

# **Avery Fire Association**

## **January 7, 2026 - Avery County Agricultural Center**

President Mike Richardson called the meeting to order and Levin Sudderth gave prayer. Bob Pudney moved that the November 2025 minutes be approved as presented. Matt Millsaps seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Treasurer Stephen McClellan reported that he had paid the I Am Responding bill and that the Association had a \$ 17,600 bank balance. Beech Mountain, Fall Creek, Ladder Company, Linville, Linville Central Rescue, N.C. Forest Service, Green Valley & Seven Devils were represented. Brian Ledford, Bobby Powell also were in attendance.

Mike Richardson talked briefly about Mark Parlier's Junior Firefighter program and asked members to send their young people to his program.

Bobby Powell announced a Live Burn class at Banner Elk beginning Jan 27th. He was also holding a Wild Fire Urban Interface class in Burnsville. NIMS classes would be offered next month. He handed out a flyer explaining the 580 G program that would be beginning at Crossnore. These classes replaced the 1403 classes and would last 247 hours versus 400 hours for Firefighter I & II classes.

Rich Carpenter reported that he is working as an instructor for live wildfire classes. He warned that spring fire season may come earlier because of the dryness. He will have two crews doing fuel mitigation soon. He is looking for a smoke chaser. He noted that dispatch was not paging him for structure fires. He announced that he would be holding an After the Banner Elk fire Recap at the Avery Ag Center February 10th.

Levin reported that Ladder 9943 would be left chained this winter and Ladder 9900 would be without chains. Both trucks have autochains for light snow. He said that the ladder company would meet the third Thursday each month and that all are invited. He would be happy to bring both trucks to any department wishing training on their meeting night.

Mike reminded members that the February 12th meeting would be the annual meeting and awards dinner. Members voted to try to hold it at the Elk River Depot. Members were asked to turn in the number attending and their nominations for Firefighter of the Year and 1st Responder of the year to Mike Richardson by January 24th. Members agreed to invite the paper, fire commission and county commissioners. Mike appointed Robbie, Levin & Rich to serve on the Selection Committee.

Altec out of Burnsville donated steps to load a funeral casket on an engine. Jesse Downing agreed to organize an Honor Guard for the county. Mike asked the group to consider funding the honor guard. Mike noted that he was working on the By-Laws.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

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# OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL NC DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE



## North Carolina Firefighter Training Certificate (580G) Program

The NC Fire & Rescue Commission and the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) have developed a training program that will allow fire departments to train firefighters to a NFPA 1001 based standard while gaining credit towards ISO, and provide an optional path to Firefighter Certification.

***\*Please note: This program replaces the Volunteer Firefighter Basic Skills Training Program, and now provides a path to IFSAC accredited Firefighter Certification for candidates who choose to pursue that certification. For more information, see [Road Map From 580G Training Certificate to IFSAC Firefighter I/II Certification](https://www.ncosfm.gov/fire-rescue/training-certification/north-carolina-firefighter-training-certificate-580g-program#RoadMapFrom580GTrainingCertificateToIFSACFirefighterIIICertification-3275) (<https://www.ncosfm.gov/fire-rescue/training-certification/north-carolina-firefighter-training-certificate-580g-program#RoadMapFrom580GTrainingCertificateToIFSACFirefighterIIICertification-3275>).***

### Program Outline

The ISO 580G Training Certificate requires a minimum of 247 hours of training:

- 207 hours delivered at the discretion of the Fire Department/AHJ in the training areas outlined below.
- 40 hours allotted for FIP 3049 - Fireground Ops 9

<b>Topics/Textbook Chapters</b>	<b>Min Hours</b>
Orientation (Chapter 1, 22)	9
Fire Service Communications (Chapter 4)	12
Firefighter Health & Safety (Chapters 2, 20)	21
PPE (Chapter 3)	24
Building Construction (Chapter 6)	12
Portable Extinguishers (Chapter 7)	9
Fire Behavior (Chapter 5)	12
Tools and Forcible Entry (Chapters 8, 10)	15
Loss Control (Chapters 19, 28)	15
Ladders (Chapter 11)	15
Ventilation (Chapter 13)	21
Water Supplies (Chapter 14)	21
Hose, Streams, Appliances (Chapters 15, 16)	21
<b>Total hours to be delivered by FD</b>	<b>207</b>
Fire Control (Chapter 17, 21, 23)	40
<i>Must be FIP 3049 FF Fireground Ops 9 (FF 2019)</i>	
<b>Total hours to complete Volunteer FF ISO Certificate</b>	<b>247</b>

## Guidance for Participants (Firefighter ISO 580G Credit - Non-Certification)

This program was developed to serve as a platform for internationally recognized minimum basic skills. This program can be designed and scheduled by the Authority Having Jurisdiction to meet the ISO Recruit Training requirements. Upon completion of this program, individuals are also provided with a pathway towards earning an accredited Firefighter Certification. Firefighters interested in pursuing certification should complete the following steps:

- Once all training has been completed, the firefighter will utilize their OSFM24 profile to access the “Fire and Rescue Training Registration” link and register for the “ISO 580G Firefighter Certificate Verification”.
- Students will be automatically notified by OSFM24 of their registration status.



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