

# **AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION**

## **Frank Fire Station - May 3, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Avery Fire Association was called to order by President Bobby Powell. Bobby thanked the Frank members for serving supper. Roll was called and all departments except Elk Park were represented. A motion was made and unanimously approved to accept the April minutes as posted on the association website. The association bank balance was reported to be: \$ 47,519.09 with bills for servicing the Air Compressors at Newland and Banner Elk outstanding.

Charlie Franklin reported that David Charles Vance was recovering from knee surgery and beginning to walk.

Melissa Phillips passed out the Mayland Tech fire class schedule.

There was no Chief's meeting.

Joe Shoupe noted that all was good from the forest service stand point.

Fire Commission Chairman Bill Beuttell addressed the group noting that it was rumored that some people in the fire service were unhappy. He explained that the Fire Commission was here to help the Avery departments. He asked that anyone with complaints call him or any of the fire commission members. He also reminded that the current county commission has raised the fire tax from 6.7 cents to 7.0 cents per \$ 100 of value and had been very good to work with.

County Commissioner Blake Vance spoke to the group. He asked members to call him if they needed anything from county government or had suggestions to make things better. He also noted that another candidate was trying to create a divide in the fire service and that the county commissioners should be trying to get things together.

The Air Med representative addressed the members and thanked them for helping by setting up landing zones for their flights. He also thanked the Fire Commission for insuring all county firemen.

Levin Sudderth reported that he had presented Marley Aldridge (Rim's Sister) the annual scholarship for the Association.

The Communications Committee noted that they would be meeting the following Tuesday. Members discussed missing road signs - especially in the Crossnore district.

Kenny McFee asked if the Honor Guard budget had been approved. It was noted that 5 sets of uniforms had been approved and that several departments had purchased other sets. He announced that training would be held May 18th & 19th and invited new people to attend.

Members discussed the new free Fire Service software that is being gifted to departments by the state. Johnny Mathis noted that it included cloud storage and said that he thought it was better than Firehouse software. Paul noted that there is a demo on the state Fire Marshal's website and that the state would be happy to hold classes in Avery County for its use.

Bobby Powell was still waiting on Davie Summey to answer back on a county wide water hauling class.

The next Fire Association meeting was set for June 7th at the Fall Creek Fire Station. The Next Fire Commission meeting will be May 10th. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.