MINUTES
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AD-HOC COMMITTEE
April 28, 2026

Present
J. Wes Wynne, Chairman
Chris Shoemaker, Vice Chairman
Ben Harris, Commissioner
David Klein, Commissioner
Curtis Williams, Citizen
Sam Thornton, Chief
Henry DeGroot, Citizen
Absent
Scotty Bush, Chief
Chris Edgerton, Chief

The Volunteer Fire Department Ad-Hoc Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Wynne at approximately 5:30 p.m. in conference room 112.

Invocation
Chief Thornton provided the invocation.

Approval of Agenda
Chairman Wynne added Fire Coordinator Pay under New Business on the agenda from the floor. Motion made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to accept the amended agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes
Motion made by Chief Thornton, seconded by Mr. Williams, to accept the April 14, 2026 Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Recognition of the Public
None

Old Business

a. Funding Ideas for VFD's

This item was tabled until an appropriate time for discussion.

New Business

a. VFD Budgets

Chairman Wynne opened the floor to discuss budget recommendations for VFD's. Mr. Shoemaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Klein to open the discussions. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Wynne opened discussion by asking Commissioner Klein to review the model budget he developed. Discussions ensued. Following the presentation of Commissioner Klein, Mr. Williams motioned to suspend the rules for comments from the Chief's present, seconded by Commissioner Klein. Motion passed unanimously. The Chief's were asked if they could comply with preparing a budget spreadsheet showing their expenditures.

Following this discussion, Chairman Wynne brought the meeting back into session.

Discussions continued with Chairman Wynne providing his funding analysis. He noted the current fiscal year has a funding deficit that will need to be addressed. Discussions ensued.

They discussed how to break down the budgets by setting up line items. A motion was made by Mr. Shoemaker to put all utilities under one category. Motion failed for lack of a second. Discussions continued regarding budget categories.

Chairman Wynne then requested Chief Thornton provide a sample budget from his department.

Funding ideas were discussed. Chairman Wynne motioned a recommendation requesting a dollar-for-dollar match up to $40,000 for fundraising efforts on top of the $60,000 suggested for this years' funding to each VFD. Chief Thornton seconded the motion. Discussions continued. Chief Thornton then amended the motion to include matching fundraising and/or grants. Motion seconded by Commissioner Harris. The amended motion passed unanimously. The original motion passed with 5 votes for (Wynne, Harris, Klein, Shoemaker and Thornton) and 2 against (Williams and DeGroot). This recommendation will be submitted to the HEMS committee. Further discussions will be continued at the next meeting for the proposed future budgets once additional information is received.

Discussion then moved to the salary for the requested Fire Coordinator. A motion was made by Chief Thornton, seconded by Mr. Williams, to set the salary for the coordinator between $70,000 - $90,000 plus benefits. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

With no more discussion, Chairman Wynne called for adjournment. Motion made by Commissioner Harris to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, at approximately 7:03 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.