

Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of September 26, 2016

Board Members Present: Al Hitchcock, Kay Benton, George Oldroyd, Booty Shelley, Moe Wells.

Others Present: Pat Walsh, Chief Knight, Assistant Chief Haney, Captain Howerton.

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

Public Comment: Wendy Swindell noted she had not seen volunteers helping at the scene of accidents lately. Chief Knight explained the volunteers were no longer automatically dispatched. Ms. Swindell also asked if the names of the board members and their term's expiration date could be posted on the website. Assistant Chief Haney said there were plans to add both board members and staff to the website.

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

Financials: Medical collections are down. The Chairman asked Captain Howerton to provide some numbers at next month's meeting regarding billing, collecting, and average turn around. He asks if the amount being collected is more than national average. Booty Shelley made a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by George Oldroyd, and the motion carried unanimously.

Firefighter's Report: None.

Chief's Report: Chief Knight presented a draft of the 2017 budget, along with a budget worksheet. The SCBA has been ordered and is scheduled to arrive next week. He expects them to be up and running the middle of October. Five new hires are in orientation this week, and another five will start October 3rd. There has been no word on the SAFER grant, be we are still in the running. Open House will be Thursday, October 13th from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Assistant Chief's Report: Assistant Chief Haney spoke about the radios which need updated to continue to work and the cost involved. The current budget provides \$78,000 for this. The radios will be outdated in 2018, and will not be serviced after that time.

EMS Report: None.

Chairman's Report: Station Four is nearly complete, they are working on a punch list. The chairman would like to have a ribbon cutting ceremony around October 17th-19th. The grass must be at 80%, and its progress may hold up the opening. There is not a lot of parking; we may need to carpool to the opening.

Medical supplies expense is up 22%, but there is a decline in income. Captain Howerton discussed the rising cost of medicine and the trend toward community paramedicine. Georgetown County charging for plan reviews was discussed. Chairman Hitchcock will read and go over at the next meeting.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

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

Approved on 24 Oct, 2016



Al Hitchcock, Chairman