

**AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes**  
**March 7, 2013 - Elk Park Fire Station**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Avery Fire Association was called to order by President Paul Buchanan.

Members of the Elk Park Fire Department were thanked for the Barbeque Dinner.

Bobby Powell called the roll. All departments were represented except Banner Elk. The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved as read.

Paul introduced Chief Anthony Penland from the Swannanoa VFD and secretary of the Western N.C Fire Association. Chief Penland addressed the association and asked for support in his bid for the Western Association's position on the State Fire Association Board of Directors. He also asked all county departments to consider joining and attending the April 17th meeting and election – noting that each department would have one vote and that the dues were only \$ 20.00 per year.

David Charles reported an association bank balance of: \$ 22,929.27 with all bills paid.

Melissa Phillips sent a list of upcoming classes. Members were reminded to try to attend the class at the high school on March 14th. Kevin Frye told members that the instructor had taught nationally and internationally and that the class would be very enlightening.

Rob announced that there would be a QUAKE 2.0 tabletop exercise at the Mayland Spruce Pine Campus at 6:30pm on March 26th. He reminded members that the exercise was only 7 weeks away and that departments need to get their members registered.

He also reported that the State I.D. Card System would use any design and only needed a camera, print docking station, and a \$75.00 print card to access the system. He said that the system would eventually have scan cards that could be used to swipe for meeting attendance.

Bob Garland reported on the Chief's meeting. He then reported for the 911 Committee that the Tower for the Frank site had been put in the proposed county budget and that the committee was working to get the I Am Responding system messages to happen automatically each time a call is opened. He also said that there would be a 911 meeting on Monday.

Bob asked members to work on using the I Am Responding system - noting that it takes very little time, gives huge rating points, covers members on insurance in case of an accident and will help with pay per call.

Joe announced a Chainsaw class on May 13 at Crossnore and a basic Wildland Fire Suppression class at Crossnore on the 13th and 14th and in Newland the 20th and 21st.

Paul asked members to take pictures of their stations, equipment and members for the Association website.

Bob Garland asked Johnny Mathes why the Fire Commission decided to hold budget meetings during the day. Johnny didn't know. Paul asked Johnny if the Commission minutes could be put on our website. Johnny agreed to email them to the secretary.

Paul congratulated new Chiefs: Donovan Perry - Fall Creek VFD and Dean Gibbs - Crossnore VFD.

Kevin Frye asked members to be careful - that there were a lot of new meth labs. He also said that gun permits were way up.

The Next meeting was set for April 4th at the Crossnore Fire station with the Chiefs meeting at: 6:30.

The next Fire Commission meeting was scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

The Western N.C. Fire Association meets April 17<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.