

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: September 20, 2006

SUBJECT: Bat Cave Fire and Rescue Lease Purchase Agreement

ATTACHMENTS: Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee Minutes Excerpt and Draft Letter

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

At the July 13, 2006 Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee meeting, Richard Barnwell Chief of Bat Cave Fire and Rescue presented a proposal to order a new pumper. The total price of the new pumper is \$199,500.00. Bat Cave will make a down payment of \$49,500, financing the remaining \$150,000 through United Financial at a rate of 5.9% with a yearly payment of \$13,025 for 15 years.

A motion to approve the purchase of the pumper was made by Rick Livingston and seconded by Bill Stepp. Unanimous approval.

Bat Cave Fire and Rescue respectfully request the Chairman sign the attached letter to United Financial.

COUNTY MANAGER RECOMMENDATION/BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board should authorize the Chairman to sign the attached letter to United Financial of North Carolina.

**HENDERSON COUNTY
FIRE AND RESCUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 13, 2006**

The Henderson County Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by LeeRoy Nicholson, on July 13, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Marshal's Office. Committee members attending the meeting were LeeRoy Nicholson, Chip Gould, Rick Livingston, Joe Swain, David Johnson, Bill Stepp, and Richard Barnwell. Rocky Hyder, Fire Marshal; Wally Hollis, Deputy Fire Marshal, Cathy Justice, Administrative Assistant, and Bill Moyer, Board of Commissioners Chairman attended the meeting along with representatives from the following department: Bat Cave FD.

Invocation

Bill Stepp gave the invocation.

Informal Comment

No informal comment.

Business

David Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 11, 2006 meeting as written, seconded by Richard Barnwell, **unanimous approval**.

Bat Cave FD – Richard Barnwell (attachment)

Rick Livingston made a motion to approve Bat Cave's purchase of a new fire truck, seconded by Bill Stepp

Bill Stepp – Edneyville FD has a new Chief, Trevor Lance and Assistant Chief, Lowell Griffin. Our present Chief Robert Griffin resigned and is taking a job with a private contractor in Iraq to fight fires. Quarters for EMS are moving right along and hopefully by the first of August it will be ready.

Bill Moyer – In the new budget EMS Station 4 at Edneyville FD will be funded starting January 1. Park Ridge Hospital's new CEO is willing to work with us on the new station's funding.

Rocky Hyder – At the Fire Training Center there is an issue between the Association and a new developer that is looking at a piece of ground near by. We had an environmental test done at the Fire Training Center last week and we should get the test results back this week. This was to defend ourselves from accusations that we have contaminated the ground. It will cost us \$1,500 and the college has agreed to pay for half and the Fire Association will pay for the other half. A core drill was used to test the soil at 3' to 6', and a water sample was taken at 15'.

- DISCUSSION -

Bill Moyer – All your recommendations were adopted except the Rescue Squad, and that was funded slightly more than last year but nothing near what was recommended. The Board has

recognized that we need to continue to study that issue but it was not funded at the amount that you recommended.

Rocky – They did make it a line item in the budget and not part of the private non-profit funding and they did give them a raise.

Chip Gould – They need to hit some of these other municipalities too.

Rocky – We are going to ask Mr. Duncan to engage us early this year and October 10 may be the kick off for that for budgetary purposes. This being a re-evaluation cycle it is going to be very complicated for the next budget year in the fire service. He has already agreed he wants to be part of the process early on and deliver some projections.

Bill Stepp – If we can get a definite answer that will be a big step in the right direction.

Rocky – I will convey that to him.

Next Meeting

The Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee next meetings will be at 7:00 p.m. on October 10, 2006.

Motion to Adjourn

David Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Richard Barnwell, **unanimous approval.**

Date:

United Financial of North Carolina, Inc.
58 Wilkie Way
Fletcher, NC 28732

Re: Lease Purchase Agreement between United Financial of North Carolina, Inc., and Bat Cave Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Dear Sirs:

I am Chairman of the County Commissioners of Henderson County. This letter is to advise you that Bat Cave Volunteer Fire Department is a qualified Volunteer Fire Department assigned to protect a specific Fire District within this County.

In addition, a special ad valorem (fire tax) is assessed on the real property owners of this district. Said tax is to be used exclusively to provide equipment, facilities, and training as is necessary to provide fire protection for said district. Said funds may also be used to upgrade equipment as the need arises. This tax is collected by the County and disbursed by the Finance Office to the Fire Department on a regular basis by the County Finance Officer. The Fire Department is operated and managed by the Board of Directors of the Fire Department and the Officers of said Department. The Department is currently meeting the requirements of their fire service contract.

The Fire Department has made us aware of their intention to acquire new capital assets through a Lease Purchase transaction with your firm.

Please be advised that the County has no objection to this transaction.

Sincerely,

Chairman
Henderson County Commission