

UPPER HOMINY VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MAY 15, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

GLENN HOWELL, JR., VICE-CHAIRMAN
BRIAN WARREN, SECRETARY
ELISE ISRAEL, TREASURER
HAROLD MCCARSON
JAMES NETHERTON
SARA HOWELL
SCOTT MCJUNKIN

MEMBERS ABSENT:

DAVID LIVENGOOD, CHAIRMAN
ALLEN RASH

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief Shane Prestwood

Meeting called to order at 19:00 hours by Vice-Chairman Howell. Prayer was by Scott McJunkin.

Minutes from the April 10, 2025 meeting were read by Brian Warren, Secretary. Motion to approve, made by Elise Israel. Harold McCarson seconded the motion, motion passed.

Treasurer's report as of April 30, 2025 was given Treasurer Israel; copy attached. Motion to approve was made by Scott McJunkin. Harold McCarson seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financials as of April 30, 2025 were reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Information Sharing:

1. Andrea's son, Andrew: the tumor has shrunk some but the chemo has sapped his energy.
2. Grants:
 - a. USDA Grant: we have some more information on the grant and will look at it closer to purchase of the new truck.
 - b. We did not get the Duke grant for a new generator at Station 2.
 - c. We are still waiting to hear about the turnout gear grant.
 - d. NCOSFM Grant: We have applied for a grant for equipment: seven triband radios and accessories (\$75,139.82). It was submitted to the State on Wednesday; funds will be awarded by June 30th.
3. Insurance has purchased the mailbox lady a new mirror.
4. We are working to get the offending outdoor light readjusted.

Handbook: The handbook has been sent for the staff to review and then will be published. The conflict-of-interest policy is still ongoing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Information Sharing:

1. Solar project: the power bill has gone down from \$1,100 to \$690; we have sold back \$70 of electricity.

2. Legislative Day in Raleigh: discussed fire service needs, especially in Western North Carolina, with legislators.
3. Tomorrow at 10:30, Samaritan's Purse's helicopter will be using the property to land for Franklin Graham and staff to visit a home in Candler that they replace following Helene.
4. Contractors are working on debris removal up and down Hominy Creek.
5. Apparatus: Chief 12 was damaged on a recent call
6. Grants: US Digital Designs is working on Buncombe County paging system for all fire departments. It would be \$11,000 for both stations and the County is covering the cost under a grant.
7. Donation: Arch Fire Department in Lexington is donating a generator to us. They are switching over to natural gas/propane. It is a 61kw generator with 580 hours. It has already been picked up and is here. An electrician from Charlotte will donate his time to come and hook it up. Chief Prestwood would like to move the diesel generator from here to the substation. A 12 x 20 building for the generator for Station 2 would be around \$6,500 and about \$600 for a concrete pad. Sara Howell made the motion to allow the modifications for the installation. Scott McJunkin seconded the motion, motion passed.

Budget: Our budget has been presented to the County Manager. She supported the \$.016 increase. It has been presented to the County Commissioners. May 20th is the meeting for public comment on the budget. June 3rd is the Commissioner's meeting to vote on the County budget.

No further business.

The next meeting will be the Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Sara Howell. James Netherton seconded the motion; meeting adjourned at 20:02.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brian Warren, Secretary