leah Hall, *ESVA 9-1-1 Communications Officer / Acting Recording Secretary*