

# **AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION**

## **June 2nd, 2016 - Fall Creek VFD Station 2**

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Avery Fire Association was called to order by President Buchanan. Paul thanked Jeremy Hayes and the Fall Creek Department for the Barbeque dinner. Johnny Mathis moved that the minutes be approved as posted on the Association website. Bob Pudney 2nd the motion and it passed. Bobby Powell called the roll. All member departments except Green Valley were represented. Paul asked members to keep the Green Valley community in their prayers. Charlie Franklin reported that the Association bank account had a balance of \$ 43,625.00 with all bills paid.

Bob Garland gave a report from the Chief's Committee. He also reported that Jamie Johnson had confirmed that the Grandmother Mountain Tower was back working and that he would be able to reprogram the consoles with the siren frequency for medical calls. Each department would then have to bear the cost of reprogramming pagers. Members discussed buying a reprogramming cable. Bob noted that he had not heard anything on the TAC frequencies and that the Frank Tower was still in the budget request.

Members discussed the Viper system that Watauga County is trying to install. Bobby Powell suggested a federal grant, written for free by Motorola. he thought that Green Valley would be the best lead department for the grant that would cover the whole county. Bob Garland moved that the Association approach the Green Valley department and ask them to meet with Bobby Powell and Bob Pudney to do the grant. the motion passed.

Paul Buchanan announced that he had set up a Twitter and Facebook accounts for the Association.

Bill Beuttel reported that he had met with Tim Greene and that EMS would have a vehicle at every fire unless they were tied up.

Members discussed a purchase committee with each department putting together their grant purchases for a group purchase.

The fire commission announced that they would be hiring a 10th man to fill in where needed.

The class schedule for Mayland tech was handed out. Specialty Hazmat classes would be held in Mitchel, Yancey & Avery counties in June and August with a regional drill when they are finished. An Aircraft Drill would be held at the airport the first part of September.

Watauga county requested that Ashe county be allowed to use the Fire Safety House. Members voted to allow the use - providing that the trailer is returned clean.

Paul Buchanan gave a report on the preparations for Corey Hughes' funeral and requested volunteer help.

Members voted as follows on whether they would continue to cut tree out of the road: Fall Creek & Beech Mtn wanted to be paged, Elk Park, Banner Elk & Frank wanted DOT called 1st, Newland, Crossnore and Linville would not cut trees. Johnny Mathis moved that we ask dispatch to: "call DOT 1st and then call law enforcement to determine the size of the problem and details. After these two calls each department would be able to decide whether to cut or not". The motion passed unanimously.

Benjamin Clark was the scholarship recipient.

Congresswoman Virginia Foxx attended and spoke to the members.

The next meeting was set for July 14th at the Beech Mountain Substation on July 14th at 6:30 pm. The Western Association meeting would be held in Hickory on July 20th.

**BECAUSE OF THE HIGHLAND GAMES AND FIRE COMMISSION MEETING - THE MEETING WAS RESCHEDULED FOR 6:30 pm July 12th at the Beech Mountain substation on St. Andrews Road (Station #2).**