KEOWEE FIRE COMMISSION

115 Maintenance Road

**Salem, SC 29676**

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*Commissioners: Karen Graves. Don Chamberlain, Bill Griffiths, Leo Primeau, John Turner*

**Keowee Fire Commission Meeting September 22, 2020**

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Primeau called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Griffiths, Primeau, Turner, Graves and Chamberlain

Visitors Present: Chief Shirley and Steve MacLeod

Secretary Report

Minutes from the August 18, 2020 meeting were submitted by Commissioner J Turner.

Motion was made to accept the minutes by K Graves

Second by: B Griffiths

Vote to accept was unanimous.

Financial Reports

1. B Griffiths reported the current financial assets of the station as of August 31, 2020.

Cash-Checking South- State Bank $ 36,769.46

Cash-Money Market- South State Bank 248,499.36

CD- South State-1.8% 13 mo. 9/20/20 51,616.70

Vanguard Money Market Holding Acct. 155,158.72

CD- Safra Natl.-CD 1.65%1yr. 2/11/21 102,852.72

Total Current Assets $ 594,776.60

The total collected this year to date is $12,857.12 more than last year.

B Griffiths recommended again that the commission not originate any CD investments at this time because of historically low interest rates. He recommended that our current CD at South State Bank, maturing on 9/20/2020, be renewed for 13 months at .75%. This recommended action was approved.

**2021/2022 Budget Mil Increase**

Chief Shirley sent the information/proposal for an increase in the milage rate from 14.5 to 17.5 to the County attorney. The County attorney recommended that the commission draft the wording, publish it in the December Seneca Journal and Scuttlebutt along with an email blast to the residents of the district making the case for an increase and notify them of the time and date of a public meeting for discussion. The commission will hold the public meeting as part of our normally scheduled monthly meeting on January 19 where the ordinance will be voted upon by the commission. Upon final vote and approval at the commission January meeting, the county attorney will draft the amended ordinance for consideration by the Oconee county council.

KKCP donations received for August was $100.

Grant Activity: no activity on the station grant request. However, grant awards are being issued weekly.

**Current Business**

**Personnel**

Chief Shirley reported that there were no changes in personnel during the prior month. There were two members exposed to the virus. They were quarantined and are back to work.

**Fire Equipment Status**

Engine E171: the ABS braking system required repairs and is back in service.

Engine E-172: The water level sensor was replaced under warranty.

Polaris: The front differential seal was replaced.

All equipment is currently in service at this time.

The HVAC system for the bedroom was replaced at a cost of $6686.

Fire Truck R I72 is currently listed for sale on the station website.

**Dock Permit status**

No progress has been made on the dock modification/extension permit request due the pandemic. However, Duke acknowledged that they have the permit request and will be “moving forward” with consideration. Duke is waiting on Kroger to provide waterway surveys to the Army Corps of Engineers for their consideration and approval before issuing their permit for the extension.

**Firewise Activities**

Keowee Key had a successful U-haul Firewise event on August 18. 116 loads of debris were delivered to the chipping site which amounted to 246 cubic yards. Keowee Key is scheduled to have another U-haul event on October 13. Waterford, Waterford Point and Waterford Ridge are scheduling Firewise events for November.

**Medical Helicopter Pad**

No progress at this time due to the pandemic. The anticipated cost is $35,000. This project has been tabled until January, 2021. Chief Shirley intends to send an email blast to the district to provide an update on status shortly after the January Commission meeting.

**9/11 Memorial**

Chief Shirley reported that the construction of the 9/11 memorial in Walhalla is progressing. Steel from the WTC, granite from the Pentagon, and dirt from the crash site in Pennsylvania was picked up by the contractor to be placed at the memorial.

**Additional New Business**

The county has cancelled all Christmas parties for the year due to the virus. KFD will follow the same course of action for any large gatherings and cancel the Open House and Christmas Party for this year.

The next commission meetings scheduled at Fire Station HQ- all start at 3:00PM

October 20, 2020

November 17, 2020

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and so passed at 4:20PM.

Respectfully submitted by John M. Turner, Secretary

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