

AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION MEETING
Green Valley Fire Station - January 7, 2021

President Scott Stansbury called the meeting to order and thanked Green Valley for hosting. In the secretary's absence, there were no minutes presented from the previous meeting.

EMS Director Mike Edmisten addressed the group and discussed 1st response in the county. He told members that he had ordered enough PPE to supply the fire departments and their patients. He asked departments to let him know if they were not going to be doing first response.

Paul Buchanan at the request of a fire commissioner, brought up the possibility of switching from I Am Responding to Active 911. It was noted that IAR interfaces with more of the fire Department's operations than Active 911. It was the consensus of the membership that they did not want to learn again and switch to a lesser system. Members also recognized that the association should consider more IAR training on the new features.

Scott Stansbury explained that the meeting was being held in Green Valley to recognize Rim Austin. Rim pulled a driver from a wrecked car that was on fire - thereby saving his life. Scott and Chief Kennie McFee gave Rim a Valor Award from the Association.

Paul Buchanan reported that the Association's bank balance was \$ 34,162.87 with all bills paid. He also reported a \$50.00 donation to the Association in memory of Green Valley Assistant Chief Bill Laws.

Joe Shoupe thanked departments for their continued help.

Mark Taylor asked members to help find a place to store the County's reserve pumper. Crossnore needs to have it moved by next month. The Rescue Squad offered space - but it is not heated. Paul Buchanan was asked to approach the Frank Department.

Mark also asked members to consider a multiple department series of classes at Mayland. A minimum of ten students are needed for each class. Scott asked each department to bring a list of classes needed and agreed to talk with Melissa about the idea and the possibility that departments could subsidize smaller classes.

Kennie McFee reminded members that Honeywell has gone out of the air pack business and is no longer making parts. He explained that four or five departments need to replace their air packs over the next three years. He noted that it will take the full \$ 60,000 state matching grant to do it. Mark Taylor explained that he had figured the useful life of all of his equipment and calculated that his department needs \$ 59,000 each year to make the purchases. Members discussed replacing air bottles, trading in the Honeywell Packs, asking the Fire Commission to put the grant allocation back to the full amount and doing a group purchase each year.

Kennie McFee thanked the departments that helped with Bill Laws funeral. He also noted that the state death benefit does not recognize cancer as a payable cause of death. He asked that we put pressure on the state to change this.

Paul Buchanan discussed the processes and plans for Covid shots to our members.

Scott reminded members to certify their rosters by January 15th and keep working on their state grants for March 1st. Scott also recognized the new Fall Creek Chief: Michael Richardson.

The next meeting was set for February 4th at the Gwaltney station or Green Valley station with Chiefs at 6:30 pm and the Association meeting at 7:00pm. Jeff announced that the Fire Commission meeting would be via Zoom the following Thursday. Public comment must be called in the day before.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.