



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 12.

DATE OF MEETING: December 12, 2011

REQUESTED BY: Chief Scott Sills, Sloop Point Volunteer Fire Department

SHORT TITLE: Resolution Approving FY 11-12 Budget Amendment to Fund Capital & Equipment Needs of the Volunteer Fire Departments: \$293,933.82

BACKGROUND: Chief Sills, on behalf of the Fire Association, is requesting the Board approve a FY 11-12 budget amendment to fund immediate capital and equipment needs for the various departments. Sills notes this is a one-time funding request to allow the departments to catch up on deferred capital needs. The request is for \$293,933.82, to be divided among the departments as outlined below. Chief Sills would like to work with the County to start early on the budget process for next fiscal year, and work to develop five and ten year capital improvement plans so that the County and departments can develop an effective long-range funding plan.

The request will require a budget amendment to appropriate funding from general fund balance.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: To consider a resolution approving a FY 11-12 budget amendment in the amount of \$293,933.82 distributed among the various departments as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Pender Central:	\$24,486.50	Penderlea:	\$19,807.50
Sloop Point:	\$69,446.50	Atkinson:	\$21,703.00
Maple Hill:	\$0	Hampstead:	\$61,406.00
Rocky Point:	\$25,470.50	Scotts Hill:	\$ 7,421.25
Long Creek:	\$18,416.50	NE Pender:	\$29,250.00
Shiloh:	\$16,526.07		

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The departments were anticipating an increase in cash with the revaluation assuming their tax rates remained as set in FY 10-11, however, the revenue-neutral tax rate adopted for the departments negated that. Thus, this one-time funding request is made on behalf of the departments. Sills plans to facilitate long-range planning and budgeting workshops with the Board after the first of the year so that improved understanding about budget and operational can be attained. Undesignated fund balance as of June 30, 2011 is at 28.3%, below the 30% Board policy. I suggest the Board consider deferring the funding request and consider the capital needs as part of the FY 12-13 budget request and tax rate consideration for each district.

JS
Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

the Board hereby authorizes a FY 11-12 budget amendment in the amount of \$293,933.82 to provide capital and equipment funding for the volunteer fire departments to be distributed as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Pender Central:	\$24,486.50	Penderlea:	\$19,807.50
Sloop Point:	\$69,446.50	Atkinson:	\$21,703.00
Maple Hill:	\$0	Hampstead:	\$61,406.00
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Long Creek:	\$18,416.50	NE Pender:	\$29,250.00
Shiloh:	\$16,526.07		

Revenue Code: 10-399000 Fund Balance

The Chairman/County Manager is authorized to execute any/all documents necessary to implement this resolution.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Brown ___ Tate ___ Rivenbark ___ Ward ___ Williams ___

Chairman Date

ATTEST Date

This list is a general idea for some of the needs each agency has and this money will be used towards. This will not complete all task needed. The fire service has evolved into much more than just putting out fires and so does the equipment and use of it. Pender County residence no longer work in the fields or mom and pop shops located on the street corners and with this the volunteer support is lacking during daytime hours and most people are having to have several jobs just to keep up. This is also hurting the needed help. Over the next few years with county help we will have to start doing things different. I think the county is encouraging growth and development but the public services have to be in line with this and the fire departments have to have to personnel and equipment to support this task. Together we can be there for the citizens of this great county and supply them with a great service that they deserve.

Scott Sills

Chief Sloop Point Fire

VP of the Pender County Fire Commission

Fire Dept. request for additional funds to assist in Operating and Capital Purchases need

- Penderlea** Need to replace 1978 pumper and 1973 tanker which are housed at the substation in Watha. Recently had to Purchase a 1993 Pumper due to the 1983 one did not pass pump test and was not worth fixing due to being almost 30 yrs old.
- Surf City** need funding for paid personnel that currently is in place monies have had to go to fuel and other equipment cost that have risen w/o personnel during the day's response times will increase.
- Long Creek** Need Pagers and Radio due to the upcoming changes in the FCC rules also help supplement areas of the budget that fuel cost has taken away from.
- Atkinson** Need to replace a 1975 Pumper 1985 mini pumper, pagers needed to meet FCC codes, replace Air packs and turn Out gear that are not compliant Station upgrades need to a 1964 building
- Shiloh** Need to replace 34 minitor 5 pagers that meet FCC codes all current pagers are not compliant
- Rocky Point** needs to add some more staffing during the daytime hours because there are no volunteers to run calls also working on substation to assist residence outside 6 miles of station on Insurance rating.
- Hampstead** need to replace a 1974 pumper with a new mini pumper this unit will also be used in place of the larger units to cut down on fuels cost and wear and tear. The money requested for the Scotts hill area is to assist in the additional station that the county agreed on for that area to have it own station.
- Burgaw** need turn out gear replaced that's out of compliance, need staffing for the weekends to assist in low volunteer staffing during this time.
- Sloop Point** need pagers have 10 members that don't have one, turn out gear have 6 members that don't have correct size gear and this is non compliance have to replace a tank in a 1990 pumper which is rusted and leaking have been repairing for last 10 yrs but to a point that no longer will work. Have had to cut training and other line items due to the fuel and, equipment increases and needs to be back so we can train staff.