

## **AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION**

### **Newland Fire Station - December 7th, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the Avery Fire Association called to order by President Bobby Powell. Bobby thanked Brian Bodford & the Newland Fire Department for supper. The minutes of the November meeting were approved as posted on the Association web site. Roll was called and Banner Elk, Elk Park, and Fall Creek were absent.

Charlie Franklin gave the treasurer's report: all bills were paid and the bank balance was \$38,714.85. He also reported that the ceremony bell had been paid for and that a pedestal needed to be ordered.

Lee Buchanan from the Sherriff's department came before the group to discuss working together better on fire and medical calls. He explained that if we forcibly enter a property, we need to make sure the Sheriff's department writes up a report explaining why the property was forcibly entered.

Melissa Phillips announced that the Fall Creek Chain Saw class had 22 students. She also explained that changes were coming in 2019 with our fire service classes. In the future proctors will be giving tests instead of the instructors.

Bob Garland reported from the Chief's Meeting.

Bob also gave a report from the 911 Committee: Mitch Grubb and Wireless Communications are reviewing the whole County radio system. The Sherriff's deputies cannot run 10-18 on fire calls unless they are dispatched to do so. Members discussed dispatch requests to standby on fire and medical calls because of previous calls to locations that have involved alcohol, drugs, or violence. It was noted that call histories may be old or involve previous tenants.

Charlie Franklin reported that the State Fire Association confirmed that Association dues must be paid by every department that a fireman joins to receive Association benefits. Paid employees and ladder company members must be covered on the Fire Marshal's roster.

After witnessing the fog generator at the Adam's Apple training class, Jim Brooks asked Chief Pudney to explain smoke grenades and their success with 1st arriving companies. With small unventilated fires, they buy valuable time while the scene gets set for attack. With many small fires they actually extinguish the fire. They cost \$300 and could be carried by officers and 1st out engines. They could be purchased on the state grant.

Paul Buchanan came before the group with an idea for a Memorial Wall on the Square in Newland. He had approached Phil Barrier who told him to form a committee and make a plan. Members discussed the idea. Bobby Powell appointed Paul as the Chairperson and agreed to serve with Bob Garland on the committee.

Paul Buchanan requested that the Association allow his office to use the Association Credit Card to buy food and rehab items during large events until the Association could be reimbursed by the Red Cross or the County. Kennie McFee made the motion to do so and Jim Brooks seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Bodford asked that the bottle water on the air truck be replaced. Members voted to let the association purchase a supply of water.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting was set for Mayland Tech - Newland Campus - Chief's meeting 6:30 and Association at 7:00 pm.