## UPPER HOMINY VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2025

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

DAVID LIVINGOOD, CHAIRMAN
GLENN HOWELL, JR., VICE-CHAIRMAN
BRIAN WARREN, SECRETARY
ELISE ISRAEL, TREASURER
ALLEN RASH
SARA HOWELL
SCOTT MCJUNKIN

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chief Shane Prestwood

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** 

JAMES NETHERTON HAROLD MCCARSON

Meeting called to order at 19:00 hours by Chairman Livingood. Prayer was by Allen Rash.

Minutes from the January 16, 2025 meeting were read by Brian Warren, Secretary. Motion to approve, made by Allen Rash. Glenn Howell, Jr. seconded the motion, motion passed.

Treasurer's report as of January 31, 2025 was given by Treasurer Israel; copy attached. Motion to approve was made by Glenn Howell, Jr. Scott McJunkin seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financials as of January 31, 2025 were reviewed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

<u>Solar Initiative</u>: Everything on the contractor's side has been completed and has been inspected. Haywood EMC needs to come and turn off power so the contractor can hook up to the building, be inspected and turn the power back on.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**<u>Budget</u>**: Chief Prestwood met with County and State representatives on not only the budget but what it takes to retain employees.

- 1. There are grants in the House and government budgets for fire departments. There are possibilities of staffing grants or some kind of recurring grant.
- 2. There other grant opportunities; i.e. a Duke Energy grant that could fund the replacement of the generator at Station 2.
- 3. The budget numbers should be in from the County on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 4. Chief Prestwood has frozen spending except for necessary spending until the end of the fiscal year.
- 5. Chief Prestwood denied his annual raise for this year in light of the financial situation.

**Employee Handbook:** On hold, not all Board members had reviewed the latest version. A work session has been scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

No further business; next meeting will be the Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Motion to adjourn made by Sara Howell; Glenn Howell, Jr. seconded the motion; meeting adjourned at 19:58.

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Warren, Secretary