

PICKENS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
September 13, 2022
222 McDaniel Avenue, Pickens, SC 29671

IN ATTENDANCE - BOARD: Richard (Kenny) McPeters
Bill Daniel
Troy Burton
Hub Smith
Paul Howland
Brooke Newman
JB "Jan" Kelley
Dennis Bauknight
Randy Bowers
Scott Childress

ABSENT – BOARD: Rodney Herd
Tracie Barnette

IN ATTENDANCE - STAFF: Billy Gibson

IN ATTENDANCE - GUESTS: Dr. Daniel Schwerin

Agendas, bearing date, time and location of meeting were emailed to Board members and news media and a copy was posted on the county website and bulletin board at the Administration facility.

Meeting called to order at 6:07.

Randy Bowers offered an invocation.

The August meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. JB Kelley motioned to approve. Dennis Bauknight seconded. All approved.

Old Business

New dive/rescue is in operation.

Rescue

Successful operation in finding a missing person this past month. Dennis Bauknight was part of the search and shared the story.

Committee Report sent out by Billy prior to the meeting.

EMS:

Continuing to recruit personnel for open positions
Working with HR on salary for 12-hour truck positions
Replacement QRV on order

Fire:

Engines for Liberty & Central will be delivered in the next 60 days
Generator for Six Mile fire station: working on bids
9 FF positions: advertising positions

1 County Fire Coordinator: reviewing applications (10 applicants) seeking to reduce to top 3 candidates. Bill Daniel will assist in the reviews and interviews.

Split crew at Keowee Springs to cover Six Mile station. Now 1 man is at each location full-time.

Mike Staton will be working at the Holly Springs station during the day on his duty days to provide coverage and do maintenance work at the station.

Pickens County sponsored a leadership class led by Assistant State Fire Marshal Nathan Ellis. 28 fire, EMS and Emergency Management folks attended.

Personnel:

EM Coordinator position filled: Paula Wagler began 8/8/22

Realigned some duties within E-911 & EM

Actively recruiting EMS & Fire personnel for current openings and new positions

6 current openings with EMS

2 current openings: 1- Crosswell (likely being filled by new recruit), 1- Pickens Rural

Working to staff 2 – 12-hour power shifts with EMS (8 openings)

2nd QRV in currently being staffed in the interim

Activity Report:

Working to reestablish the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT). Training scheduled for Sept 16. 4-5 coming from EMS and several from Fire to assist with training. (20 total signed-up for the training.) Seeking funding for 2 “jump bags” for quick response/1st Aid. Future plan – implement CERT at recycling-centers and roads & bridges.

Radio study is complete. Tentatively scheduled for October 17th County Council meeting.

Tusa will be presenting results to Council

Working with vendors to prepare an RFP for the system.

Communications facilities study is still on going

New Business

Lift-assist calls are significantly increased. Considering options to free-up our personnel for more-critical patients. Discussion to understand the situation in the county. One possibility, contract a rescue truck.

Activities

Need to begin work on FY 24 budget

E-911 budget

Revamp Capital Improvement Plan – look at inflation factors for budgeting

Replacement of hazmat truck

Cost increases

The Board will meet next on October 11th. Motion to adjourn by JB Kelley, seconded by Dennis Bauknight at 7:19 PM.

Minutes documented by P.Howland, Secretary.