

Fire and Rescue Commission

Minutes of January 7, 2020

1.) Call to order at 6:30 pm by Chris Slemp, Director of Public Safety, in the absence of having an elected chairman.

2.) Roll Call

<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Chuck Angier	yes	
Tim Duffer	yes	
Bryan Fox	yes	
Brian Garrett	yes	
Ben Meeks	yes	
Ron Scarce	yes	
Keith Scruggs	yes	
Bert Sellers	yes	
Billy Talbott		yes

Staff members present: Chris Slemp and Michael Lee

Association Representative: Dean Fowler

3.) Additions or Revisions to the agenda: Ron Scarce made a motion to approve the agenda with a 2nd by Brian Garrett; the motion passed unanimously.

4.) Approval of the prior meeting minutes: Ron Scarce made a motion to approve the minutes from December 16, 2019 with some minor edits; Bryan Fox made a 2nd to the motion; passed unanimously.

5.) Adoption of the bylaws for the Fire and Rescue Commission: Bryan Fox made a motion to approve the bylaws as presented, with a 2nd from Chuck Angier; motion passed unanimously

6.) Election of Commission officers

Nomination for Chairman: Ron Scarce nominated Bryan Fox for Chairman, with a 2nd from Keith Sellers. No other nominations were made.

Vice Chairman: Ben Meeks nominated Keith Scruggs for Vice Chairman, with a 2nd from Bryan Fox. No other nominations were made.

Motion by Ben Meeks with 2nd from Brian Garrett to elected the officers as presented as one slate; the motion passed unanimously.

7.) New Business

- a. Discussion of Mission statement: Some ideas were giving as to what should be in a mission statement. Mr. Scruggs suggested we also have a vision statement. Chris Slempp will work up various of mission and vision statements for the Commission to review and adopt. He asked that anyone having ideas or concepts for either to please email him.
- b. Public Safety Overview: Mr. Slempp presented a detailed overview of the public safety department to include budgeting, CIP, funding to volunteer departments, call volumes and responses, response times, standards, concerns and future needs.
- c. Setting of the Commission's 2020 Priorities was tabled due to the time constraints.

8.) Matters from the Commission Members

- a. Ben Meeks asked if the Fire and Rescue Commission would be making a recommendation to the Commission for CIP apparatus funding. The Association does plan to do so but the Commission still will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Further discussion for the need for more funding in CIP and apparatus took place. Additionally, comments on the placement and rotation of vehicles took place. Mr. Scarce stated he wanted to see equipment become standardized and standard set of operating guidelines and procedures. Ben Meeks stated if departments could focus more on training and running calls instead of fund raising then we'd provide a better service. Fund raising is stretching the volunteers and it is taxing on the smaller agencies.
- b. Keith Scruggs asked the question if anyone was working with the schools to recruit new members and/or training students. Ben Meeks stated that Gretna approached the EMT class at the Technical Center and got two young members.

Bryan Fox mentioned a class he has been teaching in the Danville school system and other presentation in Pittsylvania County that are getting some interest. The consensus was we should strive to get Fire and EMS class in the school system and try and recruit members from there. Two obstacles that we need to overcome in the county's school system is an instructor and class room space. Mr. Scarce stated we look into working up some proposals for the school system in the near future and approach Dr. Jones and the school board.

9.) Adjournment: Motion by Ben Meeks with a second from Tim Duffer to adjourn at 8:37 pm.

Next meeting will be on January 28, 2020, at 6:30 pm.