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**HART COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**FIRE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 2, 2014**

**STATION 1**

**6:30 P.M.**

The Hart County Fire Board met for the regularly scheduled meeting on June 2, 2014 at

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

Mark Hill – Station 1

David Howbert – Station 2

Joey Dorsey – Station 3

Don Styles – Station 4

Mike Bailey – Station 5

Brian Adams – Station 7

Marshall Norton – Station 8

Firefighters present were:

Chief Jerry Byrum

Assistant Chief Stephen Ayers

Teddy Gibson – Station 4

Dustin Carruth – Station 1

Special Guest:

County Administrator Jon Caime

Marshall Norton opened the meeting and served as Chairman

Joey Dorsey moved to approve the agenda. Mike Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried with no opposition.

Joey Dorsey moved to approve the minutes from the April 2014 meeting with the change of replacing February 2013 with February 2014 in the minutes approval section of the minutes from the February 2014 meeting. Don Styles seconded the motion. Motion carried with no opposition.

County Administrator Jon Caime spoke with the Fire Board about the importance of getting the ISO water shuttle done so that the county would receive a 4 rating. Mr. Caime started that the lower insurance rating would save the taxpayers of Hart County several million dollars in insurance premiums with the lower rating. Mr. Caime stated that he wanted the ISO water shuttle to be a top priority and that the county was looking at getting another 3000 gallon tanker to make the shuttle possible.

Mr. Caime stated that he along with Chief Byrum had been in contact with ISO about the water shuttle. Mr. Caime stated that with his figuring we would need approximately 30,000 gallons of water to be able to meet the ISO requirement of supplying an engine with 250 gallons per minute of water for 2 hours.

Mr. Caime stated that another 3000 gallon tanker had been purchased and was being worked on now to get into service. Mr. Caime stated that the county was also looking at another 3000 gallon tanker to purchase. Mr. Caime thanked all the firefighters for their hard work and dedication in obtaining the current rating of 4/9.

Station Reports:

Station 1 – Nothing to report

Station 2 – Thanked everyone for participation in the open house on Saturday, May 24, 2014.

Station 3 – Wanted to know if Chief Byrum had received shirt sizes from each station for t-shirts.

Chief Byrum stated he had sizes from some stations but not all. All Fire Board

members agreed to start the order and the ones who didn’t give a size would get sizes

to him then or not have a new t-shirt. Also advised that Station 4 new truck was

ready.

Station 4 – Nothing to report

Station 5 – Installed an 80’ pole at Station 5 for Bowersville’s personal repeater. Also looking to

install a weather siren at some point if one could be found. Mr. Caime advised them

to check with Terrell Partain as there could be some EMA money to get one.

Station 6 – No member present

Station 7 – Nothing to report.

Station 8 – Expressed concerns again over the radio system. Also asked about using the tactical

channels on scene. Chief Byrum stated he would speak about this later in the meeting.

Station 9 – No member present

During the Station 8 report and discussion of radio problems, Mr. Caime stated that he wanted to meet with Chief Byrum and Terrell Partain tomorrow to get something fixed with the radio system. Marshall Norton expressed concerns that counties like Elbert, Franklin, and Madison, counties of comparable size, had good radio systems where firefighters could communicate via portable radios to dispatch. The current radio system is not capable of portable radio communication with dispatch if there is even a small distance between dispatch and the portable radio. Mr. Caime stated that an independent study of the radio system may be needed to try and discover what needed to be done since this was a matter of safety.

A total of 9 firefighters completed and passed their FF1 skills tests on April 12, 2014. These firefighters were:

Lee Ayers

Stephen Ayers

Blake Bennett

Jake Jordan

Tommy Kerr

Rusty King

James Norris

Chris Pritchett

Ryan Ray

Two firefighters also completed and passed their FF2 skills tests on the same day. These firefighters were:

Todd Hill

Marshall Norton

A used 3000 gallon tanker has been purchased and will be placed at Station 2 when it is in service. Mr. Caime stated that he has told the maintenance shop that this truck was top priority and as soon as it was checked and working it would be placed into service.

Chief Byrum stated that he needed each station to test their tanker and front mount on hydrants. Chief Byrum stated he needed the trucks to drive 200 feet not exceeding 35 mph, fill from the hydrant, and then drive another 200’ not exceeding 35 mph and take a total time from start to finish. Chief Byrum stated that this needed to be done on different hydrants. Chief Byrum stated that stations with multiple hydrants in their area needed to do this on 2 low gallon per minute hydrants and 2 high gallon per minute hydrants.

Chief Byrum stated that he was going to set up full scale water shuttle exercises at four locations in the county as soon as possible. The possible locations are:

Airline School

Uncle Charlie’s store in Nuberg

Five Forks

Goldmine Pentecostal Church

Waiting on price of granite monument for the training center. Mike Milford was to be getting a price but was not present at this meeting. Decision was made to get the price and e-mail it to each Fire Board member before the next meeting.

Need all portables to have the V-Fire tactical channels installed so that they can be used on fire scenes. Chief Byrum stated he would set a date or dates to have the radios programmed and would let everyone know when and where this would be.

No new radios / pagers will be purchased in FY14 due to budget shortfalls. Mr. Caime stated that if one needed repaired or replaced it would be completed as usual but due to the budget shortfalls no new radios / pagers can be purchased at this time.

Still having problems with firefighters not wearing proper PPE on fire scenes. Captains and Safety Officers need to address this on scenes with anyone found to not be wearing the proper PPE. This is a safety issue and needs to be addressed immediately.

The new air compressor will be functional at Station 3 on June 10, 2014. A training class on the operation of the system will be at 3:00 pm on the same day for anyone in the area interested in

learning how to operate the system.

Stations need to stop leaving the air conditioners on when there is no meetings or training going on. The energy line for the budget is already over budget. Chief Byrum stated that stations could turn the systems on before a meeting or training but they needed to be turned off or the thermostat turned very high when no one is present at the stations.

GA Fire Standards and Training were scheduled to tour each station this week but due to problems they had to reschedule. Chief Byrum stated he would let everyone know when the new date is.

Turnout gear inspection forms are still needed from some stations.

Chief Byrum provided each Fire Board member with a handout of articles on water shuttle. The handouts were Basic Rural Water Shuttle Ops from Firefighter Nation and Water Supply & ISO from Emergency Technology & Tactics.

Update on the computer systems to replace the fax machines at the stations. Still waiting on getting the computers. As soon as the computers are available the change will occur.

Captain Teddy Gibson expressed concerns over radio and dispatch issues. Mr. Caime was provided copies of complaint forms filled out by firefighters. Mr. Caime stated that he would address Captain Gibson’s concerns with the radio and dispatch. Capt. Gibson also asked about having the website updated. Mr. Caime advised to get what we wanted to Paul Robinson and he would have it placed on the website.

Chief Byrum also provided a handout on public safety day that will be held on

Saturday, October 11, 2014 with a rain-out date of Saturday, October 18, 2014. The day will be held either at the old Ingle’s parking lot or the Hart County High School. More information will be available as time gets closer.

Mike Bailey moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Don Styles. Motion carried with no opposition.

Next Fire Board meeting will be Monday, August 4, 2014 at 6:30 pm at Station 1.