

Week of February 9, 2009:

- The bulk of this week, (3 days) has been spent in class at COA for intermediate Incident Command System (ICS) training. This is required by FEMA for the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Local Government decision makers and managers are required to have this training in order for the local government to be eligible for many types of grants in the future. Chairman Stevenson also took the class as well as Camden County and Elizabeth City officials, COA personnel, and Sheriff's Department staff. The class was taught by retired fire chief, Billy Pritchard, and Christy Saunders. We were also required to complete 3 online classes and tests prior to the intermediate class. Everyone passed and we are now fully certified in incident command.
- I met with Steve Schemmel, Wachovia Securities, this week regarding financing for the R.O. Plant. We discussed the options of Stimulus money through the Revolving Loan fund, Bank Loan or the Capital Market. We will not know the details of the stimulus package for a few more days. In the meantime, we are proceeding with an application to the State for a loan from the revolving loan fund.
- I talked with Jim Hansen, RBC Bank, this week regarding additional funds for the Albemarle District Jail project. We discussed several ways to borrow additional funds once we have developed a more accurate number for the amount needed to complete the project.
- Attached is the latest sales tax report through November, 2008 sales. November was very disappointing, however, the state as a whole was also down significantly as well. The last 2 months have erased our earlier gains and it appears now that we may not meet our budgeted sales tax amount for the year. The first quarter looked promising, however, consumer spending has dropped significantly since September. I will be working to update our budget information based on this new information.
- Attached is our Medicaid report through January. The good news is that Medicaid continues to drop more than we expected.

The following are reports from some of our other departments:

Volunteer Fire Department Coordinator:

Monthly Report for January 2009

The beginning of a new year means all the volunteer fire fighters have to be certified with the state. Rosters from each department are sent to the state verifying that each fire fighter had the required minimum number of training hours during 2008

I have been working on maps with Julie's help to make sure the correct fire department is being sent to the correct address. With the addition of the Bypass and the Halstead Connector, volunteer response areas have changed some. There have also been some minor changes made in the mutual aid agreement to clarify boundaries. So in addition to working on maps I have been working on modifications to the mutual aid boundaries. Each department is currently reviewing possible changes to their area and hopefully a new agreement will be turned out in a month or two.

I met with Inter-County and Providence fire departments during the month at their regular business meetings.

I participated in an Emergency Management workshop held at the Corinth Baptist Church meeting room.

Application packages were received by each of the fire chiefs to apply for the State Fire Grant. Applications must be returned to the state before March 1st. I will be helping the departments work on those during the month of February.

The re-inspection of Providence Fire Department by the NC Department of Insurance will take place in March. The department has been hard at work trying to implement the necessary improvements to maintain their current insurance rating. We will make sure all the correct paperwork is completed between now and March.

The new FCC narrow band communications changes for 2013 were explained better at the Public Safety Meeting by Warren Bell of Gately Communications. All departments will have to provide a list of all radios with model and serial numbers to know what exactly what will have to be replaced with new equipment.

Here is a summary of the incidents the departments responded to and the training hours for the month of January.

Nixonton:

- 1 Vehicle accident
- 1 Vehicle accident with injuries
- 1 Call cancelled enroute
- 1 False alarm
- 18 man hours on incidents
- 61 man hours on training

Weeksville:

- 2 Controlled burns
- 1 Call cancelled enroute
- 1 Vehicle crash with injuries
- 2 Vehicle crashes requiring extrication
- 1 EMS assistance call
- 1 Service call
- 1 Detector malfunction call
- 65 man hours on incidents
- 98 man hours on training

Providence:

- 2 Vehicle accidents
- 1 Vehicle accident with injuries
- 2 Gas leaks
- 5 Calls cancelled enroute
- 1 Electrical problem
- 2 Medical assists
- 1 Brush fire
- 1 Smoke scare
- 1 Structure fire
- 3 Alarm malfunctions
- 157 man hours on incidents
- 164 man hours on training

Newland:

- 1 Vehicle accident
- 1 Vehicle accident with injuries
- 1 Controlled burn
- 3 Calls cancelled enroute
- 1 Electrical problem
- 1 Medical assist
- 1 Illegal burn
- 1 Public assistance call
- 1 Smoke scare
- 1 Structure fire
- 1 False alarm
- 61 man hours on incidents
- 50 man hours on training

Attached are pictures from the grass fire out by Walmart beside the overpass. Elizabeth City, Providence and Inter-County came together with the high winds and dry conditions to keep this one from jumping the highway. Unpredictable winds whipped around and even burnt up some fire hose. The thick smoke stopped traffic and outbound was rerouted.

Cooperative Extension:

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

ESMM held 11 classes at 8 different centers for 134 youth ages 1 to 5

2 programs were held at Virginia Dare and Harriot Heights entitled Steps to Health for 44 participants

Albemarle We Can Program for 19 participants

10 members of the Albemarle ECA met and had a guest speaker from SECU, Dale Jones, who spoke on weathering the recession.

Brite Meadows ECA met with 5 participants.

Breastfeeding had 6 durations calls, 3 home visits and 1 one on one session.

AGRICULTURE

Private Pesticide class was held for 17 farmers and commercial applicators who received a total of 74 continuing education credits towards their license

Breaking the 100 Bushel Soybean Barrier program was held for 12 local farmers and via teleconference they spoke with Kip Cullers, who is the world record holder of soybeans with 154 bushels per acre. He spoke on things to improve your soybean production.

Spoke with different farmers on corn varieties, soil and nematode samples

2 Master Gardener Volunteer classes were held on fruit and propagation.

Answered questions on fire ants, relocating trees, and weeds in lawns.

4-H

4-H volunteer training for 4 adults was held 2 nights so that they could begin a new 4-H club

Kids in the Garden was held at 2 local elementary schools.

Club day was held at River Road for 55 students.

4-H livestock judging practice was held for 18 participants

OTHER

Pasquotank Youth Council met with 10 in attendance.

Agri-Business Council met and the results of the 2009 Soybean Festival were discussed.

Fundraiser was held for the 4-H Livestock Judging Team where over 1000 plates were sold to help support the youth in participating in various judging competitions.

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