

(b) *Executive Committee Established and Membership.*

There shall be established an executive committee of the fire board to consist of seven members. The chairman of the fire board shall serve as committee chairman. Six of the members shall be from the fire departments; one member shall be from the rescue squads. The committee chairman may be either a member of a fire department or be the rescue squad member. The six members shall be elected annually by the board from among its members at its first meeting after the June election. The members shall be nominated and elected so that the committee membership will fairly and broadly represent the interests of the entire fire and rescue service and the county. Not more than one member shall be from any one fire department.

(c) *Duties, responsibilities and authority.*

(1) *Fire Board.* The fire board shall have the following duties, responsibilities and authority:

(A) It shall approve the response areas of the fire and rescue services after recommendation by executive committee.

(B) It shall prepare and maintain a map of the county showing the fire, rescue, and ambulance service areas based on the closest companies.

(C) It shall investigate, plan and approve new and relocated fire and rescue station locations and make appropriate recommendations to meet service needs; provided that final approval of locations shall be subject to approval of the council in accordance with section 2-137 and section 27-2 of this Code.

(D) It shall establish minimum training standards for volunteer and paid personnel.

(E) It shall establish plans and procedures for the utilization of facilities by the fire and rescue services at any fire training center.

(F) It shall establish uniform operational procedures relating to fire and rescue services communications.

(G) It shall work with and coordinate with the Maryland Fire Underwriters Rating Bureau in matters pertaining to the fire and rescue services.

(H) It shall recommend by report to the council within one (1) year from the effective date of this act procedures for centralized purchasing for all departments and squads.

(I) It shall establish uniform budget procedures to be followed by each department and squad.

(J) It shall make provision and have the authority to adopt appropriate rules and regulations to enforce compliance with all standards adopted by the board.

(K) It shall have the authority to adopt rules of procedure and amendments to its bylaws and appoint such committees as may be necessary for the carrying out of its duties and responsibilities. Except for the executive committee, membership of committees is not limited to members of the fire board.

(L) The fire board through its executive committee shall furnish to the council semi-annually a report setting forth actions of the fire board