

PICKENS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD  
04.13.2021  
222 McDaniel Avenue, Pickens, SC 29671

IN ATTENDANCE - BOARD:

Johnson Link  
Ronald McGimpsey  
Richard (Kenny) McPeters  
Charles (Hub) Smith  
Tracy Woodruff  
Tracie Barnett  
Jan Kelley  
Randy Bowers  
Dennis Bauknight  
Troy Burton

ABSENT – BOARD:

Paul Howland  
Ronald Freeman

IN ATTENDANCE - STAFF:

Billy Gibson, Director of Emergency Services  
Ken Roper, County Administrator  
Matthew Littleton, Chief (Easley City)

IN ATTENDANCE - GUESTS:

Beverly Zwahlen

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.

Ron McGimpsey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Kenny McPeters offered the invocation.

The 03.09.2021 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

TOPIC:

- Ron McGimpsey invited Ken Roper to meeting and he accepted. Due to Council budget meeting, he joined at 7:00 p.m. to update board. Ken reminded us of the progress made: 13 individual boards, now 1 and implementation of a common fee structure. However, direction from Council and presentation to constituents is that there will be no revenue increase this year.
- Budget update – recommendation regarding personnel was presented to council.

- E-911 update – overview of department, consisting of 3 staff. Richard Crowe, Meagan Burgess and Matthew O’Donnell. Dispatchers are employed by Sheriff’s office. Revenues come from 2 sources: line item on monthly land lines and a per use charge on cell phones. Will likely need to seek for an increase in the coming year. There is a need to replace communications system estimated at \$ 8 million.
- EM update – Prisma Health partnership/contract.
- Request from Easley Fire – Chief Littleton presented the need for a new mini pumper for use in the Easley rural area which the county contracts with the City to service. Current truck not keeping up with demand. Proposed to split the cost of \$ 400,000 of the new truck.

Jan Kelley made a motion we recommend to Council to go along with City request to help fund the purchase of truck up to \$ 200,000 of county funds. Hub Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Command Structure discussion – Reviewed handouts from Billy Gibson.
  - Assessment Center – to be used as a guide for promotions and placement. Ideally to use at minimum from Captain and above.
  - Command structure and map.  
Billy reiterated the command structure would be used for creating uniformity but not a reduction in force or pay.

The next advisory board meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on May 18<sup>th</sup> (deviation from normal schedule, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday versus 2<sup>nd</sup>) at 222 McDaniel Avenue, Pickens, SC 29671.

Dennis Bauknight called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Hub Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by Tracy Woodruff, Secretary.