

Avery County Fire Commission

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 12, 2022

In attendance: Chairman Scott Heath, Commissioners Matt McClellan, Chris Cook, Scott Stansbury 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

LCRS has asked for additional funds to cover the cost of heating oil that was \$3,496.37 above the allocated \$3,500 for their 2021-22 budget year. LCRS has over \$26K in their fund balance. Matt made the motion to approve the funds and Scott gave the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian edited the existing personnel policy and has submitted copies to each one of the commissioners. The document is 80 pages long. Commissioners are asked to look over the policy paying particular attention to the drug and alcohol aspect of the document.

Brian has created an updated cost analysis associated with the increasing of staffing. Potential options and plans for 24-hour staff coverage. Brian has looked into having one firefighter at each station doing 24-hour coverage which would cost the county \$1.3 million and at staying where the commission is at \$800K. This cost analysis does not include the necessary updates that would be needed to happen to each station in order to accommodate the 24 hour shift. The county commissioners have yet to give the fire commission an actual budget cost to work with.

FDC Report

Brian is currently working with several people including Fall Creek Chief Michael Richardson to return the reserve engine back into their possession.

Brian is currently having difficulty hiring personnel to cover three separate vacancies.

Scott made a motion to approve the April minutes and Matt made the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott went over the upcoming meetings.

Matt made a motion to adjourn and Scott gave the second.