

**Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of December 18, 2017**

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

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

Budget: The public hearing of the budget was held at 5:30. No public comment was made.

At 6:00 p.m. Kay Benton called the board of directors meeting to order.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Steven Sellers asked for a change of verbiage in the minutes; regarding the use of the term Chairman to identify Mr. Hitchcock. While Ms. Benton is sitting in as Chair during his medical leave, he would be considered a voting member. Kay had spoken to legal counsel regarding this, and since there are no bylaws in place, counsel was unable to give an answer. Mr. Oldroyd would like the board's actions to be supported by a vote. Al Hitchcock made a motion to remove the word Chairman in the paragraph regarding the second reading of the budget and accept the minutes with the correction. The motion was seconded by Moe Wells, and the motion carried.

Financials: Mr. Hitchcock stated this is our lowest cash balance of any time in the year. Steven Sellers made a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by George Oldroyd, and the motion carried.

Firefighter's Report: None.

Chief's Report: Chief Knight distributed the Fire Marshal's commercial project list, and the run list for November.

Assistant Chief's Report: None.

EMS Report: Captain Howerton reviewed the EMS reports. The medical billing was lower than normal in November due to a problem with the Medicare revalidation. We are on target for those collections to be caught up by the end of December. State protocols have been approved for Georgetown County, allowing us to provide a higher level of care beginning January 1st.

Chairman's Report: Ms. Benton distributed a meeting schedule for 2018. Al Hitchcock made the motion to approve the schedule. The motion was seconded by George Oldroyd, and the

motion carried. A draft copy of bylaws was distributed for everyone to review and discuss at the next meeting. The goal is to have new by laws in place by the end of the first quarter. Contracts for Horry and Georgetown Counties were distributed and discussed. It may be time to update the language.

The Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Committee submitted a revised recommendation report, which was presented as a motion by George Oldroyd:

Move to accept and implement the recommendations to the MIGCFD Board of Directors by the Committee on Volunteer Recruitment & Retention as presented at the December 18th, 2017 Meeting of the Board, and listed below:

1. That the Board initiate a formal Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Program to include:
 - a. Retaining and expanding opportunities for volunteer "active, Interior Certified Firefighters, Firefighter- EMTs and other Emergency Scene Support personnel.
 - b. Retain, as is, the successful Volunteer Headquarters Front Desk Program.
 - c. Create and implement a New Volunteer Program for Non-Emergency tasks similar to on the "Fire Corps" programs of the United Administration and the National Volunteer Fire Council.
 - d. Retain and incorporate into the aforementioned new "Volunteer Program the existing volunteer category of "Associate" Volunteer Member.
2. It is recommended that the Board continue to keep the "Committee" beyond the originally anticipated four months, continuing until the various program activities are up and running.
3. That current committee member Whitney Hills be offered the Volunteer position of "Volunteer Coordinator" with duties and responsibilities to be developed.
4. The "Committee" shall report to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis.

Moe Wells seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Third Reading of the 2018 budget: The budget was reviewed, and a millage increase was discussed. George Oldroyd made a motion to approve the final version of the 2018 budget as written at the third reading. The motion was seconded by Steven Sellers, and the motion carried.

Old Business: Kay Benton discovered an error with a loan document. The loan had been documented as being on a monthly schedule instead of a yearly schedule. The error has been corrected and new documents have been signed.

The Assistant Chief has contacted an attorney regarding the sale of the 2000 Chevrolet Blazer. There is no issue with Steven Sellers making the purchase as the highest bidder. The attorney gave suggestions on how to hold auctions in the future. Al Hitchcock made the motion to sell the Blazer to Mr. Sellers. The motion was seconded by Moe Wells, and the motion carried.

New Business: We need to start thinking and talking about a referendum. Ms. Benton would like to have a representative from both Horry County side and Georgetown County side to come up with HOAs, organizations, and other groups that we can schedule with to make presentations to the public. A referendum workshop was scheduled for Thursday, January 18, at 6:00 p.m.

Booty Shelley announced that he will step down as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board, as of the end of the year.

George Oldroyd asked for an exception report for the apparatus. Assistant Chief Haney stated Ladder 76 is back in service, other items are general small repairs.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

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

Approved on 1/30, 2018


