

**BOARD OF RURAL FIRE CONTROL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
February 4, 2010**

The Board of Rural Fire Control met on Thursday, February 4, 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 with the exception of Dennis Settlemyre.

Members of several fire departments were present.

Chairman David Jennings called the meeting to order.

Chairman Jennings opened the meeting with prayer.

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

No one appeared.

**Reading of the Minutes: Randy S. Thompson, Fire Marshal**

Minutes of the December 17, 2009, Board meeting were approved.

**Finance Committee Report: David Hord, Chairman**

The monthly finance report was accepted as information.

Committee Chairman David Hord explained the proposed budget request for the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 fiscal years. Larry Williams made a motion to approve the committee's recommended budget proposals as presented. The motion to approve the proposed budget for 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 was approved unanimously. Fire Marshal Thompson will develop the proposed budget for the 2012/2013 fiscal year.

Fire Marshal Thompson requested that the Board provide the necessary funds to upgrade a pickup truck to an extended cab with 4 wheel drive. The upgrade would take place only if the pickup truck is replaced. The upgrade would cost approximately \$8,200. Bill Dunlap made a motion to provide the necessary funds for the upgrade. The motion was unanimously approved.

Fire Marshal Thompson presented the floor plans and the site plans for the new Fire Training Center's Administration/Classroom building and the new Fire Apparatus Maintenance Building. Christopher Thompson made a motion to request approval from the County Council to proceed with getting construction plans developed. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**Equipment Committee Report: Gene Thomas, Chairman**

The Equipment Committee recommends the Board adopt a policy that fire departments/firefighters will be responsible for the replacement of pagers that are damaged or destroyed due to abuse, or pagers that are lost or stolen. A recommendation from a committee does not need a second. The motion to approve the new policy for repairs/replacement of pagers was unanimously approved.

The Equipment Committee recommends the Board approve a request from the Bethel FD to replace a pager that was run over by a vehicle at a fire scene. A recommendation from a committee does not need a second. The motion to purchase Bethel FD a replacement pager was unanimously approved.

The Equipment Committee determined that no action is warranted concerning problems with the Drager gas monitors.

The Equipment Committee recommends that the Board purchase future PPE from Piedmont ESS until July 1, 2010. A recommendation from a committee does not need a second. Assistant County Manager Anna Moore informed the Board that the county's purchasing ordinance required the purchases to be awarded to the low bidder. IF the Board could justify not making the purchase from the low bidder, the bid should be awarded to the next lowest bidder who meets the specifications. The Board unanimously approved purchasing the PPE from Piedmont ESS until July 1, 2010, when new bids would be obtained.

Gene Thomas made a motion to purchase the helmets, gloves, boots, and flash hoods from the individual low bidder. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Fire Marshal is to check to see if the fire departments can purchase leather firefighting boots and the Board reimburse the fire departments the amount that the Board would pay for the boots that are provided by the Board.

Gene Thomas made a motion to purchase three new pagers for three new members of the Sharon FD. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kenny Gilfillan made a motion to approve a request from the Lesslie FD for approval to install a set of step bars and chrome simulators on their new grass truck. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kenny Gilfillan made a motion to deny a request from Oakdale FD for permission to replace the bus style mirrors on Oakdale's 1991 KME fire engine with west coast style mirrors. Oakdale FD would purchase the mirrors and the Department of Fire Safety would install them. The motion to deny the request was approved by a 4 to 3 vote. (In favor of the motion to deny the request: Gilfillan, Thompson, Hord, and Jennings. Voting against the motion: Thomas, Skinnell, and Williams.) Chairman Jennings requested that the Equipment Committee discuss the replacement of this style mirrors further; to include discussion of any needed body work, painting, and whether the fire department was willing to cover these additional costs beyond the cost of the mirrors. Kenny Gilfillan made a motion to approve a request from the Bethel FD for approval to add a 4 inch reflective stripe to each side of their new ladder truck. The motion was unanimously approved.

During the discussion of a repair to a Newport FD portable radio, the Board approved the Fire Marshal approving all repairs to pagers and radios. Kenny Gilfillan made the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Accident Review Committee:**

Larry Williams, Chairman

No Report.

**Miscellaneous**

**Old Business:**

Discussion of updates to the Fire Board's Policies and Procedures Manual:

On page 15 delete the statement that prohibits the use of county fire apparatus for extrication and medical services. This change would be in line with the changes approved at the last meeting. Larry Williams made the motion to approve the change and the motion was unanimously approved.

Larry Williams made a motion to reword the section that describes the workers compensation benefits to reflect the actual wording of SC Law. The motion to reword this section was unanimously approved.

The Board approved eliminating the CDL exemption from the required training for driving fire apparatus.

**New Business:**

The Fire Marshal requested that the maximum registration fee paid by the Board be increased to reflect the new fees charged by the SCFA. Christopher Thompson made a motion to increase the limit to \$80. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kenny Gilfillan made a motion to approve a request from Bethany FD for \$1,299 matching funds for a Forestry Grant. The grant is a 50/50 grant. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

There was a discussion on how to determine if the ISO portable radio had been returned to the fire engines, service trucks and ladder trucks. Chairman Jennings referred this matter to the Equipment Committee to determine the best way to determine if the radios are being maintained on the trucks per Board policy.

Jerry Williams informed the Board of a foam trailer that was built too long for the fire department who had ordered it and the trailer was available at a reduced cost if the Board was available. There was a considerable amount of indecision as to whether the Board should purchase a truck trailer or several portable foam devices. Chairman Jennings decided that he would bring the issue before the Fire Chief's Association and see if any of the fire chiefs were willing to serve on a committee to study the best options concerning this matter.

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

Chief Don Love asked the Board if a decision had been made as far as moving the Q siren from their old ladder truck to Bethel engine 3. Shop Supervisor Mike Burns had checked the truck and determined that it could be transferred without any problem. He also reported that Bethel engine 1 could not support a Q siren. Christopher Thompson made a motion to approve relocating the siren to Engine 3. The motion was seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Tommy White addressed the Board concerning the purchase of PPE.

**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.