

AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION

October 1, 2015 - Gwaltney Station

The regular monthly meeting of the Avery Fire Association was called to order by Chief Bobby Powell. President Paul Buchanan was absent because of local flooding. All departments were represented except Banner Elk, Elk Park & Frank. The minutes of the September meeting were accepted as posted online with one change: Charlie noted that the county was considering but not actually committed to busing students to one location for Fire Prevention.

Charlie Franklin reported for David Charles that the Association has \$ 42,609.34 in the bank with all bills paid. He also noted that the County Air Compressor had been serviced.

He reminded members that the weatherman was calling for 6" to 9" of rain Friday thru Sunday with 35 to 45 mile per hour winds. Campgrounds were moving people out. DOT barricades were available if needed. He agreed to keep members posted.

Charlie covered Fire Prevention week explaining that there would be a different school every day of the week and that 750 kids would be trained. He also noted that he had done a presentation at the Senior Citizens Center where he handed out orange & red window stickers to people who will need help to be evacuated.

Charlie discussed the State Smoke Detector Grant - noting that he has houses that need them and that he can't get more detectors because all of the paperwork from our departments has not been returned. He asked departments that had leftover detectors to contact him so he can pick them up and also asked that departments finish their paperwork. Bobby Powell agreed to email detector forms to all departments to help get the rest of the paperwork in to Charlie.

Melissa Phillips passed out a class list from Mayland Tech. She noted that she is working on a traffic management class and an ebola/avian flu class.

Bob Garland gave the Chief's Committee Report.

Kennie McFee reported that his department recently received a call that a plane was running out of fuel and might not make it to the airport. He noted that Avery County does not have an SOP for a call like that and that it had been over 10 years since we trained for a plane crash. Melissa agreed to look into bringing class on plane crashes.

Joe Shoupe asked the 911 Committee to help him obtain call reports for all brush fires - both actual and false. Bob Garland agreed to discuss the need with Jamie Johnson. Joe offered a chain saw crew and portable bridges to members if needed over the weekend. He also offered a basic Forest Fire Class and noted that 3 dry days would put the county back into fire danger.

Members were asked to send their nominations for: Fireman of the Year, Officer of the year and Older members that need to be recognized to: Kennie McFee by the following Thursday.

The Children's Fire Safety House condition was discussed. Charlie reminded members that there was \$ 500 in the Association budget for repairs. Bob Garland moved that - "that the Association let Charlie use the \$500 to make the appropriate repairs to the Fire Safety House". Dean seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Linville Fire department reminded members of their Chili Cook-off October 10th.

Charlie announced that he was working on an updated water point & hydrant map for each department.

Members were offered surplus hose & couplings by the Ladder Company.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.