

**The Board of:** Riceville Volunteer Fire Department  
**Met at:** 7:00PM  
**On:** Monday, October 10, 2022  
**For:** Annual Board and Members Meeting  
**Moderator:** Mark Curran (Chairperson)  
**Members Present:** Kent Creasman, Dan Friday, Kathy Higdon, Dan Little,  
Lisa McCallister and Carla McLendon  
**Not Present:** Paul Campbell and Judy Dillingham

**1. Call the Meeting to Order:** Mark Curran called the meeting to order at 7:05PM. He asked that the family of Mark Dillingham (former Board member and Volunteer of the Department) be kept in everyone's thoughts and prayers, as his son passed away last week.

**2. Approval of Minutes:** Dan Little read the minutes from the 2021 Annual Meeting. Lisa McCallister made a motion to accept the minutes. Kent Creasman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by a show of hands by those present.

**3. Treasurer's Report:** Lisa McCallister relayed major expenses this year included Ambulance 1110 (now paid off); Engine 11-2 (now paid off); and replacement of the Chief's vehicle (paid in full at time of purchase). We have an Operating Reserve Fund balance of \$465,000; a Vehicle Fund balance of \$175,000; and a Building Fund balance of \$200,000. All represent an improvement over last year and are in keeping with guidelines found in the County contract.

The Department's financial position is improving, and we are working to replace expiring/older apparatus and equipment and continue maintenance of the building and grounds. Upcoming major expenses include a replacement ambulance, replacement engine, building repairs and rescue tool upgrade. A copy of this information is available upon request.

Dan Little made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Kent Creasman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by a show of hands by those present

**4. Fire Chief's Report:** Chief Kelly provided an overview of his Annual Report handout, which included discussion about the Department's core values; number of calls received, to include average response time; progress on replacement of Ambulance 1120; improvement of the ISO rating to a Class 3/9E; and continued interaction with the community. He thanked the Auxiliary for their support and asked that the community continue to support the Auxiliary and the Department.

Division Chief McEntire provided an overview of the Annual Training Report and Fire Life Safety Events handouts, which included an increase of 777 training hours compared to last year. Of the 493 NC State and National accredited certifications held by the Department, 16 are newly acquired since October 1, 2021. The NC State requirement for Continuing Education hours is 25 per year. The Department currently offers 96, giving ample opportunity for meeting the State requirement.

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**5. Elections:** Mark Curran thanked the Board members, Department staff and community volunteers who helped with the voter registration process. He relayed there are three candidates running for three open seats. The candidates are Lee Barrett, Kent Creasman (incumbent) and Carla McLendon (incumbent). He asked for a motion to waive the Bylaws requirement to vote by secret ballot for this meeting only and to allow a vote by show of hands. Emili Fonteneau made the proposed motion. Allen Blount seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by show of hands.

Mark Curran next asked for a motion to elect the three candidates. Emili Fonteneau made the proposed motion. Allen Blount seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by show of hands. Mark asked Lee Barrett to join the Board at the table and congratulated all three newly elected Board members.

**6. Old Business:** There was no Old Business to come before the Corporation.

**7. New Business:** There was no New Business to come before the Corporation.

**8. Announcements:** Mark Curran announced a Halloween Event is scheduled to take place at the Department on Saturday, October 29, from 5:00PM until 9:00PM. Mary Brown provided an update from the Committee, relaying there will be food, a bonfire, a hayride and indoor activities. There will be fun for all ages, and the community is encouraged and welcome to attend.

**9. Public Comment:** Mark Curran announced public comment will take place during the Regular Meeting, which will immediately follow the Annual Meeting.

**10. Adjournment:** Lisa McCallister made a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting at 7:37PM. Dan Little seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.