

# **EVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION - CHIEF'S COMMITTEE**

## **Green Valley Fire Station - February 6, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of the Chief's Committee was called to order by Chief Bob Garland. All departments were represented except Banner Elk & Elk Park. The minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Members discussed the Fire Commission/County Commission/Fire Association joint committee and the fact that it had not met lately. Paul Buchanan asked members to consider asking the Fire Commission's help with the county contract. Members decided to put the request on the Fire Commission agenda. Bob Garland noted the need for each department to have a cash flow reserve - so that departments won't have to co-mingle private reserves with public money when cash flows are short.

Bob asked that each department check the telephone directory listings to keep from losing rating points.

Bob reported that the humming on the radio would be corrected when Bertilini receives permission for changes from the F.C.C.

Members were reminded to do all text messages in-house and not to ask dispatch to handle them. Those who are having problems receiving texts should 1st check their profiles and then check with their cell provider. It was noted that only 3 departments filed for pay per call. The remaining departments were asked to consider how easy it is to use I Am Responding for pay per call and call attendance for rating points. Pay per call monies could be removed from the budget if not used. Kennie reported that his department only had 3 calls, which would result in a maximum of \$18.00 per member. He wanted the money split equally amongst the departments and also wanted each department to decide how to distribute the monies. Members discussed a point system with varying points for structure calls, training, alarm calls, test page response and auto-aid calls. It was noted that it costs more to go to auto aid calls than calls in your own district and that the ladder company and the Newland air truck have been left out. A motion was made to bring the pay per call discussion before the Fire Commission.

Members asked the 911 committee to ask dispatch to return to 2 test pages per week. Green Valley announced that they had a miss-paged call that the dispatcher tried to correct later - which resulted in lost rating points on auto aid call attendance.

It was announced that Jack Wiseman would be having knee surgery.

Melissa Phillips asked for permission to have the President sign a mutual aid agreement between the Fire Association and Mayland Tech when departments provide men & equipment at classes. Members agreed.

Dean brought up a car wreck call on Jonas Ridge with nothing leaking and no injuries. Dean sent a truck and the Deputy cancelled the truck but let members do traffic control. Members discussed whether a traffic control class was needed.

Members discussed the revaluation and the hope for a revenue neutral Fire Tax rate.

The meeting was adjourned.