

Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of January 25, 2016

Board Members Present: Al Hitchcock, Wesley Gordon, George Oldroyd, Kay Benton, and Moe Wells.

Others Present: Chief Knight, Captain Jerry Howerton, and Steven Sellers.

At 6:00 p.m. Chairman Hitchcock called the board of directors meeting to order.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Kay Benton made the motion to approve the minutes as written, which was seconded by George Oldroyd. The motion carried unanimously.

Financials: Kay Benton asked about the amounts in Miscellaneous Expense, and Dues and Subscriptions Expense. Chairman Hitchcock said the cost of the election was recorded in Miscellaneous Expense. The Dues and Subscriptions Expense had an item which was miscoded, but had been corrected. Kay Benton made the motion to accept the Financials as presented. The motion was seconded by George Oldroyd and the motion carried unanimously.

Firefighter's Report: Steve Sellers attended the meeting for Pat Walsh. He had nothing to report, but thanked the board for their support.

Chief's Report: Chief Knight reported he had submitted a grant to FEMA for new air packs. Packs were also delivered to Representative Tom Rice and Senator Lindsey Graham asking for their support. The current packs expire in 2018. Every five years Horry County Emergency Management upgrades their All Hazard Mitigation Plan. A possible benefit to the District is to qualify for grants to upgrade buildings in Horry County to be more storm ready. Chief Knight submitted the paperwork necessary for the District to participate. George Oldroyd made the motion to accept the plan. Moe Wells seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Chief Knight also had the One Percent Fund Expenditure Form to be submitted to the State Firefighters Association.

Chief Knight talked about the quotes for the new pumper purchase. A truck will be here for demonstration on Wednesday. This truck is available and Chief Knight would like to purchase it, if it meets approval. Chief Knight asked Captain Howerton to give an update on the new ambulance purchase. Captain Howerton was very impressed with the Excellence product, and recommends them to the board. Moe Wells made the motion to purchase an ambulance from Excellence. The motion was seconded by George Oldroyd and the motion carried unanimously.

EMS Report: Captain Howerton presented the EMS Report. He noted 2015 saw an increase in call runs of 33 percent over 2014.

Assistant Chief's Report: None.

Chairman's Report:

- Chairman Hitchcock stated the groundbreaking for Station Four will happen as soon as a building permit is obtained. He asked the date be posted on the website as soon as it is known.
- He asked Chief Knight to update the board on the full time to part time conversion. Chief Knight explained six new full time employees are going through orientation this week and will be on duty beginning February 1st.
- A new contract has been signed for Horry County fire service, which includes the Tupelo Bay area.
- The District has now received the check from the bonding company.
- Sample bricks for Station Four were delivered for review. Laurel Bay was preferred by most.

Old Business: George Oldroyd asked for an update on the Insurance Recovery. Chief Knight reported the paperwork was in process and training had begun. He was hopeful it would begin in February.

New Business: Moe Wells asked if there were any plans for the Fire District to commemorate its 50th anniversary. Chief Knight said a committee had been working on that, and hopes that a celebration could coincide with the ribbon cutting at Station Four. Steven Sellers noted the next committee meeting would be February 2nd.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Kay Benton made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Moe Wells. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved on Feb 22, 2016



Al Hitchcock, Chairman