Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District Board of Directors Meeting July 27, 2020

Board Members Present: Gene Connell, Pat Walsh, Kay Benton, Alison Burns, Beth Ward.

Others Present: Chief Haney.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

The Chairman read a resignation letter from board member Sellers effective June 22, 2020. The letter will be made a part of the meeting record.

Minutes: Beth Ward made the motion to approve the June meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Alison Burns, and the motion carried.

Financials: Treasurer Benton distributed the 2019 financial statements and the report for the quarterly oversight for the first quarter of 2020. Beth Ward made the motion to adopt the procedure of having the auditors present the audit in draft form and discuss before being accepted by the board. The motion was seconded by Kay Benton, and the motion carried. Beth Ward asked about the tax revenues as budgeted, and what the forecast may be for receipts the rest of the year. Gene Connell suggested asking for special permission to use impact fees for salaries during the COVID-19 pandemic. Beth Ward made the motion to ask permission for discretionary use of impact fees to pay salaries. Kay Benton seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Beth Ward made the motion to accept the financials as presented. Kay Benton seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Ambulance Billing: Chief Haney presented the board with information regarding requests for proposal for ambulance billing for the department. The admin staff recommends rewarding a new contract to Fire Recovery EMS. Beth Ward made the motion to award the contract to Fire Recovery EMS. The motion was seconded by Kay Benton, and the motion carried.

Expanding the District: Chairman Connell and Chief Haney met with Chief Tanner of Horry County. A report showed the number of calls ran in that area last year was 48. There is a lot involved in determining how to break that area up on the GIS mapping. Chief Tanner was optimistic and will run a few proposals on the division and the tax revenue. Many residents in that area have expressed the desire to be included in our district.

Organization Chart: Chief Haney presented an organizational chart which would move our officers into titles which more closely match those of our neighbors. The first phase of implementation would not involve money, just a change of title, and updating job descriptions to reflect the change. A line captain would become a battalion chief; an admin. captain would become a division chief. Alison Burns made the motion to approve implementing the first phase. The motion was seconded by Pat Walsh, and the motion carried.

Chairman's Report: None.

Chief's Report: Testing process. Six openings. Three scheduled for testing tomorrow. Currently, there are no members being quarantined.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Representative Fry would like to present awards. He will be invited to the next meeting. Alison Burns said great job on a call near the Garden City Connector Saturday night. Gene Connell said someone with the Coast Guard expressed their appreciation for a call near the jetty. Chief Haney said the water rescue has been doing an outstanding job.

Public Comment: None.

Next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 24, 2020.

meeting

Adjourn: Kay Benton made the motion to adjourn. Beth Ward seconded the motion, and the motion adjourned.

Approved on 8/2, 2020