

The Board of: Riceville Volunteer Fire Department
Met at: 7:00PM
On: Monday, October 14, 2024
For: Annual Board and Members Meeting
Moderator: Dan Little (Chairperson)
Members Present: Lee Barrett, Kent Creasman, Kathy Higdon, Merel Johnson, Lisa McCallister, Carla McLendon and Steve Wickham
Not Present: Butch Laughter (Medical)

1. Call the Meeting to Order: Dan Little called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and announced that registration was closed.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer: Reverend Terry Duckworth opened the meeting in prayer. Dan Little then asked everyone to stand if able and join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Approval of Minutes: Lee Barrett read the minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting. Kent Creasman made a motion to accept the minutes. Merel Johnson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report: Lisa McCallister provided an overview of the Summary Financial Position and Major Expenses, relaying we have an Operating Reserve Fund balance of \$510,000; a Vehicle Fund balance of \$275,000 (down from last year because we put money towards a new ambulance); and a Building Fund balance of \$620,000. We paid \$90,000 down for Ambulance 1120, which was received in August. Monthly payments began in September. A new fire engine was paid for and ordered in December 2023. It is a long build for this vehicle, which is expected in late 2025. The Rescue Tool Set purchase was completed, updating old, nonfunctioning equipment.

Katie Payne relayed upcoming expected major expenses include equipment for the new Engine; replacement of a Quick Response vehicle; and recovery efforts (flood damage to the Community Center and Department) as a result of Hurricane Helene.

Steve Wickham made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for 2023-2024. Lee Barrett seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Fire Chief's Report: Chief Kelly provided an overview of his Annual Report handout, which included number of calls received per quarter; average response time; overlapping calls; number of calls per apparatus; category of calls; percentage of aid type; notable information for RVFD Membership; and top 15 staff response numbers based on the total annual calls (1,646).

6. Elections: Dan Little relayed no applications were received for the three available seats during the timeframe set forth in the Bylaws. (One person who submitted their application after the deadline subsequently withdrew.) After speaking with the Department's Human Resources/Legal contact, Management Solutions for Emergency Services (MSFES), it was recommended the situation be brought before the Community for a vote. The current sitting members (Kathy Higdon, Merel Johnson and Lisa McCallister) have all agreed to take on another three-year term of service to the

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Community and the Department. The next year will be a difficult year of recovery and trying times for the Community and Department. These three will bring prior knowledge and background to help navigate through whatever lies ahead. Terry Duckworth made a motion to accept these three for another three-year term due to the fact that no one else has stepped up and due to the fact that we are facing some very grave situations these individuals would understand and know about. Harold Parker seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

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

9. **Public Comment:** Dan Little asked if there was any objection to moving into the Regular Monthly Meeting and holding public comment until that meeting. No objections were voiced.

10. **Adjournment:** Lisa McCallister made a motion to adjourn the 2024 Annual Meeting at 7:29PM. Kent Creasman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Note: Chairman Dan Little only votes in the event of a tie.