

**Winterville Community
Rural Fire Association, Inc.**

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting June 16, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by President J. D. Lawrence.

Members present were: President J. D. Lawrence, Vice-President Tom Harris, Secretary Gordon Prescott, Board Members James D. Mellon, Jr., Eric Smith, and Stephen Williams.

Minutes of the Annual meeting on April 21, 2008 were read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Carney Hedgepeth reported that the Town had agreed to fund their half of the Incentive Package, that the budget had been amended and presented to the County. Carney also reported that Noel Lee had indicated the budget would be approved by the County Commissioners as presented. He said the Commissioners may want to reduce some tax rates to maintain a revenue natural budget. This is because of the Tax Re-evaluation that has recently taken place. Carney reported that the Town had agreed to keep the equipment truck but to replace it with a new truck. The old truck could be used by other town departments for a non-emergency use.

As part of Old Business, Gordon Prescott questioned whether the incentives in the Incentive Package had been or would be altered. Carney reported that it would be looked into and that he wanted Linwood Hines or someone on this Board to have some input on this subject.

There was general discussion as to what it takes to be volunteer fireman this day and time. Such as most volunteers may have more than one job in addition to their normal training hours and meetings to attend. Gordon Prescott said that comments have been made in the last several meetings that have given the impression that the Rural Association has become the enemy to the fire dept. members. He questioned how this had happened. Other Board members felt that it had mostly evolved from false rumors. Gordon suggested that one or more members of this Board go to a Fire Dept. meeting and invite the firemen to attend our meetings. We have four scheduled meetings per year. Carney stated that would be a good idea and that he would also encourage the firemen to attend the Rural meetings.

Stephen Williams made a motion for the Rural Assoc. minutes are sent to Carney so it can be included in a newsletter. Eric Smith 2d motion. Motion passed.

Other old business: No delivery date has been set for the new rural truck.

NEW BUSINESS: There was a general discussion pertaining to the Contract with the Rural and the Town. If issues with the County withholding Rural funds could be worked out, one of the major issues would be solved. Other issues were budget line items being changed without any notification the Rural Board. At this time, Carney stated that he did have to change a line item for Office Supplies. That line item had run short of funds. Part of the shortage in funds is due to the contract with the use of the copier machine. Carney will

check into the whole issue of copy machines use and the contract. Also in this year's budget, there will be a shortage in fuel. He estimates we may run short of funds by \$3,000 by the end of the budget. Carney reported that the hydraulic tool has been serviced. Steering wheel on one Rural truck and one Town truck was going to be replaced for safety reasons. 4101 will have new front tires at approx. \$800. A positive pressure fan has been purchased and all nozzles 20 years or older will be replaced. The nozzles will cost approx. \$2,700.

Carney stated that 4102 was sent to Hyde County to help with their forest fire. The Dept. is supposed to be reimbursed for expenses.

The next Rural meeting will be the 3rd Monday in September, September 15, 2008.

With no further business, J. D. adjourned meeting.

Gordon Prescott
Secretary