

Riceville Volunteer Fire Department

January 20th 2020

Minutes

BOD Members present: Dan Friday, Carla McLendon, Dean Reed, Lisa McCallister, Mark Dillingham, and Chief John Coffey.

Mark D. Checks to make sure we have a quorum. We have a quorum of five so Mark D. calls meeting to order at 6:32pm. Mark D. mentions that Judy has called and is out sick.

Mark D. asks Dan F. if he would read the minutes.

Dan F. asks everyone if they got the emailed copy of the minutes. If they did could someone please make a motion to accept.

Dean R. makes a motion to accept

Carla M. Seconds

Voice vote unanimous.

Motion carries

Mark D. asks Dover for a treasures report.

Dover D. gives the report. We did get the building loan paid off early as directed by the BOD at the last meeting.

Mark asks for the financials to be emailed to us. On the Wednesday before.

John C. mentions that they were emailed to Judy D. but her being sick they didn't get passed on.

Mark D. mentions that he will talk to Judy D. about having the financials sent out by Katie when she sends them out to John C. so it takes fewer steps for the rest of the BOD to get them.

John C. mentions that he has been sending things to us in a manner as to not violate a quorum for a meeting. That is the reason for the confusion that materials may not get to us.

Mark D. assures him that that emailed info does not count as a meeting and does not apply to us. Perry has told him that that is for government entities and we are not a government entity.

Mark D. asks John to give his chiefs report.

John gives the chiefs report.

Negotiations with the VA are on hold due to management changes at the VA

Turnout gear has been ordered and will arrive in mid-February.

John C. mentions the un used PTO time for 2019 since pay role policies have not been approved yet we need to function on the old policy. He recommends that we extend the PTO time until the end of this fiscal year or a one-time payout for that unused time.

Mark D. why are we going to a use it or lose it policy.

John C. that is what the committee came back with for a policy suggestion.

Dan F. I was on that committee and we think it is important for the employees to use their vacation time to prevent the employees from getting burnt out.

Discussion:

Suggestions are made that we can extend the deadline for using the PTO.

Mark D. asks if there were any hardships filling positions near the end of the year.

John C. says no that there were some mis understandings that folks thought these policies would have already be put in place

Mark D. states that some shifts were not completely filled and Judy D. was concerned about them.

Mark D. is concerned that a use it or loose it system would cause those situations to occur. It will hurt us if Coffey can't keep us staffed.

Discussion: about placing the cut off at the end of the fiscal year.

Discussion: about how to schedule time off at the end of the fiscal year and the problems that may cause.

Lisa M. mentions that the employees haver to request time off that it is not automatically given.

John C. that is in the new policy as well.

Lisa M. asks John C. if he has his revisions ready to give to the BOD.

John C. says Yes.

Discussion: about the current policy.

Mark D. if they are ready tonight lets get them in our hands then we can schedule a meeting next week or so to go over them.

Dean R. would like to get them approved ASAP. Special session.

John C. will be gone next week for a conference he is working a plan for a new building. He is also looking into leasing a new ambulance.

Discussion: about ambulance chassis problems. Dean R. and Mr. McEntire

John C. we are at the three-year mark for an ambulance with a life span of five years.

John C. we will not be able to exclude one make over another but we can justify why we want this one over that one.

Dean R. mentions Freightliner

John C. it wont fit in the building the doors are too short.

Discussion of Freightliner chassis verses others and gas verses diesel.

John C. mentions a committee has been established for Employment validation of testing and candidates.

John C. mentions that JPS has stuck us with a 20K bill which is much higher than usual.

Discussion about the JPS bill.

John C. Katie and I are looking at alternatives.

John C. still waiting on the acoustic guy. Free

Dean R. if its free let him work on his own schedule.

John C. the new Emergency services director for Buncombe county has been named. He will be meeting with all of the fire chiefs.

John C has been asked to be the eastern representative for the Firemen's Association.

He has also been asked to command the Buncombe county honor guard when Rick steps down in two years.

John C. goes over his goals for the coming year. Risk assessment, Water rescue,

Dean R. asks who is certified for water rescue currently

John C. answers himself and Chris Redden. More certifications on handling mental health clients. He is working on a ten-year plan. He is doing a cost assessment on our EMS runs. Looking at the budget and specifically the line items.

Lisa M. asks when the budget needs to be submitted

John C. at the end of April

Discussion with Kattie about the upcoming budget proposal.

John C. the department will continue to apply for grants to help with funding, we will also try more community outreach programs. Currently working on a vehicle replacement schedule.

Discussion of us doing our own maintenance it is a matter of liability. We need to go to a mechanic that is naph certified.

Dean R. asks the lifespan of a fire truck.

John C. Depends on use. After it turns twenty years old it needs to be certified twice a year.

Mark D. asks if there are any more questions for John.

The BOD thanks John.

Mark D. asks if there is any old business

Mark D. asks if there is any new business

Mark D. asks to move into public comment.

Mark D. As there is no public comment we will now move into executive session. We will come back out in order to adjourn.

7:18pm

We come back from executive session 8:08pm

Dean R. makes a motion to adjourn

Dan F. seconds

Voice vote unanimous

Adjourn 8:10pm