



# Spanish Fort Fire - Rescue

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[www.spanishfortfire.org](http://www.spanishfortfire.org)

Station 1

7580 Spanish Fort Blvd  
Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Station 2

10628 U.S. Hwy 31  
Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Roger R. Few  
Fire Chief

## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

April 9, 2012

### Board Members:

Byron Hales	-Present	Ken Coale	-Present
George Brown	-Present	Donna Hughes	-Present
John Barks, Jr.	-Absent	Bobby Soles	-Absent
Paul Wohn	-Absent	Mike McMillan	-Present
Troy Dyess	-Present	Dan Wilson	-Absent
Roger Few	-Present		

President Hayles called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. and made roll call.

The minutes from the March 20, 2012 board meeting were read silently. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ken Coale. Mike McMillan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Treasurer's Report

Troy Dyess read the treasurer's report for the period of March 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012 and asked for approval of Compass checks #5701 – 5706, Regions checks #3128 – 3156. Mike McMillan asked for an update on the status of payment of grant writer fees and 5% match from departments participating in the communications grant. Chief Few noted payments received in the treasurer's report and detailed one department with an outstanding portion to be paid prior to receiving any grant funds. After brief discussion of the Treasurer's Report a motion was made by Ken Coale to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Mike McMillan seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Troy Dyess asked the board for input concerning three CD accounts maturing at the end of April. Originally the board had discussed cashing in two CD accounts at this time to make a down payment on a new pumper being ordered. The pumper is going to cost the department around \$400,000. The proposed plan was to pay \$150,000 down and finance \$250,000 with an annual payment for 8 – 10 years. We are not currently as far along with the purchase of the pumper as we anticipated. Financing cannot be secured until delivery of the pumper. The board needs to determine what to do with the CD accounts until we are closer to delivery of the pumper. Troy Dyess recommended cashing in one CD account to pay down on the pumper at the time of the order being placed. The remaining two CD accounts will be rolled into the best short term rate CD to mature close to the end of 2012 or beginning of 2013 in anticipation of a new pumper

delivery around that time. The board will then have a better idea of how to proceed with payment and financing of the remaining balance on the new pumper. Discussion was held concerning the department carrying a debt and how that would work. There are positive aspects to having a little debt when related to grant applications. Ken Coale expressed some concern about the debt hurting the possible merger of the Fire Department with the City of Spanish Fort. Discussion was held about this concern and how the department currently envisioned the funding for payment of such debts continuing to be supplied by Fire Tax monies controlled by the current Board of Directors. As long as the debt is controlled and reasonable there should be no negative impact to the Fire Department or the City of Spanish Fort. Ken Coale made a motion to cash in one CD account to be deposited into the Compass General Fund to be used to pay down on a new pumper purchase and roll the two remaining CD accounts into the best short term rate accounts as determined by the Treasurer. Mike McMillan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### President's Report

None.

### Chief's Report

Chief Few stated the department responded to 41 calls for the month of March. The most significant call the department responded to was the brush fire on the causeway on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Chief Few stated that Troy Dyess had completed 22 preplans in March for a total of 265 preplans completed.

Chief Few has continued working with worker's compensation to resolve a recent increase in premium as a result of a worker's compensation audit. The department has paid the outstanding balance due to our insurance provider to ensure we do not have any lapse in coverage. Chief Few has noted some errors in employee classifications and has filed an appeal to the worker's compensation provider and will keep the board informed of the results.

The department has been working with the departments participating in the Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Everyone has agreed on equipment to be ordered through the grant. Chief Few has issued invoices to each department responsible for grant writer fees or 5% match dollars. Three of four departments have issued payments to cover their portion to receive their grant funds. Loxley is the last department with a payment outstanding; however, Chief Few anticipates receiving their payment shortly. Chief Few asked for the President and Treasurer to sign paperwork to open a new account at Bancorp South titled, "2011 Fire Act." All funds concerning the AFG communications grant will be paid through this account. Once the funds are fully dispersed, the account will be closed.

### Old Business

#### Land Committee:

Chief Few informed the board that Zac Weber has been working on the site plan for the future training center and is very close to being complete. Once this is complete, determination can be

made on the layout of the training center that can be taken to the planning commission. Several local gas companies have offered to help provide natural gas infrastructure in exchange for access to the training center to train their staff on natural gas incidents.

Employee Committee:

Ken Coale informed the board that the committee met briefly after the March monthly meeting. The committee asked Chief Few to prepare some job descriptions and information concerning the replacement for the Administrative Assistant position as well as the vacant Fire Custodian position. The committee will meet following the completion of the regular monthly meeting.

New Business:

Chief Few reminded the board of the upcoming Annual Awards Dinner and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Firemen's Ball being held at Fitzpen Place on April 21, 2012 beginning at 6:00 P.M. The awards dinner will be held from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. and the ball will begin at 9:00 P. M. until 1:00 A.M. The awards dinner will be for department personnel only. The ball will be open to guests. Tickets are being sold, \$15 per person or \$25 per couple.

Next meeting – May 14, 2012 at 6:00 P.M., Station 1.

There being no further business, President Hayles asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 P.M. Mike McMillan made the motion to adjourn. Ken Coale seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Hughes