

Board of County Commissioners
Workshop: Fire/EMS Integration Discussion
August 19, 2010

The Board of County Commissioners in and for Wakulla County, Florida met for a Workshop on Thursday, August 19, 2010 with Chairman Howard Kessler presiding. Present were Commissioners Mike Stewart, Lynn Artz, Alan Brock, and George Green. Also, present were County Administrator Ben Pingree, Assistant County Attorney Bethany Burgess, and Deputy Clerk Evelyn Evans

5:00 p.m. Workshop called to order.

The purpose of the Workshop is to provide discussion regarding Integration of Fire/EMS.

Chief Russell provided an overview of the Volunteers and encouraged dual certification for Fire/EMS.

There are not enough certified volunteer firefighters to meet the two in two out and presently there are only 51 certified firefighters with some of those not meeting the physical requirements to participate in fire suppression activities.

Fran Councill stated that the ambulance is fully staffed and that most EMS personnel do not want to be fire fighters. An ambulance is not staffed unless a paramedic is on it.

Chief D'Arcy Brazier feels that the ambulance service is a wonderful operation under Fran Councill and would like for things not to change at this time.

Training costs for Paramedics are roughly \$2,500.00 and Firefighter between \$4,000.00 and \$6,000.00.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.