

Avery Fire Association

September 11, 2025 - Avery County Agricultural Center

President Mike Richardson called the meeting to order and Levin Sudderth led the group in prayer. Bob Podney made a motion to accept the July & August meeting minutes as presented. Cody Laws seconded the motion and they were accepted unanimously. Stephen McClellan gave the treasurer's report noting the Fire Safety Trailer monies had been reimbursed. The bank balance was \$ 20,316.03. Bob Pudney moved that the report be accepted. Jim Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jim Brooks reported that the association flag had been ordered. Members discussed seeing if someone could do a little cleaning and sewing on the old one and keep it as a spare.

Members discussed the Fire Safety Trailer noting that it needed several items & repairs. It was mentioned that the association has a line item for those things. Cody Laws was working the graphics. Bob Pudney moved that the Ladder Company be put in charge of it. Cody Laws seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Members agreed to leave it at Green Valley until Linville could provide a space in the spring. Charles Johnson moved that the Association spend up to \$ 2,000 on needed items & repairs. Cody Laws seconded the motion and it passed.

President Mike Richardson opened the floor for association offices nominations. Bob Pudney moved that the same current slate of officers be nominated. Jim Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Levin Sudderth reported that Ladder 9943 is stuck between pressure & volume and that it would be left in volume until it can be repaired. He also noted that 9900 was in good shape and he would like to come to departments for training.

Bob Pudney reported a problem with dispatch: a fire call to the Four Seasons Inn result in Avery dispatch not sending Fall Creek or 9900. Mark Taylor called the dispatcher and found that she thought the Banner Elk was the Ladder and did not know to push the Ladder button.

Mark Taylor reported that the Fire Commission had a short meeting. Scott Heath retired. He also reported that he was close to obtaining 3 acres between the trash dump and Swift pond for a training site. It may be possible to tap into the hospital water and natural gas there. Linville wants to use a small portion of the land for a 40'X90' storage building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.