

(d) Distribution. The ~~board~~ *Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners* shall review the financing of the fire departments and rescue squads in Charles County including the Charles County Rescue Squad and make appropriate ~~biennial~~ recommendations with respect thereto. Distribution of funds, constituting the proceeds of the fire tax, shall be ~~made on the basis of the area served by each department, the number of calls answered by the department and any similar standards that may be suggested by the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners; provided, however, that no volunteer fire department shall receive less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per year.]~~ *to the various fire departments in accordance with a formula agreed upon by the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners and the Executive Committee of the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association, providing, however, that if such agreement cannot be reached the formula employed in the previous year's distribution shall continue in use until such agreement is reached.*

(e) Use; condition. The funds received by the respective Fire Departments from this Fire Tax shall be used for the purpose of purchasing, repairing, replacing, operating and maintaining their fire fighting equipment and apparatus and the housing of the same ~~and for fire prevention, training and or the establishment of training facilities when it is deemed necessary~~ AND TRAINING. The amount and type of equipment and apparatus of said Fire Departments shall conform to the standards prescribed by the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association ~~;~~ and no. No resolution, regulation or by-law shall be passed by said Fire Departments limiting or restricting the territory within the area covered by this Fire Tax within which it will respond to emergency calls.

(f) Other payments: *In addition to the Fire Tax benefits, the County Commissioners of Charles County are authorized and directed to pay out of the general funds of the County on July 1st of each year, \$6,000.00 to each of the various Fire Departments in Charles County. This sum is to be used by the various Fire Departments for the purposes outlined in 117(e). The Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners shall consider these payments in determining the amounts due the various fire departments under the formula distribution plan and in determining whether excess proceeds exist.*

~~118A~~ 118. *Excess Proceeds.*

Excess proceeds, herein defined as proceeds from the fire tax in excess of those necessary to satisfy the requirements of the preceding subsections, shall, upon recommendation of the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners be used by the County Commissioners to reduce the indebtedness of the various fire departments, to assist in the formation of new fire departments, or substations to existing fire departments in accordance with the needs and growth of the county, to allot funds to the various fire departments to pay for career firemen AND/OR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE COUNTY TRAINING FACILITY when deemed necessary, to hire necessary clerical assistance, to accumulate an emergency fund up to a maximum of ~~the~~ FIFTY thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) to provide assistance to new departments or existing departments suffering major losses through no fault of their own, and/or to pay any part of such excess proceeds to the General Fund of Charles County as