

AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION

Crossnore Fire Station - April 3, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Avery Fire Association was called to order by President Paul Buchanan at the Crossnore Fire Station. Roll was called and all departments were represented except Fall Creek. The minutes were approved as posted on the website.

Paul thanked the Crossnore fire department for the breakfast meal.

The following guests were recognized and spoke to the group: Maxine Laws - County Commission Candidate, Nathan Miller - District Attorney Candidate, Glenn Vance - County Commission Candidate Blake Vance - County Commission Candidate, Kevin Frye - Sheriff's candidate, and Culp Cuthberson - speaking for Britt Springer - Candidate for District Attorney

Junior Sluder asked Candidate Glenn Johnson why the County Commissioners didn't accept the budget from the Fire Commission. Glenn noted that the Fire Commission budget would probably be cut \$ 200,000 because of the problems created by the re-evaluation. He also said that he "would do whatever it takes to provide fire service" and that "he agreed that departments might have to go back in debt to meet their budgets". The other candidates also supported the fire service.

There was no Treasurer's report because of David Charlie's wife's sickness.

Melissa Phillips handed out a sheet of upcoming classes and noted that they were online.

Paul Buchanan discussed the Beech Mountain Metric Bicycle Race on May 17th and asked for volunteers to help with the race and with Incident Command - noting that the race would be making a substantial donation to the association's Fall Western NC Association meeting. He also announced a joint exercise on the NC/Tennessee line involving a tractor trailer pin-in. The tabletop drill would be August 9th and the drill would be August 30th.

Bobby Powell covered the Chief's meeting.

Joe Shoupe thanked all departments for their help and told everyone to keep their heads up until the leaves green out in mid May. He also asked if anyone wanted a S-130 class.

Paul discussed the Avery Journal articles and thanked them for their good efforts.

Paul asked Banner Elk and Fall Creek to supply a representative to the Scholarship Committee and appointed Mike Ellenberg to chair the committee.

Paul reminded members that there are about 100 detectors remaining in stock and that the 70 families that signed up have not been taken care of. Members said there were having trouble scheduling appointments and were not receiving return phone calls. The possibility of a letter was discussed. Paul agreed to check with Charlie on progress with the program.

The next Fire Commission meeting was set for the following Thursday and the next Western NC Association meeting would be on April 16th at Pumpkin Center VFD. The next Fire Association meeting was set for May 1st at 6:30 pm at the Frank Fire Station. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.