

**BOARD OF RURAL FIRE CONTROL
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 29, 2010**

The Board of Rural Fire Control met on Thursday, April 29, 2010, at the York County Fire Training Center at 6:30 PM.

Notices of the meeting were forwarded to the members of the Board, the sixteen rural fire departments, and to the members of the media. Notices were also forwarded to individuals who had requested copies, and a copy was posted on the bulletin board at the York County Fire Training Center.

All members of the Board were present.

Members of several fire departments were present.

Chairman David Jennings called the meeting to order.

Gene Thomas opened the meeting with prayer.

Persons not on the Agenda Wishing to Appear before the Board:

Assistant County Manager Anna Moore appeared before the Board to request the Board provide information concerning priorities for the Board concerning three topics:

Building sub-stations,

Building a new fire training/maintenance center,

Or a new voice activated paging system.

Gary Loflin, Director of Public Safety Communications, explained the options concerning the new paging systems.

Chairman Jennings stated that the Board would discuss these items under new business.

Bill Dunlap requested the Board discuss the county's contracts with municipalities for fire protection be discussed during an executive session.

Reading of the Minutes:

Randy S. Thompson, Fire Marshal

Minutes of the March 18, 2010, Board meeting were amended to show that all members of the Board were present at the meeting and the amended minutes were approved.

Finance Committee Report:

David Hord, Chairman

The monthly finance report was accepted as information.

Chairman Jennings reported that the 2010/2011 budget request will be reduced by deleting the \$250,000 requested in the Building and Fixed Equipment Account and to reduce the amount requested in the Departmental Supplies Account by \$50,000.

Equipment Committee Report:

Gene Thomas, Chairman

The Lesslie FD requested three complete sets of PPE for firefighters who recently completed the 1152 training course. Kenny Gilfillan made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The Newport FD requested approval to keep their grass truck in service as a grass truck when replaced. Kenny Gilfillan made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The Board will make a recommendation to the council that Newport be given their old grass truck after it has been replaced. The truck will be removed from the county's maintenance and insurance program and will be the responsibility of the Newport FD.

The county's Dive Team requested the Board recommend to the County Council that the old spare grass truck be donated to the Dive Team. Dennis Settlemyre made a motion to support the Dive Team by making the recommendation to the County Council. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Accident Review Committee:

Larry Williams, Chairman

No report.

Miscellaneous

Old Business:

The revised specifications for new PPE were forwarded to the Purchasing Department and were sent to vendors for quotes. The quotes should be submitted to the Purchasing Department by mid-May.

Chairman Jennings requested the Equipment Committee meet with the fire departments that are scheduled to receive new fire engines during the 2010/2011 fiscal year and determine the colors that the departments want. The Board requests that Mike Burns provide the Board members with a complete set of the new specifications for the fire engines.

New Business:

It was reported that Jerry Chapman would be sworn in at the County Council's meeting on May 3, 2010. The Board will have the annual elections for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary at their May meeting.

The Board discussed members attending the Annual SC Firefighter's Conference, June 7 thru June 12 at Myrtle Beach. Larry Williams made a motion for the Board to provide for the expenses for any Board member who wanted to attend. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Steve Skinnell, Larry Williams, Bill Dunlap, Kenny Gilfillan, and Gene Thomas will be attending the conference.

Persons wishing to appear before the Board but not on the agenda:

Chief Don Love, Bethel FD, reported to the Board that the Bethel Fire Department is continuing to look for a service truck. He may want Mike Burns to accompany him to evaluate a truck. The Board agreed that they would accept this as notice that Bethel is considering the purchase of a 2002 fire truck. The Board approved Mike Burns accompanying Chief Love to evaluate the truck.

Chief Love also expressed his opinion of how important he thought the amplifiers for the pagers would be to the firefighters.

At this time the Board went into executive session.

The Board resumed the normal Board meeting, and the public was invited to rejoin the meeting.

Gene Thomas made a motion not to pursue the upgrade of the paging system or additional portable radios. The motion was seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

David Hord made a motion for the Fire Marshal's staff to obtain information from the fire departments as to how many amplifiers each department needs and provide the information to the Equipment Committee. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Bill Dunlap made a motion to recommend to the County Manager that the top priority for the Fire Service be the building of the 5 substations, and any remaining funds to be used to construct a new Fire Training Center / Maintenance Facility. The motion also included a recommendation not to renew the contract with the Town of York for fire protection in the unincorporated areas of the York Fire District. Bill Dunlap also recommended that the Committee that was appointed by the county council to address the substations be reappointed. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned with unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy S. Thompson
Fire Marshal

Note: The minutes of this meeting are a summary of the activities and discussions that took place during the Board meeting. The minutes should not be construed as a complete transcript of the meeting. The minutes will not be approved until the next Board meeting and are subject to be amended at that time. Let it be known that Chairman Jennings does not vote on any action of the Board of Rural Fire Control unless there is a tie in the vote.