

**CHARLTON COUNTY FIRE BOARD MINUTES
WINOKUR FIRE STATION
JULY 22ND, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

7/22/2024 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present were fire board members Jesse Crews, Orival Thompson, Lee Gowen, Kip Taylor, Mike Harris, County Administrator Hampton Raulerson, Fire Chief CL Lewis, County Deputy Clerk Madeline Nettles, and guests as follows.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Gowen led the invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chief Lewis asked the fire board to consider adding an amendment to the agenda to review radios and review the community fire defense grant.

Mr. Crews motioned to adopt the agenda with changes. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

No meeting previous meeting due to lack of quorum. Presentation of prior minutes will occur at next meeting.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

The fire board discussed some items from the budget. County Administrator Raulerson told the Fire Board that a budget amendment may happen later for the retirement line. Total budget usage is 53%.

Mr. Crews made a motion to accept the financial report. Mr. Harris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6. REPORTS: OWLR

No representative from the Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge was present. Mr. Roger Todd from the Georgia Forestry Commissioner reported no updates from the Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge.

7. REPORTS: GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION: ROGER TODD

Mr. Todd updated the Fire Board about the current KDI numbers and the four fires for June. He informed the

Fire Board that the Charlton area is borrowing a dozer from Bacon County temporarily, since they have two dozers that are down. Mr. Todd also informed the Fire Board that the annual county inspections are coming up.

8. SPECIAL GUEST

There was no special guest present.

9. REPORTS -

Fire Truck Delivery Report

Chief Lewis reported that the fire department was considering 3 potential replacement trucks, but they decided to go with the 2000 1500GP for \$65000.

Youth Program Report

Williard Turner presented that the youth have collected \$1100. They will be hosting a car wash this Saturday in St. George and donating socks, underwear, etc. to the field box at the St. George Elementary school.

SOP/SOG Review

Recommended changes were presented. Recommendations are to align the fire department more with the county personnel policy.

The fireboard discussed the per diem recommended changes.

The fireboard tabled the item until the next meeting to review the changes.

CLASSES TO START

New member classes will start on the 29th of this month at Station 1.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA: RADIO PURCHASE

Chief Lewis informed the Fire Board of the rental quote provided. Chief Lewis and County Administrator Raulerson will review the quote in more detail. Twenty-two truck radios and fifteen handheld radios will need to be replaced.

The funding is intended to be taken from the Volunteer Fire Department line of 2020 SPLOST. If the county leased instead of purchased, the county would try to budget it into the annual fund.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA: COMMUNITY WILDLIFE DEFENSIVE GRANT

The grant must align with the Hazardous Mitigation plan. County Administrator Raulerson, Chief Lewis, and EMS/EMA Director Bruce Young will schedule a meeting with the grant contact to discuss further.

10. PERSONNEL REPORT:

There are currently 10 applicants in the onboarding process. Of those ten, eight of them have expressed a desire to become a firefighter and two have expressed the desire to

become a support. There are seven new firefighters, 2 of which started with the Junior Fire Department.

Baker County has donated hose and several nozzles.

Baker and Nassau County assisted with the fire last week. The county has a great working relation with them and appreciates their assistance.

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

The Fire Board reviewed the fire runs. Mr. Crews asked how to eliminate medical calls that do not require fire department involvement. Chuck Edwards said they met with the Sheriff's Office to discuss guidelines regarding medical calls that need fire department involvement.

12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT

Discussed prior to item number 11, County Administrator Raulerson informed the Fire Board of the Commissioners approving an amendment to the Baker County Mutual Aid agreement, making mutual aid more automatic.

County Administrator Raulerson informed the Fire Board of the permit for Georgia Bend Fire Station Property. He also informed the Fire Board about the newspaper ad regarding land clearing proposals, which will run for four weeks.

13. GUESTS

There were no comments from the guests.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

No executive session was required.

15. NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 (IN FOLKSTON)

The next meeting will be at Fire Station 1.

16. ADJOURN

Mr. Crews motioned to adjourn. Mr. Taylor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

17. AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA: CONSIDER QUOTE FOR RADIOS

Please see item "9. REPORTS-" for the amendment minutes.