

Avery County Firefighter's Association

Linville Station

1 Nov 2018

Scott started the meeting at 18:51.

Firefighter of the year was awarded to Ben Isaacs, Fall Creek FD.

Medical responder of the year was awarded to Tom Bookstaver, Seven Devils FD.

A lifetime achievement award was presented to Mark Taylor, Chief of Linville FD.

Paul Buchanan reported that the state Fire Marshall will visit the county again, a provided a brief recap of the Linville Ridge wildfire exercise.

A proposal to ask the fire commission to give comp time to employees for attending a weekend disaster training was considered. Jim Brooks motioned, Bob Garland seconded. No objections were raised.

Jim asked Paul for a list of county resources that might be useful during emergencies.

Paul proposed that an explorer program be developed to expose high schoolers to the fire service during school and extra curriculars. Brooks motioned that it be paid for by the Firefighter's Association. Passed without dissent. A committee formed to describe the program in detail. Paul Buchanan, Levin Sudderth, Casey Hughes.

Melissa reported from Mayland. There was a meeting about the new burn training facility with architect present. Site prep is being planned now.

Melissa also commented that there was a program in development to train high schoolers to state firefighter certification.

Garland reported for the 911 committee. He said that Newland's problem had been addressed. Dispatch is hiring.

Joe reported that he would retire in about a year. He encouraged more IMT training.

Jim reported that departments can trade out drugs and get AED pads from EMS. He is collecting data from fire departments about AED models. He emphasized that he is not receiving the cooperation required from the member departments.

Minutes from last month were approved.

Scott reported that the fire safety house repair quotes were shaping up to be exorbitant. He asked the Association for guidance as far as how to proceed. Jim commented that Watauga's

new trailer was not as nice as they originally thought. Jim proposed that we apply for a grant to replace ours entirely. Bodford seconded. Green Valley was asked to host the grant. Scott proposed that a grant writer be consulted. Garland made the motion that a grant writer be hired.

Linville has proposed a new lease for the expired arrangement for the Ladder's accommodation at Linville Ridge. Garland motioned that the lease be sent to the Fire Commission and county attorney for approval.

Kenny suggested that the association formally request from the Fire Commission to adopt NFPA 1002 guidelines for engineer qualification for new employees of the county fire service.

Kenny motioned that our request to the fire commission ask that new hires have to complete an NFPA 1002 practical skill checklist. He provided GVFD's checklist. Jim seconded.

Jim reported that \$34k of ladder repairs were prescribed by Sutphen and said that the ladder co. would ask the fire commission to cover what our fund balance would not.

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