

AVERY CHIEF'S COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 3, 2012

GREEN VALLEY FIRE STATION

The regular monthly meeting of the Avery County Chief's Committee was called to order by Chief Bob Garland at the Green Valley Fire Station. All departments were represented except Banner Elk.

Bob Garland reported that the 911 Committee would work on getting the "I Am Responding" service ordered at their Monday meeting. He noted that the Association needed to add the annual \$ 6,200 cost to their budget. Members discussed the fact that a lot of calls were not being texted out and that meeting notices needed to be sent as texts also.

Bob reminded departments to be sure to break down their individual insurance costs in their budget requests and to be sure to add the supplemental insurance costs.

The Fire Commission asked how departments wanted the grant money handled. Members decided that they wanted the monies put into the contingency fund and paid on time like several years ago.

Shane asked chiefs if they would be interested in adding an extra full time or part time employee to help with the Ladder Truck, sick leave, vacations, water points & hydrant testing? Each department would have to work out truck check offs. Danny wanted to make sure that the Fire Commission insurance would cover this employee - no matter which station they were located. Charlie verified that it would. The Chiefs decided to ask the Fire Commission to consider the additional employee. Ken Journey reminded members that the addition of another paid employee would add almost nothing in the way of rating points. He pointed out that taking the same amount of money and putting it towards a pay per call program - might help a good bit towards getting the required 15 members on each structure call - thus netting a large number of rating points.

Joe Shoupe reminded members that he could help pre-fire plan rural properties -

especially those that our equipment won't reach.

Bob reported that the Office of the State Fire Marshal's Inspection division has caught up and would be re-inspecting departments that have not been inspected over the last five years. He also reminded departments that a minimum of 15 members must be recorded for each structure call to obtain 3 rating points.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.