

AVERY COUNTY FIRE COMMISSION
Jan 9, 2014 MINUTES

The Avery County Fire Commission met in a regular meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 7:15pm in the Commissioners' Boardroom, Newland. (Note: meeting started late due to a Fire Call)

Bob Garland led with prayer.

Call to Order

Chairman Joe Perry called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. Board members present were Joe Perry, Matt McClellan, Bill Beutell, and Corey Hughes. Vice Chairman Johnny Mathes was absent.

Additions / deletions to agenda: none

Motion made by Bill Beutell second by Matt McClellan to approve the agenda as presented. Motion unanimous.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Agenda Items (7:19pm)

A. Election of Chairman

Chairman Joe Perry informed the board that the first thing on the agenda was to elect the position of Chairman and stated he now turned the meeting over to the Fire Department Coordinator Charlie Franklin. Charlie Franklin asked if there were any nominations for the position of Chairman. **Motion made by Matt McClellan second by Joe Perry for Bill Beutell to be Chairman.** Charlie Franklin asked if there were any other nominations? No one came forward. **Motion unanimous.** Charlie Franklin stated that he now turned the meeting over to Chairman Bill Beutell.

A.2 Election of Vice Chairman (7:21)

Chairman Bill Beutell thanked the board for their confidence in him. Chairman Bill Beutell announced the next order of business was to elect a Vice Chairman. **Motion made by Joe Perry second by Corey Hughes to elect Johnny Mathes as Vice Chairman.** Bill asked if there were any other nomination. No one came forward. **Motion unanimous.**

A.3 Election of Secretary/Clerk

Motion made by Joe Perry second by Matt McClellan to nominate Charlie Franklin as Secretary/Clerk. There were no other nominations. **Motion Unanimous.**

A.4 Election of Finance Officer (7:22pm)

Bill Beutell asks what the new position of Finance officer entailed and was it a conflict of interest if the Secretary/ Clerk is the Finance Officer? Charlie Franklin advised the board that the board members could hold more than one position on this subject. Charlie Franklin also stated that in the audit that it was noted that there was not enough separation of duties in the finance area. The auditor stated that this statement appeared in all small business audits due to the lack of personnel. Bill Beutell asked if the Fire Commission could elect the secretary/clerk as finance officer as well. Charlie Franklin advised yes. Bill Beutell asked if that was the way that Charlie Franklin had been doing up to this point. Charlie Franklin advised yes it was. Bill Beutell asked if the expenditures had to come before the board. Charlie Franklin advised yes that is the way that it had been performed to date. Charlie Franklin informed that Day to day bills he just paid them but anything else came before the board. There was no further discussion. **Motion made by Joe Perry Second by Matt McClellan to elect Charlie Franklin as Finance Officer.** They were no other nominations brought forth. **Motion unanimous.**

B. Truck Committee Report (7:27pm)

Kenny Hughes reported from the truck committee that the truck committee had reviewed Crossnore and Newland Fire Departments truck specs and was recommending the two trucks to be purchased.

C. Crossnore Fire Department request to purchase a Truck (7:29pm)

Motion made by Joe Perry second by Matt McClellan to purchase Crossnore Fire Department a truck in the amount of \$355,000.00 Contingent on the County Commissioners approval of Fire Department Contracts on January 13,2014. Motion unanimous

D. Newland Fire Department Request to purchase a Truck (7:30pm)

Motion made by Joe Perry second by Corey Hughes to purchase Newland Fire Department a truck in the amount of \$335,000.00 Contingent on the County Commissioners approval of Fire Department contracts on January 13, 2014. Motion unanimous.

Joe Perry stated he thought that the departments had done really well specing the two trucks.

E. Linville Central Rescue Request for Reimbursement of truck repairs. (7:36pm)

Bob Garland presented the board with expenditures on repairs to equipment for Linville Central Rescue. Charlie Franklin advised the board that some of the repairs were supposed to have been put in Linville Centrals budget, but it did not get in it somehow. **Motion made by Joe Perry Second by Corey Hughes to reimburse Linville Central Rescue in the amount of \$2,315.82. Motion unanimous.**

F .FDC Report (7:37pm)

1. Charlie Franklin presented the board with two quotes. One from the Shady Lawn Restaurant and one from the Buttermilk Restaurant for the employee appreciation dinner. There was discussion. **Motion made by Joe Perry second by Corey Hughes to go to the Shady Lawn Restaurant. Motion unanimous.** It was the consensus of the board to have the Dinner on February 7 at 6.00pm.

Approval of December 19, 2013 Minutes. (7:42pm)

Motion made by **Joe Perry second by Matt McClellan to approve the December 19,2013 minutes. Motion Unanimous**

Upcoming Meetings & Other Issues of Concerns (7:43pm)

Next Fire Commission Meeting will be February 13, 2014 at 7:00pm in the Commissioners board Room. The next Fireman's Assn. meeting will be February 6, 2014 at 7:00pm at Green Valley Fire Dept. There will be a Special Fire Commission meeting on January 23, 2014 at 7:30pm in the County Commissioners Board Room to discuss grant funds and upcoming budget issues with the Fire Chiefs.

Closed Session (8:00) None

Adjourn (8:01pm)

With no further business, **motion made by Corey Hughes second by Matt McClellan to adjourn this meeting Motion unanimous.**

**Bill Beutell, Chairman
Avery County Fire Commission**

Attest: _____