

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE CONGRESS FIRE DISTRICT

HELD November 21, 2024

A public meeting of the Congress Fire District was convened at 1:00 p.m. November 21, 2024, at the Congress Fire District Office. The following matters were discussed, considered and decided at the meeting:

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to Order at 1:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call: The following members of the Board of the Congress Fire District were present at the meeting: Brandi Bridges, Chair of the Board. Reggie MacDonald, Clerk of the Board, and Jane Summers, member. Also, present Fire Chief Bryan Smith, Secretary/Treasurer Kaitlyn Brinkley. FF/EMTs Captain Sarilda Grantham.
3. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2024, were reviewed. Reggie made a motion to approve the minutes and Jane seconded the motion. All in favor; minutes are approved.
4. Approval of Financial Reports: Financial reports for the month of October 2024 consisting of County Treasurer Monthly Warrant Statement, and County Treasurer Monthly Capital Reserve Statement. Motion was made by Reggie to approve the financial reports for the month of October 2024; Brandi seconded; all in favor; financial reports are approved.
5. Correspondence: None.
6. Fire Chief's Report:

In October, there were 34 calls for service. The equipment, including hoses, nozzles, adapters, and more—received from the regional grant, has been distributed to the stations. The new grant period is now open, and we will be applying for federal grants for communications equipment and new heart monitors. Additionally, we are exploring other grants to help fund an extractor for the turn-out gear and a new washer and dryer.

There are currently two Fire Academy programs in progress: one full-time and one part-time. The part-time academy is scheduled to finish in December, while the full-time academy will be completed in January. Two participants from Congress are currently enrolled in the part-time academy, and two in the full-time academy.

The next paramedic class scheduled for next year is already full, and Captain Grantham will be attending.

7. Old Business:

No variance is needed for the new LED Sign. For the permit, the county needs a plot map and a drawing of where the sign will be placed on the property.

- 8. New Business:
 - a. The Annual VFIS renewal was reviewed; the only change needed is to remove the old 1973 Brush truck from the plan. Jane motioned to approve the 2025 VFIS renewal, and Brandi seconded. All in Favor.
 - b. Reggie, the Board Clerk, wanted to ensure that the board understood and was aware of the Open Meeting Law, which will fine a board member \$500 if a violation is committed.
 - c. During the Congress Community meeting, it was noted that some residents live in areas with only a single access point to their properties. The board is looking to develop a plan to address this issue for those residents. It was suggested that the station crews can identify these areas within the town, and we can draft a letter to send to the county to officially notify them of the problem.

- 9. Executive session: None

- 10. Call the Public: None.

- 11. Adjournment: Next regular meeting is December 19, at 1:00 p.m. Motion was made by Reggie that this meeting be adjourned; second by Jane; the meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Congress Fire District Governing Board

Secretary _____

Approved: _____