

**Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of May 20, 2019**

Board Members Present: Gene Connell, Pat Walsh, George Oldroyd, Steven Sellers.

Others Present: Chief Knight, Assistant Chief Haney.

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Board member/Treasurer Kay Benton was not in attendance due to work issues.

Minutes: The April 22nd minutes were reviewed. Steven Sellers made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Pat Walsh seconded the motion, and the motion carried. After the vote, Mr. Walsh suggested a correction in “Financial Reports” to read, “amounts budgeted” instead of “amounts budgets”.

Financials: The Chairman asked the chiefs if anything looked awry with any of the line items. The chiefs agreed that everything was trending as per usual compared to this time last year. The Rescue finances are on track as well. Steven Sellers made a motion to accept the financials as presented, which was seconded by Gene Connell. The motion carried.

Chief’s Report: Chief Knight reviewed the call volume for 2019. Although January calls were down from 2018, March and April had made up for that. Steven Sellers had asked if a line item could be added to show responses to nursing homes. Assistant Chief stated that he would look into it.

We lost a firefighter to a tragic accident last month. Through the work of all the members of the department working together, we put together a fitting service, and gave him a good send off. Bike week wrapped up without any problems. We saw a slight up staffing at peak times. The Justin Sipe memorial golf tournament will be held on June 15th.

EMS Report: Call volume was up compared to this time last year. Captain Howerton provided an in-service training session at one of the nursing homes on lifting and moving patients. He hopes to visit other facilities in the district.

Assistant Chief’s Report: Engineer, Lieutenant, and Captain promotional assessments will begin the last week of May. Ladder 79 will be in Sumter for approximately one month while undergoing bodywork. It will be replaced with Ladder 76.

Chairman’s Report: A moment of silence was given in recognition of the passing of reporter Anita Crone.

The timing of three public meetings for the referendum was discussed. The presentation at the Burgess Community was positive, with a good turnout. Gene Connell would like to see former

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board members, and public officials invited a meeting. He would also like to see a full-page ad in the newspaper the day before the referendum. Chairman Oldroyd said he would be happy to get in touch with the former board members. He will also invite the public officials and notify the news outlets. It was decided to hold a public meeting the evening of the June regular meeting, on June 24th, at 6:00 p.m., in the training room, and to invite public officials. Gene Connell will get quotes for flyers. Pat Walsh will send questions from the Burgess presentation to the Assistant Chief to help with preparation of an information sheet.

A subcommittee was established, Pat Walsh and Gene Connell will meet with the administrative staff in order to develop the referendum ideas further.

In the letter from the delegation, they spoke to the matter of budget amendments, and the need for the process to be included in our bylaws. Gene Connell, will refine language for a resolution and will bring it back for approval at the next meeting. Mr. Connell asked if the bylaws had been signed by each board member. This will also be addressed at the next meeting.

Gene Connell reported on his conversation with the Horry County Council Chairman and the County Attorney regarding the ambulance contract. He asked the chiefs to help clarify the extended service area boundaries. The Chairman stated the mutual aid language was vague and needed to be more clearly defined.

Old Business: None.

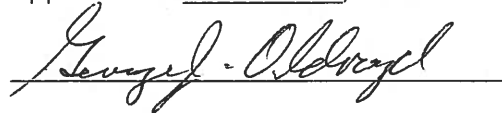
New Business: Pat Walsh introduced Chad Gill as the newly elected president of the IAFF. Mr. Gill expressed the IAFF's willingness to provide assistance with the referendum.

Public Comment: Wendy Swindell suggested not getting too deep into the money during the public meeting. Maggie Fancher said the presentation at the Burgess Community was very informative. Jerry Fancher expressed concern regarding the completion date of the 2018 audit.

The next regular meeting will be held June 24, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Steven Sellers made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Pat Walsh, and the motion carried.

Approved on June 24, 2019



George J. Oldroyd, Chairman