

Rowan County Fire & Rescue Association

May 17, 2007 Minutes

- Meeting called to order by President Darrell Nichols at 1930 hours.
- Devotions given by Charles Miller.
- Roll Call
 - The following fire departments had members present for the meeting: Atwell, Bostian Heights, China Grove, Gold Hill, Ellis, Salisbury, Franklin, Locke, West Rowan, Rockwell City, Rockwell Rural, Rowan-Iredell, Scotch Irish, South Salisbury, Union, Woodleaf and Mt. Mitchell.
 - The following agencies had members present for the meeting: Emergency Management, Fire Marshal's Office, Forestry Service and Rowan Rescue.
- Treasurer's Report given by Sue Choate.
- Minutes were read by Jason Burnett and approved as read.
- Guests present for the meeting were as follows: Tina Hall (County Commissioner), Ed Muire, Carl Ford, Steve Russell, Rick Hudson and Mac Butner (Planning Dept).
- Ed Muire was asked to speak regarding the County Water Point Ordinance. The following were key points brought forward to the association:
 - Class 9 districts will assist the developer with 50% funding.
 - Designs should be consistent with NFPA guidelines.
 - Water sources shall be in operation before the first residence is occupied.
 - These sources should be at least 30,000 gal to meet required fire flows.
 - Discussion was made to place a cap on the amount a fire department will match with the developer.
 - New developments with 14 or more lots will be required to provide a water source if one does not exist within one mile.
 - Municipalities may need to include this ordinance in future plans review.
 - No cost participation will be required of departments rated higher than Class 9.
 - Maintenance can be maintained by departments and personnel utilizing training evenings.
 - Land easements are options for fire departments.
 - Issues with commercial/business properties requiring larger supplies and higher fire flows were discussed.

- A motion was made to adopt a resolution to the initial ordinance passed by the association with changes to the required lot numbers and prevention of overbuilding by developers. The motion carried with no opposition.
- Tina Hall (County Commissioner) spoke regarding support for funding. She stated from the commissioner's standpoint they would support increases based on the community need and community saturation.
- Fire Marshal Tom Murphy filled in for County Assistant Clerk Laura Russell who was unable to attend this meeting. He stated yearly audits need to be turned in by the 25th of this month. Questions regarding fire commissioners were clarified. Each department shall have 3 fire commissioners whom serve a two year term. A fire commissioner may serve two consecutive terms only if a letter for justification is submitted. A fire commissioner who moves or passes away during his/her term will be replaced with one of the alternates initially submitted by each department.
- Committee Reports
 - Honor Guard – Lost Eric Earnhardt as member due to relocation. Also, need to look at ways to increase membership.
 - Benevolent Fund – No Report
 - Communications – CAD upgrade moving along well. Department changes need to be submitted by June 1st. Target date for system going online will be June 26th.
 - Muster – No Report.
 - Training – No Report.
 - Executive – Awaiting outcome of current budget information for replacement/repair of Mass Unit.
- Old Business
 - No old business to be brought forward.

- New Business
 - Everyone needs be aware of upcoming changes in the following NFPA guidelines:
 - NFPA 1901 Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus
 - NFPA 1911 Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Automotive Fire Apparatus
 - NFPA 1914 Standard for Testing Fire Department Aerial Devices
 - NFPA 1915 Standard for Fire Apparatus Preventive Maintenance Program
 - The NC Fire & Rescue Commission has adopted new standards for Junior Fire Department Members. These will be effective January 1, 2008 and made available to departments in the near future.
 - The county will be celebrating EMS Week on May 20th at the Salisbury Mall near Belk's. Numerous agencies will be represented to answer questions and explain equipment/operations.

With no additional business the meeting was adjourned by President Nichols.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Burnett
Acting Secretary