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**HART COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**FIRE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2014**

**STATION 1**

**6:30 P.M.**

 The Hart County Fire Board met for the regularly scheduled meeting on February 3, 2014 at

Station 1 beginning at 6:30p.m. Fire Board members present were:

Marshall Norton – Station 8 (Chairman)

David Howbert – Station 2

Joey Dorsey – Station 3

Brian Adams – Station 7

Mike Bailey – Station 5

Mike Milford – Station 6

Mark Hill – Station 1

Stephen Ayers – Station 8

Don Styles – Station 4

Firefighters present were:

Chief Jerry Byrum

Ryan Osborne – Station 2

Mike Bailey moved to approve the agenda. David Howbert seconded the motion. Motion carried with no opposition.

Mike Milford moved to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2013 meeting. Mike Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried with no opposition.

Mike Milford moved to replace the existing ninth member of the fire board with an elected member from Station 9. Mike Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried with no opposition. Chief Byrum advised that he would have Station 9 elect a member at their next meeting and they would be at the next Fire Board meeting.

Station Reports:

Station 1 – Nothing to report

Station 2 – Wanted update on paving driveway at Station 2. Chief Byrum advised that the Road

 Dept. was waiting for the weather to improve before starting. Also no seatbelts in

 Pumper 2. Chief Byrum advised he would check into having seatbelts installed.

Station 3 – Wanted update on new air compressor. Chief Byrum advised that he was

 getting the bid specs ready and hopefully would have them ready this week to turn

 over to the BOC. Also wanted to know where the generator off old Service 3 was.

 Chief Byrum advised it was at the training center and would be returned to Station 3.

Station 4 – Wanted update on progress of Truck 4. Chief Byrum advised that it had been taken to

 maintenance shop and waiting on them to start work on it.

Station 5 – Dispatch needs to dispatch fire units to all accidents as we have asked them to do.

 Also wanted an update on the retirement reimbursement. Chief Byrum advised he

 was going to discuss this later in the meeting. Also expressed concerns over 911

 dispatching only Squad 1 to check out fire alarms instead of dispatching Squad 1

 along with the primary station. Asked for update on having Fire Dept T-shirts made.

 Chief Byrum advised that it may be possible if any funds were available at the end of

 the fiscal year. Wanted update on alarm systems for the stations. Chief Byrum

 provided the County Administrator costs of installing the systems in the stations

 several years ago but the issue has not gone any further. Asked that text messages be

 sent to cell phones when calls are paged. Also advised that each station needs to

 speak with the personnel about staying on scene at calls until trucks are reloaded and

 ready for other calls.

Station 6 – Wanted update on memorial sign for training center. Marshall Norton advised he is

 still waiting on the estimate from the granite supplier.

Station 7 – Nothing to report.

Station 8 – Expressed concerns over radio issues. The repeater frequency is still not functioning

 and the range of the paging frequency is very limited. Expressed concerns of safety

 from the lack of dependability from the current radio system.

ISO water shuttle practice will resume soon. The butterfly valves have arrived and some have been installed on the engines. Mike Bailey and Marshall Norton have been testing with them and they work great but there are steps that have to be taken for them to function properly. Chief Byrum advised that training would be done with each station on how to operate the valves properly. Also half the camlocks are in and the other half should be in either later this week or next week.

FF1 class is going good. Currently have 10 students in the class and they are about a month away from completion. A Haz-Mat awareness class will be Saturday, February 15, 2014 at Station 1 for anyone interested in taking it. The live burn and state test are scheduled for Saturday,

March 1, 2014. If anyone has a state test they want to challenge they need to let Marshall Norton know as soon as possible so that this can be forwarded to the state proctor so that the test can be administered.

New turnout gear that was ordered should be here in about 4 weeks. Each station needs to turn in inspection forms for their current gear. Chief Byrum advised he has received some stations forms but not all stations. Chief Byrum provided each board member with the Globe Advanced Cleaning/Advanced Inspections handout.

Paperwork for the pension fund will be turned into the Pension Fund by the February 15 deadline. Only 3 people in the county were not eligible for Pension Fund this year due to not making the required training and meetings. Effective January, 2014, you will have to make 25% of eligible fires in order to receive credit for the Pension Fund.

Discussed full time Assistant Chief position, 2 full time Firefighter positions, and the FY15 budget. Chief Byrum wants each board member to look over these issues and be prepared to discuss them at the next board meeting.

When on fire scenes, a Safety Officer needs to be assigned. The practice of a Safety Officer and Firefighters tagging in and out has fallen to the side. Both of these are issues are safety issues and Chief Byrum advised that these practices will be enforced on fire scenes. Marshall Norton advised that a Safety Officer class will be taught for Firefighters interested as soon as the FF1 training is complete. Also Elbert County is going to be hosting a one day class for FF1 evaluators. It will be held in Elbert County sometime in March but not sure of the date. This class is for persons who area minimum FF1 certified and allows the students the ability to monitor FF1 skills check offs.

Joey Dorsey went over the Georgia Open Meetings / Open Records Laws. Each board member was provided a copy of the Georgia Open Meetings / Open Records Laws presentation. After Joey Dorsey finished the presentation, each board member signed a form acknowledging their attendance and understanding of the training. Each form was returned to Chief Byrum to turn over to the County Administrator.

Mike Milford moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Joey Dorsey. Motion carried with no opposition.

Next Fire Board meeting will be February 7, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Station 1.