

# **AVERY FIRE ASSOCIATION**

## **June 1, 2023 - Fall Creek Baptist Church**

Vice President Mike Richardson called the meeting to order and thanked the members of the Fall Creek Fire Department that served supper.

Kennie McFee moved that the minutes from the May meeting be approved as presented. The motion passed. Mike reported a bank balance from David Charles Vance of: \$ 7,963.06. Banner Elk, Elk Park, Frank, Crossnore and Linville Central Rescue were not represented.

The Chiefs discussed the radio Vendor meeting at great length.

Levin reported that the ladder company would try to take trucks to departments for training on their meeting nights instead of on the third Thursday each month. He also noted that 9943 was not completely repaired but was in service without air packs. Members agreed that 9943 would remain at the Gwaltney station. Levin was ordering the drone marker lights.

Mark Taylor gave a report from the May fire commission meeting: The upcoming budget was balanced with \$140,000 being moved from the labor line item to the stipend program line item. The fire tax was raised 1 cent which would generate \$585,000 with \$85,000 going to a 10 percent employee raise and \$500,000 going towards revitalization of 4 stations - Elk Park, Green Valley, Crossnore and Banner Elk. The last 3 payments on the Frank station loan would be paid next year adding \$125,000 towards the building fund. The Commission encouraged the other departments to start planning for their improvements. Brian Ledford announced that he was developing a 5 year plan for other vehicles - brush trucks, tankers, etc. The Air Med insurance premium was paid.

The Linville Department noted that their treasurer was not filing for the return of sale tax monies and reminded departments that they should check on theirs.

Kennie McFee reported that an overturned car wreck occurred in his district and his department was not paged. Others reported that the dispatch center was calling for a member of the Fire Marshal's office by phone instead of by radio, which does not confirm that they have been called. Members noted that they were still seeing street signs that are turned wrong - Sugar Mtn # 2. Fall Creek need water point signs.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting was set for Beech Mtn Station 2 on July 13th at 6:30 for the Chief's meeting and 7:00 pm for the Association.