

Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc.
Benevolent Brotherhood
Rules and By-Laws

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc., that the By-Laws of the Benevolent Brotherhood are amended so that as amended they shall read as follows:

Pursuant to action taken by members of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. at a meeting held on September 13, 2012 the continuation of the Benevolent Brotherhood within and as part of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. the following rules and by-laws are hereby established. The effective date will begin on January 1, 2013.

Article I

Name

Rowan County Fire and Rescue Benevolent Brotherhood

Article II

Purpose

The purpose of the Benevolent Brotherhood is to render financial aid to the beneficiary and or immediate family of any member at the time of death; who is in good standing as a member of the Benevolent Brotherhood.

Article III

Membership

To qualify for membership in the Brotherhood the person applying shall be an active firefighter or rescue personnel of a department that is a member or an associate member such as the Rowan County EMS, FMO and Forrest Service, etc. within the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. Application for membership must be received by the Benevolent Brotherhood Committee from the Chief of each department. If any personnel are member's in more than one organization they can only have one membership in the Benevolent Brotherhood and shall only receive one payment as described in Article X. Disbursements.

Article IV

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Chief of each department that are members of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc.

Article V

Officers

The Officers shall be the same elected Officers of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc.

Article VI

Committee Members

The committee members shall be appointed by the President of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. and shall be approved by Board of Directors of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. There shall be a least three (3) members to handle the duties of the Benevolent Brotherhood. There shall be a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Treasurer.

Article VII

Duties

The Benevolent Treasurer will be responsible for keeping financial records of all transactions of all Benevolent Brotherhood accounts and the Chairman and or designee will make a report to the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. at any regular or called meeting.

Upon proof that a member of this organization is claimed by death which may be from any cause, the Committee shall pay as soon as practicable to the beneficiaries by the deceased member the amount specified in these by-laws. All checks must be countersigned by two (2) members of the committee. If a member is not available then the Treasurer of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. will be authorized to sign. Those signing checks and or handling funds shall be required to be bonded.

The Treasurer of the Fire & Rescue Association will be responsible for managing the annual financial audit review for the Benevolent Brotherhood, and preparing an annual report to be given at the Rowan County Fire & Rescue Association's, Inc. annual meeting.

Article VIII

Dues

Each member shall pay to the Treasurer three dollars (\$3.00) as the initial payment under the plan and two dollars (\$2.00) upon the death of a member of the Benevolent Brotherhood.

Article IX

Collections

The Chief of each department shall appoint a member to receive collections from each of his/her members when notified of a members' death. The collections shall be forwarded along with a complete report to the Treasurer of the Benevolent Brotherhood within a period of thirty (30) days after notification.

Article X

Disbursements

The Officers shall require the Committee to pay to the beneficiaries of a deceased member an amount equivalent to two dollars (\$2.00) per member based upon the last preceding assessment and payment. No payment shall exceed the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

The Chief of each department will have the responsibility to notify the committee upon death of a member up to and not to exceed one (1) year after death.

Disbursements from the account shall also include Bonding Insurance stationary, stamps, and financial institution related costs.

Article XI

Delinquents

Any department who has failed to pay their assessment within a period of sixty (60) days after being properly notified by letter from the committee the Chairperson shall forfeit their membership in the Benevolent Brotherhood.

The President and or appointee will contact the Chief of said department to inquire about the delinquency. All delinquent departments shall be reported to the Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. at a regular meeting.

Departments that is delinquent after ninety (90) days will be sent a certified letter notifying them of the delinquency and that they shall forfeit their membership in the Benevolent Brotherhood and will not be paying any benefits and or reimbursing any funds.

To be reinstated, the member will be assessed the regular membership fee of three dollars (\$3.00), plus the number of assessments called while being delinquent and any related cost, i.e. certified letters, etc. Notification of all expelled members shall be reported at the Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. at a regular meeting.

Article XII

Expulsion

Any member who is expelled from any department for misconduct, or become inactive in their duties and is physically able to carry on the duties shall immediately forfeit membership in the Benevolent Brotherhood. The Chief of each department is responsible to make notification to the committee.

Article XIII

Retirement

Any member may continue their membership in the Benevolent Brotherhood if he/she retires from their department in good standing, maintains correct address information, pays all assessments properly, gives support to all personnel and departments at all times, and has three (3) years continuous service to a department in Rowan County and a member of the Rowan County Fire Rescue Association, Inc.

Article XIX

Forfeitures

If any department refuses or ceases to hold membership equal to twenty-five (25%) percent or more of its membership as members of the Benevolent Brotherhood, the said department forfeits its right to have voting rights in the Brotherhood except for those individual members holding membership in the Brotherhood may participate in all benefits of the Brotherhood providing they meet the other standards of qualifications as outlined in the Articles.

Article XX

Amendments

These rules and by-laws may be amended by a majority vote at any regular or called meeting of the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Association, Inc., provided the amendment is presented in writing to the general meeting preceding the meeting in which the vote is taken.