

**BOARD OF RURAL FIRE CONTROL
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 25, 2009**

The Board of Rural Fire Control met on Thursday, June 25, 2009, 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:

Jerry Williams invited everyone to attend the open house at Seagrave's new facility on Friday, June 26, 2009. Mr. Williams also informed the Board that he had a fire truck outside for the Board to evaluate after the meeting. This truck has a poly type body, and he would like to see the Board add this type of body as an option in the specifications for fire engines.

Chief Carl Faulk, Newport FD, recommended that the Board adopt a standard set of specifications for fire engines and only change the specifications to meet new requirements of the NFPA standards.

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

Minutes of the May 28, 2009, Board meeting were approved as presented.

Finance Committee Report: , Chairman

The monthly finance report was accepted as information.

The Board unanimously approved a request from the Clover FD for matching funds of \$4,500 for a grant for which the department has applied. These funds will only be available if the grant is awarded.

A request from the Fort Mill FD for matching funds for a grant was mistakenly placed on the agenda. This request was approved at the May Board meeting.

Equipment Committee Report: Gene Thomas, Chairman

The Equipment Committee reviewed the policy for providing PPE to volunteer firefighters. The committee did not make any recommendations for any changes or additions to the policy, however, the committee did provide several clarifications to the policy which were approved by the Board. The policy is provided below:

1. The fire chief will be responsible for requesting new PPE, and must provide the name of the firefighter who will be receiving the new PPE.
2. Each firefighter is responsible for their PPE.
3. The Board will not replace any PPE that has been abused or neglected.
4. New members of a fire department shall successfully complete the Interior Structural Firefighter Course before new PPE is issued, and while the completion of this course is a requirement to receive new PPE, Fire Chiefs must justify a need for the PPE. The Board realizes that there may be exceptions to this rule. Fire departments are encouraged to use older PPE

for training purposes. Fire departments are asked to provide a list of sizes of used PPE that may be available to other departments for training. Fire Chiefs with new firefighters should check with other fire departments to see if there are any used sets of PPE that are available before approaching the Board requesting new sets of PPE.

5. Fire Chiefs are encouraged to have firefighters who leave the department to turn in any PPE.
6. The Board will not provide PPE for junior firefighters or members of any Explorer posts.
7. Fire departments are encouraged to have damaged PPE repaired if possible.
8. Firefighters' safety is a priority. Fire Chiefs or their designee should inspect PPE quarterly.

The Equipment Committee recommended that the Board request the County Council to approve the C. W. Williams offer to add two additional fire engines to the existing order, meeting the same specifications with the following changes: (1) Delete the stainless steel trim, (2) add the new model SCBA brackets, (3) both trucks to have two tone paint. A motion from a committee does not need a second, and the motion was approved. Larry Williams voted against the SCBA brackets but not the motion. There will be an increase of \$8,146 each for the fire engines. The fire engines will be built to meet the new 2009 NFPA standards.

The Board unanimously approved a revised policy for accepting fire trucks into the Board's Maintenance Program as recommended by the Equipment Committee. The policy is as follows:

1. Individual fire departments/tax districts must advise the Fire Board that they are interested in purchasing a new/used fire truck and provide pictures and specifications, and as much information as possible concerning the truck to the Board.
2. No truck older than 15 years will be accepted into the Board Maintenance Program.
3. A representative of the Fire Marshal's staff should evaluate the proposed truck before the fire department/fire tax district purchases the truck. Any expenses incurred to evaluate the truck will be at the fire department's/fire tax district's expense.
4. The fire department/fire tax district will agree to adhere to the policies of the Board as to the proper use of fire trucks.
5. The fire department/fire tax district will be responsible for all parts and for all labor from outside sources, with the exception of annual preventive maintenance.
6. Any body damage or known repairs to the truck cited by the Fire Marshal's representative will be completed before the truck is accepted into the system.
7. The Fire Marshal's staff will advise the Board of any truck that needs to be removed from the maintenance program due to its mechanical condition.
8. The age and mechanical condition of the truck will be the major determining factor when considering a truck for acceptance into the maintenance program
9. All fire trucks must be equipped with a mobile radio and the appropriate number of portable radios as determined by ISO before being accepted into the maintenance program.

The request from the York FD that they be allowed to maintain the current 1991 KME fire engine once their new county provided fire engine is delivered, was deferred until their new fire engine is delivered.

Chairman Jennings requested the Equipment Committee develop a policy addressing base station radios and portable radios provided by the Fire Board/County.

Chairman Jennings referred a request from the Lesslie FD for the Board to accept their 1989 KME fire engine into the Board's Maintenance Program to the Equipment Committee.

The Board unanimously approved a request from the Oakdale FD to have staff install a Q siren on their 1991 KME fire engine.

Fire Marshal Thompson to ask County Attorney Melvin McKeown concerning a point of order.

Chairman Jennings requested the Equipment Committee to look at the Grass Truck Replacement Plan as to whether the second grass trucks for Newport and Bethel FDs should be replaced.

Accident Review Committee:

Larry Williams, Chairman

Fire Marshal Thompson reported that a Riverview firefighter was injured this week but he has not received a report from Chief Sam Lesslie at this time.

Miscellaneous

Old Business:

The Board approved a request from Chief Larry McConnell, Lesslie FD, for reimbursement of \$281.00 for the cost of installing the radio into their fire engine. The motion was approved with all members voting in favor of the motion with the exception of Bill Dunlap and Kenny Gilfillan.

New Business:

None

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

Chief Don Love, Bethel FD, asked for clarification concerning Q sirens being installed on county owned fire trucks. The Board will look at each individual request and make decisions based on the condition and capabilities of each truck.

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.