

(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 in carrying out its responsibilities and authority delegated to it under this act.

(M) It shall be authorized to define and to delegate duties and responsibilities to the executive committee not in conflict with the provisions of this act.

(2) *Executive Committee.* The executive committee shall have the following duties, responsibilities and authority:

(A) Act in emergencies (non-operational) in the interest of the fire and rescue services and to report such action at the next meeting of the fire board.

(B) Establish fire and rescue response areas subject to approval of the fire board.