

Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes of April 23, 2018

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

**Others Present:** Chief Knight, Assistant Chief Haney, Captain Brown, Captain Howerton, Captain Zimpleman, Captain Petrella, Pat Walsh, Whitney Hills.

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

**Public Comment:** None.

**Minutes:** George Oldroyd made a motion to accept the March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup> minutes, with the correction as discussed. Al Hitchcock seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Financials:** Al Hitchcock made a motion to accept the financials as presented, which was seconded by Booty Shelley, and the motion carried. Assistant Chief Haney presented information on extra overtime hours for the month of March. George Oldroyd has questions which are not answered by this information and will submit to the board a spreadsheet identifying his question areas. Kay Benton asked for a monthly report on extra overtime.

**Firefighter's Report:** None.

**Chief's Report:** Chief Knight has been contacted by Horry County regarding the electric bill at Station Two. He read from the MIGCFD Board of Directors minutes of November 20, 1990, noting Horry County Police agreed to pay the electric bill at Station Two in exchange for use of office space there. Al Hitchcock made a motion to work with Horry County and Santee Cooper to get the bill in MIGCFD's name and pay the electric bill going forward. The motion was seconded by Moe Wells, and the motion carried.

**Assistant Chief's Report:** The apparatus exception report was presented. Six portable radios are now on the medic units, so all firetrucks and medic units now have the newer radios: A radio also came in for headquarters station, which allow the pagers to hear radio traffic like we used to months ago. The admin pick up will be here May 21<sup>st</sup>. All radios and lighting are ready for the up-fit.

**EMS Report:** Captain Howerton reviewed the EMS report. CAB EMS have offered again to send a representative to report on the ambulance billing and answer any questions. A Carolina Ambulance Billing representative will attend the next meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Fire Marshal's Report:** Captain Zimpleman presented the building project report.

**Chairman's Report:** The information for the referendum was delivered to Horry County last week and was approved. The referendum based on their approval will be July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Georgetown County Board Voter Registration and Elections will meet on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Chief Knight reported that he spoke with Horry County last week and the map has been updated to reflect the addition of Blackmoor and Tupelo Bay to the district.

Kay Benton had been contacted by a reporter regarding the referendum and asked which board member would be willing to be board spokesperson to the media. George Oldroyd indicated his willingness and the board concurred. George Oldroyd refreshed our recollection about the board and the business of a face before the public, stating his understanding that the board is not allowed to be politically active in attempting to persuade the public to vote yes or no on the referendum. However, it is no conflict of interest to state the reasons why we are looking for more funds.

Kay Benton shared information she had read about technology which would keep our ambulances from being stolen. She has requested more information and would like the Assistant Chief to look at it.

The bylaws are ready to go to the attorney, along with bylaws from a district similar to ours. Moe Wells asked for a copy of the revised draft bylaws that were being presented to the attorney. Ms. Benton asked Mr. Wells for an update on the audit. He expects to hear from the auditor on Thursday about her schedule. Moe thanked the Assistant Chief and the Administrative Assistant for their work on the five-year projection. Al Hitchcock also thanked them for their work on the resolution.

Ms. Benton asked if Tom Swatzel had been contacted. Mr. Oldroyd stated he was waiting for the board meeting to know that we had the resolution out there and what the expectation is. He will let him know the results and give him a copy of the resolution. We will wait to hear from Mr. Swatzel regarding a public meeting. A workshop was scheduled to develop talking points for May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Moe Wells expressed the importance of educating the firefighters on how to answer questions the public may have about the referendum.

**Old Business:** Membership with the SC Association of Special Purpose District was discussed. George Oldroyd made a motion to apply for the full membership to the SC Association of Special Purpose Districts, which was seconded by Moe Wells. After a discussion, the motion was withdrawn, and the subject was tabled until Moe gets more information.

Steven Sellers asked if the BB&T account was closed and the status of the bank signature cards. The BB&T account has not been closed at this time due to an outstanding check. An effort is being made to contact the payee and clear up the matter. George Oldroyd expressed an

interest in raising the impact fees. Moe Wells questioned raising the impact fees before the referendum. Booty Shelley asked what impact fees are charged in other areas of Horry and Georgetown Counties. Kay Benton is still working on the signature cards.

The Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Committee has not met since the last regular board meeting, pending the resolution and referendum question. Whitney Hills had been pulled away from her volunteer duties, but is back and ready to refocus.

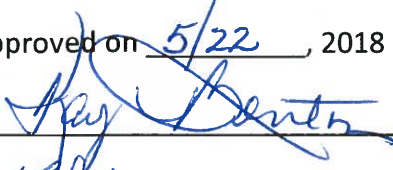
**New Business:** None.

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

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

Approved on 5/22, 2018

  
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CHAIRMAN