

14. PEANUT WAREHOUSE FIRE**A. RATIFICATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

As you're aware, at the request of Fire Chief Brian Futrell (Courtland Volunteer Fire Department), on Friday, October 11, I issued the attached Declaration of Local Emergency in order to make certain resources available to local responders as they battled the fire at the Courtland peanut warehouse. While our Emergency Operations Plan authorizes me to declare a local emergency, it further requires the Board of Supervisors to ratify the Declaration. As you know, the only outside resource that we ended up utilizing was a contracted EMS crew beginning at 6:00 p.m. Friday evening through the end of the incident on Saturday afternoon.

MOTION REQUIRED: A motion is required to ratify the attached Declaration of Local Emergency.

B. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO INDIVIDUALS, AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT RESPONDED TO THE PEANUT WAREHOUSE FIRE

Attached for your consideration, please find a Resolution of Appreciation to the individuals, agencies and organizations that responded to the Peanut Warehouse Fire.

MOTION REQUIRED: A motion is required to adopt the attached resolution.

Mike Johnson

From: Mike Johnson
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2013 12:15 PM
To: Dallas Jones; Ronnie West; Alan Edwards; Carl Faison; Bruce Phillips; Barry Porter (bporter@southamptoncounty.org); Glenn Updike (gupdike@southamptoncounty.org)
Subject: FW: Declaration of Local Emergency
Attachments: Local Declaration_Peanut Warehouse Fire.pdf

Gentlemen,

I wanted you to be aware that I've issued the attached Declaration of Emergency retroactively effective to Wednesday October 9, at 12:08 p.m. The peanut warehouse fire at Hancock's is straining our local resources and they may need additional support over the weekend.

To date, there've been more than 40 volunteer fire companies from Virginia and North Carolina that have supported us. There are 15 companies still actively working this morning and we expect they'll continue to work through the weekend. As the peanuts are removed, spread and buried, the potential for flare-ups over the weekend remains high. At the request of the Incident Commander, I'm coordinating the stationing of a paid ALS transport-capable crew at the incident command post from 6:00 p.m. tonight through 6:00 a.m. Monday. It's my understanding that, to date, 3 firefighters have had to be transported to SMH for smoke inhalation.

In accordance with our Emergency Operations Plan, it will be necessary for the Board to ratify the Emergency Declaration at your October 28 meeting.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.

Mike

From: Mike Johnson
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2013 11:52 AM
To: 'Smith, Jerry L.'
Cc: 'stutts@shso.org'
Subject: Declaration of Local Emergency

Jerry,

Thanks for logging onto WEB EOC and alerting them to the attached declaration. We'll also need to submit sit reps 2x daily. I'm currently coordinating with MTI to arrange for an ALS transport-capable crew to be stationed at the Incident Command Post beginning tonight at 6:00 p.m. to Monday at 6:00 a.m. Please advise if you receive any further requests from Incident Command.

Thanks,
Mike

Michael W. Johnson
County Administrator
Southampton County
26022 Administration Center Drive
Courtland, VA 23837
(757) 653-3015



Southampton County Declaration of a Local Emergency

WHEREAS, the Emergency Operations Plan for Southampton County, Virginia provides that the Director of Emergency Services, with the consent of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors, is the constituted legal authority for implementing the Emergency Operations Plan and declaring a local state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Operations Plan of Southampton County, Virginia empowers the Director of Emergency Services for Southampton County, Virginia to take all necessary actions to mitigate the effects of the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Operations Plan of Southampton County, Virginia provides that funds shall be appropriated from the county's unappropriated fund balance to cover reasonable operational costs of emergency services pending further report to the Board of Supervisors as deemed necessary to cover the expected scope of the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the effects of a peanut warehouse fire at 22541 Meherrin Road present a condition of peril of life and property which necessitates the declaration of the existence of a local emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Southampton County Director of Emergency Services declares the existence of a local emergency retroactively effective to Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 12:08 p.m., and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that this declaration is subject to confirmation by the Board of Supervisors at its next regular meeting on October 28, 2013 in accordance with the provisions of § 44-146.21, Code of Virginia.

Signed this 11th day of October, 2013.

Michael W. Johnson, Director
Emergency Services

ATTEST

Lynette C. Lowe

§ 44-146.21. Declaration of local emergency.

(a) A local emergency may be declared by the local director of emergency management with the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision. In the event the governing body cannot convene due to the disaster or other exigent circumstances, the director, or in his absence, the deputy director, or in the absence of both the director and deputy director, any member of the governing body may declare the existence of a local emergency, subject to confirmation by the governing body at its next regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting within fourteen days of the declaration, whichever occurs first. The governing body, when in its judgment all emergency actions have been taken, shall take appropriate action to end the declared emergency.

(b) A declaration of a local emergency as defined in § 77.04-7914.9 shall activate the local Emergency Operations Plan and authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance thereunder.

(c) [Repealed.]

(c1) Whenever a local emergency has been declared, the director of emergency management of each political subdivision or any member of the governing body in the absence of the director, if so authorized by the governing body, may control, restrict, allocate or regulate the use, sale, production and distribution of food, fuel, clothing and other commodities, materials, goods, services and resource systems which fall only within the boundaries of that jurisdiction and which do not impact systems affecting adjoining or other political subdivisions, enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such threatened or actual disaster, protect the health and safety of persons and property and provide emergency assistance to the victims of such disaster, and proceed without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (except mandatory constitutional requirements) pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, incurring of obligations, employment of temporary workers, rental of equipment, purchase of supplies and materials, and other expenditures of public funds, provided such funds in excess of appropriations in the current approved budget, unobligated, are available. Whenever the Governor has declared a state of emergency, each political subdivision affected may, under the supervision and control of the Governor or his designated representative, enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such threatened or actual disaster beyond the capabilities of local government, protect the health and safety of persons and property and provide emergency assistance to the victims of such disaster. In exercising the powers vested under this section, under the supervision and control of the Governor, the political subdivision may proceed without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law pertaining to public work, entering into contracts, incurring of obligations, employment of temporary workers, rental of equipment, purchase of supplies and materials, levying of taxes, and appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

(d) No interjurisdictional agency or official thereof may declare a local emergency. However, an interjurisdictional agency of emergency management shall provide aid and services to the affected political subdivision authorizing such assistance in accordance with the agreement as a result of a local or state declaration.

(e) None of the provisions of this chapter shall apply to the Emergency Disaster Relief provided by the American Red Cross or other relief agency solely concerned with the provision of service at no cost to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

(1973, c. 260; 1974, c. 4; 1975, c. 11; 1976, c. 594; 1986, c. 24; 1990, c. 945; 1994, c. :8; 2000, c. 63<.)

Resolution of Appreciation

WHEREAS, at approximately 12:08 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, 2013, a 9-1-1 call was received at the Southampton County Emergency Communications Center reporting a peanut warehouse fire at 22541 Meherrin Road; and

WHEREAS the Courtland Volunteer Fire Department was first on the scene and Chief Brian Futrell assumed the role of Incident Commander; and

WHEREAS fires involving peanuts are often difficult to extinguish requiring a tremendous amount of water, and because there is no municipal water system serving 22541 Meherrin Road, water to extinguish this fire had to be brought in from other nearby locations; and

WHEREAS, the initial response began to strain the limited water resources that were available in the nearby Town of Courtland, Southampton County Business Park, and elsewhere in the region; and

WHEREAS, Davis & Sons, Inc., a local farming operation, generously and graciously volunteered the use of their irrigation pump and rigid pipe to establish a nearby water drafting operation for use by responding fire engines; and

WHEREAS, the overall response lasted more than 74 hours until 2:47 p.m. on Saturday, October 12, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the outpouring of assistance and support from more than fifty agencies, departments and other organizations throughout the region was simply incredible, and because of their heroic efforts, property damage was minimized and the fire was successfully extinguished.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Southampton County, Virginia that the agencies and organizations listed on the attached sheet are hereby recognized and commended for their generous and heroic service in responding to this incident or otherwise supporting organizations that did.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, it is ordered that a copy of this resolution shall be spread upon the minutes of this Board on the twenty-eighth day of October, 2013, preserving and recording this Board's gratitude to the aforesaid agencies and organizations and, further ordered that a copy of this resolution shall be mailed to each agency or organization as visual representation of the high esteem in which they are held by the Southampton County Board of Supervisors.

WITNESS the Honorable Dallas O. Jones, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Southampton County, Virginia on this twenty-eighth day of October, two thousand thirteen.

Dallas O. Jones, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Hancock Peanut Warehouse Fire

Listed below are all companies that have either responded directly to the scene or backfilled stations.

Southampton County

Boykins Vol. Fire
Branchville Vol. Fire
Capron Vol. Fire
Courtland Vol. Fire
Ivor Vol. Fire
Drewryville Vol. Fire
Sedley Vol. Fire
Newsoms Vol. Fire
Boykins Vol. Rescue
Courtland Vol. Rescue
Ivor Vol. Rescue

Other North Carolina Jurisdictions and Agencies

Gates Fire (Gates)
Millennium Fire (Hertford)
Como Fire (Hertford)
Murfreesboro Fire (Hertford)
Severn Fire (Northampton)
Seaboard Fire (Northampton)
Conway Fire (Northampton)
Rich Square Fire (Northampton)
Woodland Fire (Northampton)
Garysburg Fire (Northampton)

Other Virginia Jurisdictions and Agencies

Hunterdale Fire (Franklin)
Franklin Fire (Franklin)
Emporia Fire (Emporia)
Jarratt Fire (Greensville)
Ford Fire (Dinwiddie)
Namozine Fire (Dinwiddie)
Disputanta Fire (Prince George)
Prince George Fire (Prince George)
Sussex Courthouse Fire (Sussex)
Wakefield Fire (Sussex)
Waverly Fire (Sussex)
Surry Fire (Surry)
Claremont Fire (Surry)
Dendron Fire (Surry)
Carrsville Fire (Isle of Wight)
Windsor Fire (Isle of Wight)
Carrollton Fire (Isle of Wight)
Rushmere Fire (Isle of Wight)
Suffolk Station 1 (downtown Suffolk)
Suffolk Station 7/Holland Vol Fire
Suffolk Station 8/Whaleyville Vol Fire
Suffolk Station 9/Chuckatuck Vol Fire
Suffolk Station 10/Driver Fire

Courtland Rescue Rehab
Isle of Wight Rehab
Suffolk Rehab
American Red Cross

Medical Transport, Inc.
Hampton Roads Regional Communications Center
Virginia Communications Cache (Chesapeake)
Virginia Department of Emergency Management
Southampton County Sheriff's Office
Courtland Police Department
Virginia Department of Transportation
Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Davis and Sons, Inc.