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

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

The Volunteer Fire Department Ad-Hoc Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Wynne at approximately 5:35 p.m. in conference room 112.

Invocation
Commissioner Harris provided the invocation.

Approval of Agenda
Motion made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to accept the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes
Motion made by Mr. Shomaker, seconded by Chief Thornton, to accept July 14, 2026, Minutes. Motion passed with Commissioner Harris abstaining.

Recognition of the Public
None

Old Business

a. **Funding Ideas for VFD's**

Chairman Wynne discussed the phased approach at length. He noted the suggestion of the 1-year Fire Coordinator contract would not be ideal for the actions this committee is attempting. The committee discussed their ideas at length and decided to stay with the donation model for now while working toward the next phase, if approved by committees.

A motion was made by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Commissioner Harris, to go with the phase approach beginning with Phase 1. However, allow the proper time to move into the next phase.

Mr. DeGroot amended the motion, seconded by Chief Edgerton, to continue refining the phases.

The main motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

Chairman Wynne asked the Committee to look over Phase 1 and 2 bringing back ideas to the next meeting.

b. VFD Budgets

The budge sheets provided were discussed at length. A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mr. Williams, to adopt the chart of accounts as provided. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Fire Sub-Committee Creation

Chairman Wynne opened the discussion on the make-up of this committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mr. DeGroot, to recommend the committee as follows: 3 Commissioners, 2 Citizens, The Fire Coordinator, 1 VFD Chief. This would be a 7-person committee with 2-year term. Discussions ensued.

The motion was amended by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to suggest the appointed Commissioners are preferred to have a VFD in their respective district. Discussions ensued.

The main motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

New Business

None

Recognition of the Public (Non-Agenda Items)

Chief Brad Williams requested to speak.

Chief Brad Rowell requested to speak.

A motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to suspend the rules allowing the committee a chance to speak with the Chief's present. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussions ensued concerning the establishment of the fire coordinator position and the budget forms.

Chairman Wynne brought the meeting back into session.

Chairman Wynne noted the Wheel Tax Waiver for VFD personnel has passed the first reading. This would include 1 vehicle per household for VFD members who have at least 1 year of good standing with a VFD station. Mr. Shoemaker would like to provide a template letter to the Chief's that would be provided to the County Clerk. This will be drafted and presented at the next meeting.

Adjournment

With no more discussion, Chairman Wynne called for adjournment. Motion made by Mr. Shoemaker to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Williams, at approximately 6:45 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.