



**Amherst County Board of Supervisors
County Ordinance No. 2024-2**

AN ORDINANCE, NO. 2024-2

Amending and enacting §§ 11.5 Public Safety of Article I – In General, Ordinance to the Code of the County of Amherst, Virginia.

Approved as to form and legality by the Amherst County Attorney

FIRST READING: Board of Supervisors, May 7, 2024
PUBLIC HEARING: Board of Supervisors, May 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors held a special meeting on February 7, 2024 with members of the Amherst County Public Safety leadership to review and discuss the Amherst County Fire & EMS Study; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney was directed to work with County staff to develop appropriate revisions to the Amherst County Code in accordance with the direction of those participating in the meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors now deems it appropriate to make certain revisions to the Amherst County Code in order to more effectively and efficiently provide emergency services to the citizens of Amherst County, Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the Amherst County Board of Supervisors that the Amherst County Code be amended and reenacted by amending and reenacting the Amherst County Code, Chapter 11.5, Public Safety, as follows:

Chapter 11.5 PUBLIC SAFETY

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

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**Sec. 11.5-2. Establishment of the Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety~~
Fire/EMS.**

- (a) In order to help insure the protection of the citizens, visitors and property of Amherst County and afford all emergency services personnel the full benefit of the law, it has been deemed

necessary to organize the emergency services operations within Amherst County under a department of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~.

- (b) All current references to the existing ~~emergency services public safety~~ shall be carried forward as meaning the same as the department of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~.
- (c) In order to effectively carry out the provisions of subsection 11.5-2(a) the Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety Fire/EMS~~ shall be created and shall have an organizational structure which consists of four (4) divisions: fire division, EMS/~~rescue~~ division, ~~communications dispatch~~ division, and ~~support services emergency management~~ division. These divisions are created to provide the most effective management of all phases of the existing emergency services operations within the county.

Sec. 11.5-3. Appointment of a director of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~.

- (a) The board of supervisors shall appoint a director of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~ who shall be known as the Chief of Fire/EMS and who is to carry out the responsibilities of the department of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~. The director shall in turn be responsible to the county administrator. Each of the four (4) divisions shall coordinate their operations and activities with the director of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~.
- (b) Effective upon adoption of this chapter, the current director of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~ shall also become the emergency services coordinator.
- (c) When deemed to be necessary by the board of supervisors, the responsibilities of the emergency services coordinator may be divided from those of the director of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~, and the emergency services coordinator shall be responsible to the director of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~ and shall carry out the responsibilities of the ~~emergency management support services~~ division of the department of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~.
- (d) The Chief of Fire/EMS shall:
 - (1) Provide general oversight and management of the Department of Fire/EMS through:
 - (i) strategy development, in collaboration with the Emergency Services Council;
 - (ii) policy development, in collaboration with the Emergency Services Council, of system-wide policies that are essential to the effective and equitable provision of high-quality, countywide fire and EMS services, and overseeing the implementation of those system-level policies. All system-wide policies shall be developed through a collaborative effort with the Emergency Services Council; and
 - (2) Make day-to-day operational decisions necessary for the department of fire/EMS on matters not specifically addressed by system-wide policies.
 - (3) Have authority to oversee the emergency response operations of any agency as they relate to the provision of fire, EMS and support services in Amherst County in accordance with the policies established in consultation with the Emergency Services Council or the board of supervisor. He/she may exercise command authority of any emergency operation when deemed necessary for the safety and welfare of the public or responders. In such situations, the chief may relieve any person of his or her operational authority and may direct the operations of any fire, EMS, or other emergency services provided in accordance with Virginia Code Section 27-23.9.

(4) May restrict operational permission to provide services within the county after consultation with the appropriate volunteer chiefs, volunteer captains, and where applicable, the operational medical director(s). An administrative appeals process will be available to members of volunteer entities whose operational permission to provide services have been restricted or revoked.

(5) Shall represent the department of fire/EMS of Amherst County to other groups, jurisdictions or levels of government. The chief shall share relevant information garnered from such representation with the volunteer chiefs and captains.

(6) Shall oversee the creation, implementation, and management of a comprehensive emergency management program. The chief shall serve as the emergency services coordinator for all purposes related to response to disasters pursuant to Title 44 of the Virginia Code.

(7) On behalf of the board of supervisors, shall have authority to enter into and take all actions necessary to implement and carry out the terms of agreements for mutual aid, disaster preparedness, and provision of services related to hazardous materials, rescue, fire suppression, investigation, medical services or other emergency response services deemed necessary in the judgment of the chief for emergency response in events exceeding the capabilities of an individual locality or government agency. The chief shall have the authority to enter into contracts on behalf of the county and to expend funds after an official disaster or emergency declaration to provide for the public safety during such events, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The chief shall have the authority to take all actions necessary to obtain funding and assistance from other localities and form state or federal agencies for those purposes.

(8) Provide general management, planning, preparation, response and recovery for any disaster relating to fires, hazardous materials, rescues or emergency medical services that may occur in the county.

(9) Exercise all powers authorized by state law as necessary for the provision of fire and emergency medical services.

Sec. 11.5-4. Responsibility and authority of the department of ~~public safety~~ fire/EMS.

- (a) The department of ~~public safety~~ fire/EMS shall provide overall direction and overall control of the ~~public safety~~ four (4) divisions to carry out the provisions of section 11.5-2.
- (b) The department of ~~public safety~~ fire/EMS shall make recommendations to the county administrator and the board of supervisors from time to time to effectively provide the best services available.
- (c) The department of ~~public safety~~ fire/EMS, with recommendations from the ~~and~~ emergency services council, shall be responsible for the promulgation of the current adopted Amherst County Emergency Operations Plan and all laws, standard operating procedures and other directives to help insure that the provisions of those documents are provided for.
- (d) The department of ~~public safety~~ fire/EMS will have the authority to carry out its responsibilities as authorized by the board of supervisors and will be afforded all of the authority and protection of applicable laws and ordinances.

Sec. 11.5-5. Council established; composition.

- (a) The Amherst County Emergency Services Council is hereby established.
- (b) The council shall include the following as voting members:
 - (1) The Chief of the Amherst Fire Department and one (1) alternate from that organization as the chief may designate.
 - (2) ~~The Captain of the Amherst Life Saving and First Aid Crew, Inc., and one (1) alternate from that organization as the captain may designate.~~
 - (3) One (1) representative from each division, fire and rescue, and one (1) alternate from each such division, of the Monelison Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. The representative shall be the chief or captain of the division; the alternate shall be such member as the chief or captain may designate.
 - (43) One (1) representative and one (1) alternate from the Pedlar Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. The representative shall be the chief or captain; the alternate shall be such member as the chief or captain may designate.
 - (54) The Director of the Amherst County Department of Public Safety, and one (1) alternate from the department as the director may designate.
- (c) The council shall include the following as nonvoting members:
 - (1) A member of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors.
 - (2) The Amherst County Sheriff or his designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio member.

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Sec. 11.5-7. Definitions.

Amherst County Search and Rescue. References throughout this Code to "Amherst County Search and Rescue" shall refer to Amherst County Search and Rescue.

Amherst Volunteer Fire Department. References throughout this Code to "Amherst Volunteer Fire Department" shall refer to Amherst Fire Department.

Amherst Life Saving and First Aid Crew, Inc. References throughout this Code to "Amherst Reseue and Life Saving Crew" shall refer to Amherst Life Saving and First Aid Crew, Inc.

Monelison Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. References throughout this Code to "Monelison Volunteer Fire Department" or "Monelison Rescue Squad" shall refer to Monelison Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.

Pedlar Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. References throughout this Code to "Pedlar Fire Department" shall refer to Pedlar Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.

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Sec. 11.5-10. Noncompliance with system-wide policies.

(a) Purpose. A peer-accountability procedure for enforcing duly-adopted system-wide policies applicable to volunteer fire departments and rescue squads is hereby established to accomplish the following:

- (1) Full and consistent adherence to system policies by all member organizations;
- (2) Fair, equitable, and objective consideration of all potential material noncompliance violations in accordance with this section;
- (3) Management of discipline and compliance remediation efforts by the chief or captain of the noncompliant organization to the greatest extent possible; and
- (4) Promotion of open and ongoing communication by and between member organizations about policy compliance matters.

(b) Definition of material noncompliance. "Material noncompliance" or "materially non-complying" with system policies means a failure to adhere to a system policy: (i) is committed on two or more separate occasions, or on a single occasion if the alleged conduct involves either violations of law or actions by multiple members of the organization's leadership, or is committed intentionally after notice that the conduct would violate system policy; and (ii) does one or more of the following:

- (1) Threatens the health, safety or welfare of county citizens, volunteers or county staff;
- (2) Impairs the operational readiness of the coordinated fire and EMS system to deliver fire and emergency medical services;
- (3) Violates any applicable federal, state or local law; or
- (4) Involves the violation of a policy provision regarding public funds.

(c) Informal Resolution of Concerns.

- (1) The chiefs or captains of all member organizations and the chief of fire/EMS shall be entitled to communicate concerns about noncompliance with system policies to the chiefs or captains of those organizations believed to be noncompliant.
 - (2) For all noncompliance concerns that rise to the level of "material noncompliance," as defined by this section, the complaining chief or captain must first notify the chief or captain of the noncompliant organization and make reasonable efforts to achieve a mutually agreeable resolution, consistent with system policies and this article, with that chief or captain prior to initiating the procedures for formal resolution of material noncompliance. The complaining chief shall also apprise the chief of fire/EMS of the compliance concern and resolution efforts, and may seek assistance for such efforts.
 - (3) Should such efforts to achieve a mutually agreeable resolution of material noncompliance fail, the complaining chief or captain shall initiate a formal procedure for material noncompliance in accordance with subsection (d).
- (d) Formal resolution of material noncompliance complaints.
- (1) Initiating complaint. After completing the informal resolution process established in subsection (c), the chief or captain of any member organization or the chief of fire/EMS may initiate a formal complaint of material noncompliance with system policy ("Complaint") by submitting the Complaint in writing to the Emergency Services Council. The complaint must state, at a minimum, which policy or policies has been violated, and a summary of the facts supporting the violation.
 - (2) Investigation of the complaint. As soon as practicable after receiving the Complaint, the Council shall consider the Complaint and determine whether reasonable cause exists to believe that the charged organization has materially noncomplied with a system policy. If the Council decides, by a majority vote of its voting members, that reasonable cause exists, the Council shall undertake a formal investigation of the Complaint by appointing a committee to conduct the investigation. The investigation shall be concluded as soon as practicable and no later than thirty (30) calendar days after receiving the charge to investigate the Complaint, unless extraordinary circumstances justify the need for a longer investigative period.
 - (3) Determination of material noncompliance. The committee appointed by the Council to conduct the investigation, shall prepare a written report summarizing the investigation and its factual conclusions and submit the report to the Council no later than ten (10) calendar days following the conclusion of the investigation. As soon as practicable following receipt of the report, the Council shall determine whether the charged organization has materially noncomplied with system policy. If the Council determines, by majority vote of its voting members, that the charged organization has materially noncomplied with system policy, the steps described in subsection (d)(iv) (Remediation) shall be followed.
 - (4) Remediation. As soon as practicable following a determination of material noncompliance, the chief of fire/EMS shall, in consultation with the Council, design a plan for remediating the noncompliance. The Council shall communicate the plan to the charged organization and oversee implementation of the plan. Should the charged organization substantially fail to implement the plan, the chief of fire/EMS may modify the plan, discontinue the plan, implement an alternative plan, and/or take other action as needed. Prior to taking these steps, however, the chief of fire/EMS must consult the Council about his/her intended action and consider its recommendations except when immediate action under subsection (g) is required, in which case he/she shall consult with the Council as soon as practicable after such action.

- (5) Referral for removal from system or reduction in funding. If the Council determines that the nature of the material noncompliance is so serious as to merit consideration of the organization's removal from the system or a reduction in its funding by the board of supervisors, they shall apprise the board of supervisors of the investigation and their recommendation for such action, which shall remain at all times the sole authority to recommend removal of a fire or rescue organization and to recommend annual appropriations reductions.
- (e) Appeal procedure for determinations of material noncompliance.
- (1) Filing of appeal. Once the determination of material noncompliance has been made and the plan of remediation has been issued to the charged organization, the charged organization may appeal, in writing, the determination of material noncompliance, the plan of remediation, or both, to the Council within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the plan of remediation. The appeal must state the decision being appealed and the basis for the appeal. The charged organization may be assisted in its appeal by any member of the Council or by any individual.
- (2) Council review. At the request of the charged organization, the Council shall review and discuss the complaint, investigation report, determination of material noncompliance, and plan of remediation at its next meeting.
- (3) Council's decision. Within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving a timely appeal from a charged organization, the Council shall issue a written decision to the charged organization. A decision that the appeal has merit may also provide guidance to the chief of fire/EMS regarding the determination of material noncompliance, the plan for remediation, or both. The decision of the Council shall end the appeal process.
- (f) Disqualification from voting. No representative of an organization charged with material noncompliance may participate in the investigation of any complaint or vote as provided in this section concerning its organization.
- (g) Authority reserved for immediate action. Notwithstanding the provisions in this section, the chief of fire/EMS shall be authorized at all times to take immediate action to prevent or mitigate imminent harm to the health, safety, or welfare of county citizens, volunteers or county staff; to ensure operational readiness of the coordinated fire and EMS system to deliver fire and emergency medical services; to comply with all applicable laws; and to exercise any authority otherwise provided in section 11.5-3(d). Such immediate action may be taken concurrently with the procedures for informal resolution, formal resolution and appeal described in this section. Any immediate action shall be communicated to the county administrator and the Emergency Services Council as soon as possible.

ARTICLE II. FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

DIVISION 1. IN GENERAL

Sec. 11.5-11. Establishment of a county fire division.

- (a) In order to effectively carry out the provision of section 11.5-2(a) and in order to provide all emergency services personnel with the full benefit of privileges, rights and remedies available to them under law, the Amherst County Fire Division is hereby established in order to mitigate the effects of fire, hazardous materials, and explosions.
- (b) The following organizations and groups are hereby officially recognized as entities of the Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety~~ Fire/EMS, Fire Division: Amherst Fire Department, Monelison Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc., Pedlar

Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc., and the Amherst County Emergency Services Council.

- (c) The following organizations and groups are hereby officially recognized as nonjurisdictional entities which are authorized to provide services for the Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety-Fire/EMS~~, Fire Division: Piney River Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Gladstone Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Big Island Volunteer Fire Department, and the Lynchburg Fire Department. The Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety-Fire/EMS~~ may enter into contracts with these organizations to provide services on a routine basis as authorized by the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, Amherst County may enter into mutual aid agreements with surrounding jurisdictions and agencies when deemed appropriate by the Board of Supervisors.

Sec. 11.5-12. Responsible to the department of ~~public safety-fire/EMS~~.

- (a) Each of the organizations and groups mentioned in sections 11.5-11(b) and 11.5-11(c) shall coordinate their operations and activities ~~with~~ through the department of ~~public safety fire/EMS~~ and will carry out their assigned tasks to the best of their ability.
- (b) Each fire organization shall appoint a district chief who shall be responsible for the overall direction and control of fire service activities within their respective primary response areas. Additionally, the chief shall insure that their organization complies with all of the provisions of applicable laws, ordinances, and system-wide standard operating procedures and shall coordinate their organization's operations and activities with the director of ~~public safety-fire/EMS~~ or his designee.

Sec. 11.5-13. Responsibilities and authority.

- (a) All officially recognized members of the organizations and groups mentioned above shall perform their respective duties, as outlined in system-wide standard operating procedures and applicable laws and ordinances, to the best of their ability. Each board or governing authority of volunteer companies shall have full authority to adopt internal policies, guidelines and protocols for the governance of their stations, except where specifically constrained by state law, county ordinances or duly adopted system-wide standard operating procedures.
- (b) ~~All officially recognized members of the organizations and groups mentioned above will be subject to the procedures and practices established by the board of supervisors or its designee.~~
- (c) ~~While performing in their official capacity, each of the members of the organizations and groups mentioned above shall have the authority to carry out their respective assignments as provided for in applicable laws, ordinances and standard operating procedures. Volunteer fire companies shall have all the powers and duties granted to them by state law. They shall also execute the following responsibilities in conformity with the respective organizational by-laws, chains of command, and the duly adopted system-wide standard operating procedures of the department of fire/EMS:~~
 - (1) Managing performance by the volunteer department, including directing station activity and operations as needed;
 - (2) Assuming or delegating the role of incident commander within the department of fire/EMS' incident command structure;
 - (3) Providing management of response districts and apparatus response orders;

- (4) Selecting and promoting officers and other personnel;
 - (5) Recruiting, retaining and advocating on behalf of volunteer members;
 - (6) Managing officers and personnel, including disciplining, ensuring proper training and keeping records;
 - (7) Preparing their annual budgets for submission to the county and managing their budgets;
 - (8) Managing all funds and assets that derive from private or non-county sources;
 - (9) Collecting and forwarding to the chief of fire/EMS such data, statistics and other information as may be necessary to assure the efficient and economical operation of the department of fire/EMS;
 - (10) Caring for and maintain station facilities, apparatus and equipment;
 - (11) Managing station procurement of supplies and coordinating station procurement and stewardship of county-supported apparatus, equipment and tools; and
 - (12) Additional responsibilities beyond those named above may be necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the department of fire/EMS. Any additional responsibilities shall be communicated in writing from the chief of fire/EMS.
- (c) The operational head of each volunteer fire department within the department of fire/EMS shall be selected according to the by-laws of the department and shall be known as chief. Volunteer chiefs shall exercise the authority granted to them by state law and the by-laws of their organizations, so long as their actions do not conflict with the provisions of this article or the duly adopted system-wide policies of the department of fire/EMS.
- (d) Any firefighter operating in an environment where a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) is required, such as interior operations of a structure fire, shall be required to hold a Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) Firefighter-1 certification and Hazmat operations.

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Sec. 11.5-17. Volunteer juvenile firefighters.

- (a) Pursuant to Code of Virginia, § 40.1-79.1, minors sixteen (16) years of age or older are authorized, with parental or guardian approval, to work with and participate fully in all activities of a volunteer fire company, provided such persons have obtained certification under National Fire Protection Association 1001, Level 1, Firefighter Standards, as administered by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.
- (b) Pursuant to § 7-4 of the Virginia Department of Fire Programs instruction manual (revised July 9, 2004), persons sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) years of age working with or participating fully in the activities of a volunteer fire company must reside in Amherst County and provide evidence of such residency; must present an original letter of parental or legal guardian consent permitting participation; and shall be given a copy of the county or particular company's current liability insurance for junior firefighters.

- (c) Pursuant to 16 VAC § 15-30-190, minors sixteen (16) years and seventeen (17) years of age who do not meet the above qualifications shall not enter a burning structure. The term "burning structure" as used in this section shall not include a structure, such as a noncombustible approved burn building, which contains burning materials.
- (d) Minors fourteen (14) years of age and fifteen (15) years of age shall not participate in firefighting or support activities at the fire scene, enter a burning structure, enter a structure which contains burning materials, or engage in any other activity prohibited by law.
- (e) Minors under fourteen (14) years of age shall not participate in any activity related to firefighting.

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ARTICLE III. EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND RESCUE SERVICES

DIVISION 1. IN GENERAL

Sec. 11.5-71. Establishment of a county EMS/~~rescue~~ division.

- (a) In order to effectively carry out the provisions of section 11.5-2(a) and in order to provide all emergency services personnel with the full benefit of privileges, rights and remedies available to them under law, the Amherst County EMS/~~Rescue~~ Division is hereby established in order to mitigate the effects of accidents, disasters, and other emergency situations.
- (b) The following organizations and groups are hereby officially recognized as entities of the Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety-Fire/EMS~~, EMS/~~Rescue~~ Division: ~~Amherst Life Saving Crew, Inc.~~, Monelison Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc., Amherst County Sheriff's Office, and the Amherst County Emergency Services Council.
- (c) The following organizations and groups are hereby officially recognized as nonjurisdictional entities that are authorized to provide services for the Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety-Fire/EMS~~, EMS/~~Rescue~~ Division: Roseland Rescue Squad, Big Island Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc., Gladstone Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc., and the Lynchburg Fire Department. The Amherst County Department of ~~Public Safety-Fire/EMS~~ may enter into contracts with these organizations to provide services on a routine basis as authorized by the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, the County may enter into mutual aid agreements with surrounding jurisdictions and agencies when deemed appropriate by the Board of Supervisors.
- (d) Each of the above-mentioned organizations shall be assigned response areas in such a way as to provide the best services to County citizens. These response areas shall be maintained in writing by the Department of ~~Public Safety-Fire/EMS~~, a copy of which will be posted in the communications center and available to the public. The Department of ~~Public Safety-Fire/EMS~~ may amend or change these boundaries from time to time in order to provide the best services available.

Sec. 11.5-72. Responsible to the department of ~~public safety~~ fire/EMS.

- (a) Each of the organizations and groups mentioned in subsections 11.5-71(b) and 11.5-71(c) shall coordinate their operations and activities ~~with~~through the department of ~~public safety~~fire/EMS and will carry out their assigned tasks to the best of their ability.
- (b) Each EMS/~~rescue~~ organization shall appoint a district captain who shall be responsible for the overall direction and control of EMS/~~rescue~~ service activities within their respective primary response areas. Additionally, the captain shall insure that their organization complies with all of the provisions of applicable laws, ordinances, and system-wide standard operating procedures and shall coordinate their operations and activities with the director of ~~public safety~~fire/EMS or his designee.

Sec. 11.5-73. Responsibility and authority.

- (a) All officially recognized members of the organizations and groups mentioned above shall perform their respective duties, as outlined in system-wide standard operating procedures and applicable laws and ordinances, to the best of their ability. Each board or governing authority of volunteer squad shall have full authority to adopt internal policies, guidelines and protocols for the governance of their stations, except where specifically constrained by state law, county ordinances or duly adopted system-wide standard operating procedures.
- (b) ~~All officially recognized members of the organizations and groups mentioned above will be subject to the procedures and practices established by the board of supervisors or its designee.~~
- (c) ~~While performing in their official capacity, each of the members of the organizations and groups mentioned above shall have the authority to carry out their respective assignments as provided for in applicable laws, ordinances and standard operating procedures.~~ Volunteer EMS squads shall have all the powers and duties granted to them by state law. They shall also execute the following responsibilities in conformity with the respective organizational by-laws, chains of command, and the duly adopted system-wide standard operating procedures of the department of fire/EMS:
 - (1) Managing performance by the volunteer department, including directing station activity and operations as needed;
 - (2) Assuming or delegating the role of incident commander within the department of fire/EMS' incident command structure;
 - (3) Providing management of response districts and apparatus response orders;
 - (4) Selecting and promoting officers and other personnel;
 - (5) Recruiting, retaining and advocating on behalf of volunteer members;
 - (6) Managing officers and personnel, including disciplining, ensuring proper training and keeping records;
 - (7) Preparing their annual budgets for submission to the county and managing their budgets;
 - (8) Managing all funds and assets that derive from private or non-county sources;
 - (9) Collecting and forwarding to the chief of fire/EMS such data, statistics and other information as may be necessary to assure the efficient and economical operation of the department of fire/EMS;

- (10) Caring for and maintain station facilities, apparatus and equipment;
 - (11) Managing station procurement of supplies and coordinating station procurement and stewardship of county-supported apparatus, equipment and tools; and
 - (12) Additional responsibilities beyond those named above may be necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the department of fire/EMS. Any additional responsibilities shall be communicated in writing from the chief of fire/EMS.
- (c) The operational head of each volunteer squad within the department of fire/EMS shall be selected according to the by-laws of the department and shall be known as captain. Volunteer captains shall exercise the authority granted to them by state law and the by-laws of their organizations, so long as their actions do not conflict with the provisions of this article or the duly adopted system-wide policies of the department of fire/EMS.

§ 2. That this ordinance shall be in force and effect commencing on July 1, 2024.

Adopted this 21st day of May 2024.



Drew Wade, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

Member	Vote
Drew Wade., Chair	<u>Absent</u>
Claudia D. Tucker, Vice-Chair	<u>Aye</u>
David W. Pugh, Jr.....	<u>Aye</u>
Tom Martin	<u>Aye</u>
Chris Adams	<u>Aye</u>

ATTEST: 

Jeremy S. Bryant, Clerk
Amherst County Board of Supervisors