

# LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

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## MINUTES OF THE LEE COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

July 11, 2007

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The Lee County Fire Advisory Board met on July 11, 2007 at Deep River Fire Department, 5107 Deep River Road, Sanford, North Carolina.

The following members were present:

- Donald Andrews, Jr.
- Roger King
- Larry Kelly
- Doc Oldham
- John Altenburger
- Royce Gaines
- Shane Seagroves, Ex officio member

The following member was excused:

- Linda Shook

Chairman Donald Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Donald Andrews asked for a motion of acceptance for the agenda and minutes from the May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> meetings. John Altenburger made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Doc Oldham and the motion carried unanimously. Minutes were approved by a motion made by John Altenburger, seconded by Roger King with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Andrews presented a letter from Chief David Nance, Northwest Pocket Fire Department requesting permission from the FAB for Northwest Pocket to move up the timeframe for purchasing a rescue pumper truck. Doc Oldham made a motion for NWP to move forward with their purchase plans, seconded by John Altenburger and the motion carried unanimously. Members of NWP were present (if needed) for questions during the meeting and were informed of the Fire Advisory Board decision to honor their request.

Discussion and concerns about the budget process for FY 07/08 were addressed. Chairman Andrews stated that the recommended fire department budgets were accepted and approved by the Board of Commissioner's and that letters were sent out to each

respective fire department to inform them of their approved budgeted amounts. Chairman Andrews added that the budget format will remain the same for the next FY.

John Altenburger felt it would be helpful to share with members some “lessons learned” with the budget process for FY 07/08 as stated below:

- 1) It is important to transpose correctly from the budget requests to the summary working document XLS spreadsheet.
- 2) The final approved budget recommendations of the FAB group should have the group’s approval.
- 3) Any “fine print” in an individual’s requests should be considered.

Larry Kelly posed a question as to “why can’t the fire departments collect the money from their fund balance at the end of the FY”? Shane will check with Lisa Minter on this matter as well as concerns about worker’s compensation being paid for by the fire departments instead of being picked up by Lee County. Search and Research Teams (SRT) monies are also a concern that Shane will address with Ms. Minter.

The issue of pay-per-call is to be researched by Shane and his findings are to be presented at the upcoming Fire Chief’s meeting. Shane will be looking at how surrounding counties to include Harnett, Moore, Chatham and Wake, are handling their pay-per-call procedures.

A discussion was begun on the topic of sub-stations. Chairman Andrews advised the FAB that the four fire departments Lemon Springs, Cape Fear, Deep River and Northwest Pocket, each received a stipulation in their budget letter stating that the proposed sub-station location and site plans must be reviewed by the Fire Advisory Board and approved by the Lee County Board of Commissioners prior to construction. It was the decision of the FAB to have Cape Fear and Lemon Springs bring their plan and information to approve at the next FAB meeting. The date of Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> has been scheduled for the next meeting to take place at Lemon Springs Fire Dept. at 6:00 p.m. It was deemed that only the Chief and President/Chairman of their Board be present for the meeting and that they be prepared to discuss the site location, building plans, funding and time-table for the construction of the proposed sub-station for their district. Chairman Donald Andrews is to draft a letter to Cape Fear and Lemon Springs to include the aforementioned information.

Larry announced and pointed out on the map where Deep River is considering placing their sub-station. Northwest Pocket is still searching for an area.

Shane Seagroves advised members that a committee has been formed comprised of Shane, Bill Rogers, Fire Marshal’s Office, Chief Wayne Barber, Sanford Fire Dept., Chief Ronnie Campbell, Northview Fire Dept., and Assistant Chief Rick Shearer, Lemon Springs Fire Dept. This committee has been tasked to search and select a “spec” gear for the entire county for personal protection equipment (PPE). Buying in volume constitutes a substantial cost savings and benefit to the departments.

Roger King suggested that data concerning the flat tax be gathered and presented to the Board of Commissioner’s for their recommendation. Controversy is still strong

concerning the flat tax among board members themselves, and thus it was decided to discuss this item in detail and separately from other topics at a later date.

Therefore no further business to come before the FAB, a motion was made to adjourn by John Altenburger, seconded by Royce Gaines. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Donald Andrews, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

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Nancy Veroni, Secretary