

**Minutes of the Geary County Rural Fire Board Trustees Meeting
For October 2, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by County Commission Chair Ben Bennett.

Roll call was taken. Districts present: Oliver Schmutz (Lyon), Bob Forman (Milford), Chris Ross (Smoky Hill), Ron Blomenkamp (Wingfield), Fire Chief Garry Berges, and Chairman Bennett. Mike Strauss (Blakely) had called in that he was in a field with a breakdown and would not be able to attend. Districts absent: Jackson and Jefferson. Also present was Assistant Fire Chief Brian Clark and County Extension Agent Chuck Otte.

Minutes of the August meeting were reviewed. **Bob moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed 6 – 0.** Bob requested that the minutes include those Geary County Rural Firefighters that had successfully completed the Firefighter 2 class that had recently concluded.

Fire Chief Report: Garry reviewed the fire runs for 2013. Year to date there have been 112 runs compared to 182 at this time in 2012. There had been a large fire in a hay barn at the farmstead of Sam Janke. Losses were \$55,000 for the structure and \$112,500 for the hay. Cause of the fire was undetermined. The Fire Fighter II class has recently completed. Geary County Rural Firefighters successfully completing that class were Nathan Seward and Woodrow McNemar. A Fire Fighter 1 class has already started.

Assistant Fire Chief Report: Brian reported that Truck 102 now had new tires that are heavier duty than what had been on the truck. These should hold up better. The northeast bays in Fire Station #1 have been “overhauled”. Truck 105 has a new battery and the new chain saws have been placed on Trucks 107, 112 and the Assistant Chief’s truck. Brian was working on a search and rescue training at Farnum Creek area for November 9th. He was hoping to have multiple agency involvement in this and had sent out announcements.

County Extension Agent: Chuck reminded the trustees that elections need to be held by November 20th.

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business: Garry announced that the County Commission had approved purchase of a new fast attack fire truck. A 2014 Ford Diesel had been purchased for \$26,652. It was being outfitted with a 300 gallon tank and new equipment at a cost of \$25,704. This truck will become #112 and will be housed at Station #1. The truck is in and once Weis gets the new tank/equipment and the truck in their shop they will have it ready in 3 days. Garry requested the Fire Board’s approval to see Truck 113 and the 1979 vintage, old truck 111. **Bob moved to approve the sale of these two trucks. The motion was seconded and approved 6 – 0.**

Announcements: On October 9 from 7 – 9 p.m. there will be a training in Grandview Plaza with the REA from Council Grove on electrical safety during structure fires. The training will be at the Grandview Plaza city building.

Next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on December 4, 2013.

Ron moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed 6 – 0. Chairman Bennett adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Chuck Otte, Secretary