

BLACKMAN FIRE DISTRICT MEETING

DATE: 4 January 2024

(X) REGULARLY SCHEDULED

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

() EMERGENCY

() WORKSHOP

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Chairperson Larry Cunningham	(X) Yes	() No
Wade Merritt	(X) Yes	() No
Commissioner Sec/Tres Jim Lawson	() Yes	(X) No
Commissioner Steve Lawson	(X) Yes	() No
Vacant	() Yes	() No

Welcome/Call Meeting to Order – Meeting called to order at 7:37pm

Pledge of Allegiance

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and Approval of the Meeting Minutes from 7 December 2023.

Motion: Wade Merritt 2nd: Steve Lawson Motion Passed

Discussion and Approval of the Financial Report from December 2023.

Motion: Steve Lawson 2nd: Wade Merritt Motion Passed

NEW BUSINESS

Chiefs Report

- Total Calls for Service = 8
 - 4 - Medical
 - 1 - Motor Vehicle Accident with No Injuries
 - 1 - Canceled
 - 2 - Prescribed Burn
- Discussion and Approval of reinstating FF1 EMT Brendan Creamer.

Motion: Wade Merritt 2nd: Steve Lawson Motion Passed

- Discussion and Approval of Approving the Truckworks Throttle Replacement Quote.

Motion: Wade Merritt 2nd: Steve Lawson Motion Passed

Grant Report

The Florida Firefighter Assistance Grant was awarded, and procurement took place in December. Wildland equipment and PPE were purchased and a request for 100% reimbursement was submitted. Shipping will not be included in reimbursement per the state.

The Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant (50/50 Grant) was awarded, and procurement took place in December. SCBAs, Face Masks, Helmets, Thermal Imaging Cameras and Fire related student textbooks were purchased and a request for reimbursement was submitted.

The Decontamination Grant was awarded but the executed grant agreement has not been received at this time. Once received the procurement process will be able to occur. We are awaiting word from the state.

Discussion and Approval of a new auditor. The current auditor for Almarante and Baker Fire Departments, Edward E Chapman, CPA, has offered to complete our audit for \$9,000.00 which is the same as last year's cost.

Motion: Steve Lawson 2nd: Wade Merritt Motion Passed

The 2023 Financial Disclosure Forms (Form 6) will be emailed to elected officials this year instead of by mail. This is the new requirement, so board members need to provide their email addresses so that the state information can be updated per their new requirements.

- Discussion and Approval of Approving department emails to be setup for FD business.

Motion: Steve Lawson 2nd: Wade Merritt Motion Passed

Current Board Members have until 31 March 2024 to complete Ethics training per the new state statute requirements. See Miranda Sargent for upcoming classes that may be attended.

Commissioner pre-qualifications must be completed by 10-14 June 2024. Board members must acknowledge their intent to run or if they intend to resign. The board has 4 seats due for re-election to include:

- Seat 1 – Steven Lawson
- Seat 2 – Larry Cunningham
- Seat 3 – James Lawson
- Seat 5 – Appointed Person

The Christmas Ham Fundraiser produced \$1931.88 from proceeds.

Discussion and Approval for quarterly fundraisers and events for 2024 include:

- Easter Egg Hunt at the Blackman Community Ctr (if the facility is available in 3/31/2024).
- Father's Day Plates where fathers eat free.
- Annual Labor Day Family Fun Day and Open House.
- Christmas Smoked Ham Fundraiser.

Motion: Wade Merritt 2nd: Steve Lawson Motion Passed

Discussion and Approval on starting a monthly allotment to the FD savings account in the amount of \$500 to start out beginning in January 2024.

Motion: Steve Lawson 2nd: Wade Merritt Motion Passed

Adjournment of meeting – Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Motion: Steve Lawson 2nd: Wade Merritt Motion Passed

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING 1 February 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

These minutes were approved and accepted as read this date 1 Feb 2024

Larry Cunningham, Chairperson

James Lawson, Secretary

Larry Cunningham
James L Lawson