

# **Rowan County Fire & Rescue Association**

## *January 25, 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: Bostian Heights, Cleveland, Gold Hill, Salisbury, Franklin, Granite Quarry, Locke, Millers Ferry, West Rowan, Rockwell City, Rockwell Rural, Scotch-Irish, South Salisbury, Spencer, Union and Woodleaf.
  - The following agencies had members present for the meeting: Fire Marshal's Office and Forestry Service.
- Treasurer's Report given by Sue Choate.
- Minutes were read by Jason Burnett and approved as read.
- No Guests were present for this meeting.
- Committee Reports
  - Honor Guard – No Report.
  - Benevolent Fund – Chief Alan Merrell stated there were currently 620 members in the fund. He also stated six departments were behind in their payments. President Nichols requested a copy of these departments so they could be contacted regarding this matter. Chief Merrell also gave the financial report for the fund.
  - Fire Marshal's Office – Fire Marshal Tom Murphy stated emails from the county have been sent to each department regarding submission of current board of director information and fire commissioner information. These should be completed and returned to his office or the county representative within a timely manner. He announced an Assistant Fire Marshal position has opened with 13 applicants showing interest. The Fire Marshal's Office has also assumed the role of fire prevention inspections in the county.
  - Communications – No Report.
  - Muster – No Report.

- Committee Reports (Continued)
  - Training – The newly formed Rowan County Training Committee met for their first meeting on January 24, 2007 at Locke FD. Future meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month opposite the Association meetings. Discussion focused on creating a weekend fire/rescue school and quarterly drills within the county. In other training news Chief David Morris announced the 2007 Basic Fire School will start March 7<sup>th</sup> with a graduation date of June 6<sup>th</sup>. Flyers were made available for members to take back and post at their respected department.
  - Executive – President Nichols stated a quarterly report would be created for the board of commissioners outlining each departments alarm totals, training hours, daytime calls, evening calls, mutual aid assistance, and public education programs. This report will assist departments in the future with requesting funding, personnel, equipment, etc. Eventually, submission will be made available for departments to send in online. The committee agreed research needed to be compiled for future replacement of the Mass Unit. President Nichols will be asking for information from area departments regarding SCBA manufactures, bottle sizes and fill stations/cascade systems located on apparatus or at stations.
  
- Old Business
  - Water Point information is currently being compiled for implementation of an online database regarding locations and types. This will be made available in the near future for departments to update and verify. The County Water Point Ordinance is currently in the final stages of completion. This will allow for the creation of a static water point in proximity of newly developed residential subdivisions where hydrants are not available. Certifications of water points are still being discussed with more information being made available later. A question was asked regarding who retains liability for the maintenance of these water points once installed. Homeowners Associations normally have responsibility for same however, if these are not established at the time maintenance is needed then the fire department may have to budget for this expense.
  - Chili Cook-off has a tentative schedule date of March with numerous departments offering participation with same.
  - The Fire & Rescue Association mission statement is still in the planning stages as committee members are going to review the draft copy and finalize this by the next meeting.

- Article X of By-Laws change regarding “financial review status” is possible for a \$400 fee. An additional change in the tax status of the association can be made for an application fee of \$500 and \$400 administrative fee. A motion was made to research the possibility of making these changes. Motion made by Allen Cress with a second from John Morrison. No additional discussion. Motion carried.
  
- New Business
  - Hazardous Materials Response change implemented by Salisbury Fire Department. Unit 529 responding from Station 52 is now the primary unit for the eastern portion of the county. Unit 527 responding from Station 50 is now the primary unit for the western portion of the county. A Level I response is still the host department. A special call for hazmat units by the officer or company can be made if additional resources are needed. At this point you will initially receive the unit designated for your area. A Level II response is the host department, both county hazmat units and a fire marshal’s office representative and/or emergency management representative. Discussion by members followed regarding this new policy. Also, Station 91 has been added to Level II responses to assist in rehabilitation and de-con operations. A reimbursement procedure is currently being developed by Salisbury Fire Dept.
  
  - Each department needs to complete their “5 Year Plan” so President Nichols can submit these to the County Commissioners for review.
  
  - County Forester Rodney Kreiser stated the issue regarding equipment allocations for the state has currently been resolved.
  
  - Chief Robert Parnell stated the new fire station has been open and in full operation since the first of the year. Also, the aerial platform is now assigned to this station along with the hazmat unit.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Burnett  
Acting Secretary