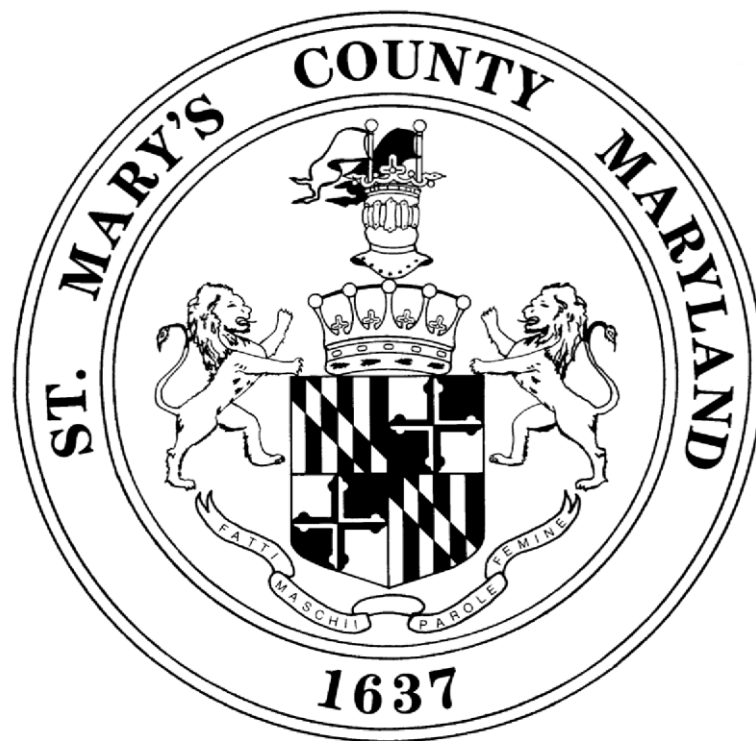


DRAFT as of January 31, 2020

St. Mary's County Emergency Services Board



2019 Annual Report

ST. MARY'S COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction

The St. Mary's County Emergency Services Committee was established under Resolution 94-22 by incorporating an agreement signed on Oct 11, 1994. The St. Mary's County Emergency Services Board (ESB) was adopted as a Board on July 10, 2018 effective July 24, 2018.

The Board shall advise the Commissioners St. Mary's County (CSMC) of matters pertaining to Emergency Services in St. Mary's County. The purpose of the Board is to serve as an advisory board between the St. Mary's County Emergency Services Providers and the St. Mary's County Government as offered by the Emergency Medical System Operational Procedures, St. Mary's County Fire Board, the fire departments, and to work for the best interests of the residents of St. Mary's County. The Board is formed not to take the place of the St. Mary's County Fire Board Association or the St. Mary's County Ambulance and Rescue Association, but rather to affect a partnership, coordinate, and enhance the efforts of these services. The departments, squads, and Advanced Life Support Unit shall remain in control of fire, rescue and emergency medical service operations.

Members

The membership of the ESB shall be (1) County Fire Chief; (2) County EMS Chief; (3) St. Mary's County Fire Board Association President; (4) St. Mary's County Ambulance and Rescue Association Chair; (5) one member of a volunteer fire department elected by the St. Mary's County Fire Board Association; (6) one member of a volunteer rescue squad elected by the St. Mary's County Ambulance and Rescue Squad Association; and (7) Director of Emergency Services; (8) Jurisdictional Medical Director (ex officio, nonvoting member).

Current Members	Position	Appointment Date	Expiration Date
James "Mock" Mattingly III	Chair	Dec 5, 2019	Dec 31, 2020
Steve Facini	Vice-Chair	Nov 5, 2018	Dec 31, 2020
Shawn Davidson	Secretary	July 31, 2018	Dec 31, 2020
Rocky Woodburn	Member	Dec 5, 2019	Dec 31, 2020
JA Nelson	Member	July 31, 2018	Dec 31, 2020
Stephen Walker	Member	Ex-Officio	
Gary Bell	Member	Nov 15, 2018	Dec 31, 2020
Daniel Geary	Member	Ex-Officio	

Meetings

The ESB has regular meetings every second Wednesday of every even month. Two special meeting were called, one in the Month of January to process an application for a tax rate increase by Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad. One in the month of August to review and forward to the commissioners of St. Mary's the Department of Natural Resource Water Improvement Fund Grant request for Ridge Volunteer Fire Department.

Attendance

The St. Mary's County ESB held (6) meetings in 2019 with (2) special meeting called with (5) absences for the year.

- J.A Nelson, President of Fireboard Association 8/2/19 – Special Meeting (alternate attended)
- Stephen Walker, Director of Emergency Services – 8/14/19
- Stephen Walker, Director of Emergency Services – 12/11/19
- James Mattingly III, Chair of ESB – 10/9/19
- Gary Bell, County Fire Chief - 12/11/19 (alternate attended)

Elections

Election for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary Positions were held in December 2019. James “Mock” Mattingly, III was elected as the Chairman, Steve Facini as Vice-Chair and Shawn Davidson as Secretary.

Education & Training

The St. Mary's County ESB has awarded an educational scholarship to (29) applicants based their services to the citizens of St. Mary's County.

Budget and Finance

The ESB distributed budget submission packets, budget rules and Amoss Funds report packets to the fire and emergency medical services departments on behalf of the Department of Finance. Tax rate increase requests were evaluated and endorsed for the Mechanicsville VRS and Seventh District VRS. Funding for the county Hazardous Materials Response Team was approved to move them forward on a multi-year equipment and apparatus upgrade project. We also approved requests from Hollywood VRS and Ridge VRS to access the Revolving Loan Fund for the purpose of ambulance replacements.

Support Services and Coordination

The ESB reviewed and endorsed a proposed expansion of the Dependent Care Program for the volunteer community that was put forward by the Department of Human Resources and the county Recruitment and Retention Coordinator. This plan was forwarded to and approved by the CSMC.

The ESB reviewed and endorsed the mutual aid agreement between St. Mary's County's emergency services and Naval District Washington. This was forwarded to and approved by CSMC.

The ESB reviewed and endorsed a request from St. Mary's Advanced Life Support Unit to release funding to begin the construction process for a new facility for their department and forwarded that request to CSMC.

Legislative Review

The ESB reviewed a proposal put forward by Worcester County that would have allowed jurisdictions to opt out of the residential fire sprinkler legislation that was championed by the Maryland State Fireman's Association. We recommended that St. Mary's County publicly oppose the proposed legislation and forwarded that recommendation to CSMC who chose to follow the recommendation and released a statement against the proposed change, helping to ensure improved safety for the citizens of Maryland. A request for the ESB to review proposed legislation changing the language of the county's Emergency Services Tax law was received. This proposed change will be discussed early in 2020.

Conclusion

The ESB is dedicated to serving the citizens of our community by advising the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on matters effecting the provision of fire suppression, rescue and emergency medical services across all disciplines involved in the provision of those services. 2019 was a year of continued growth and evolution in the volunteer services in the county. During 2019, the ESB has stepped up to help improve the flow of information and coordination of services to the volunteers on whom our system relies. As a Board established in 2018 we had to get our feet under us, but with support of relevant county staff and, specifically, the professionalism and efficiency of support staff at the Department of Emergency Services we were able to lay a solid foundation on which to build for the future. We are looking forward to a full and rewarding year serving on this board in 2020.

Questions or Comments about this report are welcome, and, may be sent to the Emergency Services Board via the Secretary smcvemschief@gmail.com.