Avery County Fire Commission

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 14, 2022

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In attendance: Chairman Scott Heath, Commissioners Matt McCollum, Chris Cook, and Mark Taylor, Secretary Kyle Kitchin, Fire Department Coordinator Brian Ledford and Assistant Fire Coordinator Teddy Thomas.

Scott called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

No additions or deletions

Avery Fire Association President Scott Stansbury addressed the board during the public comment section stating that the association was giving its share of the Kodiak back to Fall Creek for $1 and the departments requested $30,000 for their incentive programs.

Fall Creek has requested $7,029.35 for new radios for their new engines. The original cost of the truck was $391, 345.93 which is under the commission's $450,000 threshold. Unfortunately, the funds were allotted on a previous year and the commission cannot reopen that previous year's budget. Chief Michael Richardson said that they could make what they have work if they were unable to approve the funds. Scott stated that they could not take money off of a previous year's budget but that they could get some help with state grants.

The Avery County Fire Association appointed Scott Stansbury to fill the remainder of Johnnie Mathes' position on the commission. He will need to be confirmed by the commissioners and be seated at the May meeting.

Fire Coordinators Report: Brian went over ISO ratings with a couple of departments including Linville who kept their ISO 4 and Banner Elk who lowered their rating to ISO 5. Brian and Jeffrey got their Fire Educator certifications. Ladder 40 suffered $6,700 worth of damage at the Puerto Nuevo fire and that has been filed under insurance.

Two employees are out for medical reasons.

Matt made a motion to approve March minutes and Chris gave the second. The motions passed unanimously.

No closed session.

Scott announced upcoming meetings.

Matt made a motion to adjourn and Chris gave the second. The meeting was adjourned.