Minutes of the Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1
August Commission Meeting
Thursday, August 27th, 2026 @ 1730 hours
Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1 Communications Center - Accomac

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:	Bill McCready, *Chairman, Atlantic Volunteer Fire Company*
	AJ Ferebee*, Vice-Chairman, Captain, Northampton County Sheriff's Office*
	Dane Lawson, *Sergeant, Virginia State Police*
	Ben Byrd, *Wachapreague Volunteer Fire Company*
	Donald Hart*, Accomack County Board of Supervisors*
	Matt Spuck, *Northampton County Administrator*
	Mike Mason*, Accomack County Administrator*
	Kenny Reese, *Sergeant, Accomack County Sheriff's Office*
	Jeff Parks*, Accomack County Board of Supervisors*
	Adam Zieger, *Eastville Volunteer Fire Company*
OTHERS PRESENT:	Scott Chandler, *ESVA 9-1-1 Consultant*
	Jeff Flournoy, *ESVA 9-1-1 Director*
	Krista Kilmon, *ESVA 9-1-1 Deputy Director*
	Katie Brewster, *ESVA 9-1-1 Supervisor/ Recording Secretary*
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:	Ernest Smith, *Northampton County Board of Supervisors*
REMOTE PARTICIPATION:	Greg DeYoung, *Northampton County Department of EMS,* participated remotely from the Cheriton, VA area for personal reasons.
OTHERS ABSENT:	None
CALL TO ORDER:	Chairman Bill McCready called the meeting to order at 17:30.
INVOCATION:	Commissioner Donald Hart 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 July 2026 Commission Meeting was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Ben Byrd. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

There was no consent agenda items at this meeting.

BUDGET REPORT:

FY26- There were no anomalies or concerns with the revenue or expenditures for FY26. All revenue for the Communications Tax has been received from Accomack and Northampton Counties and lower than anticipated. We are working with Chincoteague for their remaining funds. 97% of the budget has been spent. FY27- There are no concerns for the revenue or expenditures for FY27. Two months of the wireless surcharge and one month of the Communications Tax from Accomack County has been received. 9% of the budget has been spent. There were no concerns with the ESVARRS FY27 expenditures.

A motion to approve the budget report was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Ben Byrd. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Operations: Staffing- Eleven of the eleven F/T CO positions are filled and we have three P/T employees. CO Dickerson returned to duty from her recent medical LOA and CO Blake will likely be out for an extended period in the future for a medical LOA. Facility- Recent inspection of the ceiling lighting fixtures occurred and it was suggested to replace most. ACPW is exploring cost covering. Meetings- On 8/5, Director Flournoy and Deputy Director Kilmon attended a meeting with Northampton County Finance on AP changes. On 8/19, Director Flournoy, Deputy Director Kilmon, and Supervisor Brewster met with ACDPS leadership on the following topics: discussion on overall staffing struggles for fire incidents creating challenges for dispatching/alerting; discussion on notable inconsistencies related to fire incident alerting; efforts to revise how tracking EMS units that are temporarily relocated; continued effort on expected changes made to medevac alerting. Training- There has been additional effort toward offering training sessions to the Fire/EMS agencies covering dispatch procedures and aspects of the ESVARRS system. Delegation- Director Flournoy has delegated numerous tasks to supervisory staff at the 9-1-1 Center; some related to normal operations and some related to ESVARRS. Other- There are ongoing efforts to complete the 2026 mid-year performance evaluations. Both counties have provided the additional funding for the salary increase in FY27. A grant request was made to VDEM for funds related to the new 9-1-1 Call Handling Equipment. FY28 Budget- Attempting to devote time on efforts related to the FY28 budget as expect will include numerous and notable requests for additional funding. Legacy- On 8/20, there was damage to the power pedestal at the Eastville Navy site during a thunderstorm event; there were no impacts to ESVARRS. Director Flournoy then turned the meeting over to Deputy Director Kilmon to provide her report.

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Deputy Director Report: 9-1-1 BU Center- Supervisor Gibbons was tasked with refreshing the storage tub so that it can be taken to NCSO and we are awaiting direction on where it can be stored. Phone line testing was conducted, all but one worked so we are getting I.T. on it. Work will be done with AT&T and Verizon to develop transfer procedures. Once the procedures are complete, our staff will be trained and then the new back-up site will officially be transferred. NOMAD- The set-up instructions have been created and each supervisor will use them to ensure the goal is achieved. Once any needed modifications are complete, the instructions will be added to an appendix in our Communications Manual with guidelines. NCSO Transfer- Northampton County advised that the primary phone line has been fixed, but wishes to continue having our transfers go to their alternate number. FirstDue- Melfa VFC submitted payment to have FirstDue added to our CAD export service. Everything has been submitted to Central Square and is scheduled for setup the week of 9/14. Other- Challenge Coins commemorating ESVARRS, using leftover funds from NPSTW, were issued to appropriate personnel. Deputy Director Kilmon then turned the meeting over to Director Flournoy to provide an update on the ESVARRS system.

ESVARRS: Coverage- There are coverage related changes. There's ongoing evaluation on using a 700 MHz spectrum antenna on portable radios to determine if may provide notable additional portable radio coverage. A need to work towards as much balance as possible in the audio levels between the dispatch center consoles and the field radios has been addressed. Wachapreague- The purchase order for the o-Das was issued 9/24 and the purchase order for the pole and its installation was issued to Rock Creek Line Construction 9/24. Finances- We are now using a new budget in the Northampton County New World System for tracking ESVARRS expenses. We are working with Northampton County Finance on a requirement to report capital projects to the Virginia Department of General Services; since construction is now complete, ESVARRS appears to meet this requirement. Interoperability- Recent information from MSP indicated they are engaged in re-programming. There is no timeline when will be completed and radio communications between their medevacs and local Fire/EMS units remains challenging. Other- Dragon-Force is now being issued at dispatch centers. Supervisor Hodgson has provided the set-up and training for CPD and will be doing so soon for NCSO and ACSO. Exacom is now accessible at CPD, NCSO, and ACSO, providing access to the appropriate radio talk groups for each dispatch center. There have been items with Station 3: wiring issue on R3, potential alerting issue for Fire/EMS incident, and a request to relocate radio from U37 to UTV3. Efforts are being devoted on the evaluation of ear-piece devices offered by L3H. Legacy Decommissioning- L3H will only be responsible for sites they used in ESVARRS. ESVA 9-1-1 will work with agencies to develop a decommissioning schedule. The control station, portables, and some mobiles from Eastville PD has been collected however, will continue working with the Town of Eastville on any additional radio equipment.

A motion to approve the Director's report was made by Commissioner Adam Zieger with a second from Commissioner Jeff Parks. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

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ACTION ITEMS: **A. Policy Provisions - Childcare Room Use**

In 2022, the use of a childcare room was implemented. The use has overall been successful and used by numerous staff over the last few years. Several revisions to the existing policy were requested for approval.

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

B. FY27 - Budget Modification/Amendments

The following budget modification was requested for approval: Add the $15,000 revenue for salary expenses to revenue and expenses in our budget.

A motion to approve this action item was made by Commissioner Donald Hart with a second from Commissioner Ben Byrd. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

C. ESVARRS - Governance Items

Several attached items were requested for approval, memorializing into governance for ESVARRS. There will be others in the future. There were numerous discussions related to this topic. When making his motion, Commissioner Mike Mason suggested the addition of adding some language to discuss who's responsible for the cost of equipment replacement in certain situations.

A motion to approve this action item was made by Commissioner Mike Mason with a second from Commissioner Jeff Parks. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

CONSULTANT'S REPORT:

Consultant Chandler reported that in addition to his routine items of staying in communication with Director Flournoy and updating the website, he did not have field activity this month but has been working on several reviews.

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman McCready had nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business at this meeting.

PAYABLES:

A motion to pay the bills was made by Commissioner Ben Byrd with a second from Commissioner Mike Mason. There were no oppositions and the motion was carried.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-Chairman AJ Ferebee made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Commissioner Kenny Reese. There were no oppositions and the meeting was adjourned by at 18:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

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