

Avery Fire Association

October 9, 2025 - Avery County Agricultural Building

President Mike Richardson called the meeting to order. Levin Sudderth moved to accept the September minutes as presented. Bob Pudney seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Stephen McClellan gave the treasurer's report. The bank balance was \$ 19,947.99. Members voted to accept his report as presented. Banner Elk, Beech Mtn, Crossnore, Fall Creek, Green Valley, Ladder Company, Linville, Linville Central Rescue, N.C. Forest Service and the Fire Commission Coordinator were represented.

Richard Markland from Elizabethton, TN - 423-213-2417 addressed the group. He does hydrostatic testing, air samples, sells cascade bottles, parts, valves and Prolite air bottles. He asked members to text their information to be added to his contact list.

Mark Parlier from the Avery County School system explained their Public Safety I & II classes which are teaching students NIMS, types of Public Safety, 911 dispatch, & emergency response. He asked departments to donate un-used turnout gear. He said he was trying to send kids towards Fire, EMS, Law & Rescue. He asked members to send their junior firemen requirements in hopes that he could send some of the students to the county departments. Levin Sudderth thought that fire & EMS training at the middle school would get students interested before they turn sixteen.

It was noted that the new Association flag had been paid for & delivered. A means of getting the old one repaired in Kingsport was discussed.

Rich Carpenter reported that two dozer operators had been added to the district. He was working on extra personnel, a strike team and instructors to teach.

Bobby Powell was absent teaching a class. He asked that members call him if they need classes.

Levin reported that 9943 is still stuck in volume and waiting on parts. Cory Hoyes is at the station every other week.

Mark Taylor reported that he was still working on the training center land.

Mike Richardson noted that the Bylaws needed to be changed. Levin Sudderth agreed to send out the 2016 revisions and the 2024 proposed changes.

It was noted that the reserve pumper has parts ordered and that Crossnore had space for it.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned