

11/29/2021 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: President Lee Gowen, along with Fire Board members Jesse Crews, Orival Thompson, Kip Taylor, and Mike Harris; Fire Chief C. L. Lewis, Assistant Chief Williard Turner; County Administrator Hampton Raulerson; Secretary Jenifer Nobles; and visitors as recorded hereafter.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Gowen led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Crews made motion to amend agenda to include:

#9B. AFG Grant

#9C. Update on radios

Motion was seconded by Mr. Harris, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Crews made motion to approve October 25, 2021 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Harris, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Crews made motion to approve Financial Report. Motion was seconded by Mr. Harris, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Report becomes integral part of Minutes.

6. ONWR, TERRI JENKINS

None.

7. REPORTS: GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION: ROGER TODD

None.

8. GUESTS

Sheriff Robert Phillips was present. The Board expressed appreciation to Sheriff Phillips for his time and concern. Sheriff Phillips stated that presently dispatch is being operated with only 1 operator per shift.

This one is responsible for answering calls for EMS, Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, City of Folkston, and the citizens. When E911 Center is up and running, there will be 2 operators. Tresca Brown is currently in school and will be the contact person. Sheriff Phillips expressed his appreciation to the volunteer fire fighters. "We will make sure the E911 Center works along with the CAD system. Tresca Brown brings 22 years experience, (previously worked for Glynn and Camden Counties). We are also working with Verizon for better coverage in the south end. Feel free to call me or Tresca anytime, if there is a problem.

Mr. Crews reported that he had talked to the Sheriff and Tresca concerning fire calls, and they are committed to make sure everyone is covered.

E911 is on the agenda for the BOC meeting on Thursday.

Mr. Thompson asked Fire Chief Lewis about protocols at Dispatch. Sheriff Phillips stated that he will make sure protocols are followed. Policy manuals will also be put in place.

Mr. Gowen stated he has been on the Board for 8 or 9 years and this has been a problem. Mr. Gowen offered that some of the volunteers feel that dispatch will not talk to them. Sheriff Phillips assured the Board that this will also be addressed and fixed.

Mr. Thompson stated that the number of volunteers are down and more are needed. Volunteers are getting burned out because of all the medical calls. Sheriff Phillips will also look into this.

The Board thanked Sheriff Phillips for attending the meeting. Sheriff Phillips stated that he and Tresca will try to attend the fire board meetings.

9. REPORTS:

A. Fire Chief Lewis reported that 5 volunteers have completed EMR certification:

Kenny Lee, Lawson Lafferty, Andrea Canaday, Williard Turner, and Andrew Wise

B. AFG Grant - Chief Lewis reported that applications are open in order to apply for Engine for the fire department. Mr. Thompson made motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval to submit application for fire department engine. Mr. Taylor seconded motion, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

C. Radios- Chief Lewis reported that Approval to Purchase Radios from Mobile Communications for \$15,408.00 is on the BOC Agenda for Thursday's meeting. The fire department has the monies available in the 2021 budget. Mr. Crews made motion to recommend the purchase of radios for \$15,408.00 to the BOC, to be considered at Thursday's meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Harris, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Phillips reported that MCA will install 180' tower for new repeater system, with the understanding that system will have to work in order to get paid for system.

10. PERSONNEL REPORT: NEW APPLICANTS FOR SUPPORT

Chief Lewis reported that 2 applications for support members and 1 for fire fighter have been received and are being considered.

11. FIRE RUN REPORTS BY TYPES (ENCLOSED IN HANDOUT)

Fire run report for the year so far is 856 runs.

12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT

None.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

None.

14. NEXT MEETING, MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021

15. ADJOURN

Mr. Thompson made motion that meeting be adjourned at 6:40 p.m. Motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.