

# **HENDERSON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BY-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## **SECTION I - NAME**

The organization shall be known as the Henderson Volunteer Fire Department of the City of Henderson, Rusk County, Texas.

## **SECTION II - PURPOSE**

The objective and purpose of the Henderson Volunteer Fire Department shall be to provide fire protection to the property and citizens of Henderson in the way of physical aid to the extent that the City government is unable to financially hire or provide. To work with and aid those firefighters hired by the City of Henderson in putting out fires in and near Henderson or wherever the firefighting equipment of the City of Henderson may be called upon to go. To be alert for fire hazards and work toward having any known hazards eliminated. The Henderson Volunteer Fire Department of Henderson and will endeavor to work with other civic organizations and groups toward this end.

## **SECTION III - MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of the Henderson Volunteer Fire Department shall consist of twenty members exclusive of those regular firefighters hired by the City. The number of members may change as deemed necessary to conform with the State Fire Regulations or at the request of the City Government.

## **SECTION IV - QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

1. Each applicant must have reached his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.
2. Must be residing within the corporate limits of the City of Henderson or within a reasonable distance from the city.
3. Any member or applicant ever convicted of a felony or greater offense who conducts themselves in such a manner or engages in any unlawful occupation or trade or acts in any manner so as to bring discredit or unfavorable criticism shall be subject to suspension or dismissal from department.
4. While no physical examination will be necessary, each applicant or member shall be physically fit with no major impairments, i.e., must be able to perform all duties required as a member of a fire department in fire fighting. Temporary impairments may be waived by the executive committee. In cases of doubt, a doctor's (MD) statement may be presented for consideration.

## SECTION VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There shall be an executive committee consisting of the Certifying Coordinator, two Captains and the Chief or Deputy Chief of the department as hired by the City Government. The Captain or Captains are to be the head of this committee and it shall meet upon call. A majority shall be present for any actions to be official.

This committee shall among other things:

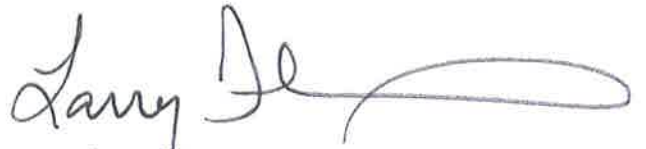
1. Pass upon all new applications for membership.
  2. Have the power to suspend any member for a cause or misconduct, either on duty at a fire or for personal misconduct.
  3. Have the power to place any member on probation for a cause or misconduct either on duty at a fire or going to a fire or for personal misconduct.
- a. Such member either suspended or placed on probation shall be told all the facts of the case and the decision of the committee, but not the vote. Appearance before the committee shall be the prerogative of the committee.

## SECTION VII - AUXILIARY FIREMEN

In addition to the twenty members of the Henderson Volunteer Fire Department, a list of from ten to twenty persons shall be maintained. Auxiliary firefighters will serve without pay and shall not have the power to vote. They may attend all drills and fires and other emergencies and may work as regular members. Each member, however, must agree to attend the fire and work as firefighters when and if called upon to do so should the emergency demand such or there be a shortage of regular members at the scene or fire.

Auxiliary firefighters will consist of those former members living in Henderson but leaving the city daily for employment elsewhere. Members of the regular department who for personal, business or other reasons request transfer to the auxiliary list shall take preference over other members on such list. If such member has been on the regular list for over one year, then the executive committee shall eliminate one person to make the opening. Other persons who apply for membership on the regular volunteer department and are otherwise qualified may be carried on this auxiliary list until an opening shall occur and the applicant be voted in. Members of the auxiliary list shall serve without compensation and shall sign any form waiver requested by the City Government,

The foregoing rules, regulations and by-laws were duly read at two separate meetings and were adopted by a majority vote of the membership on April 19, 1954. These rules, regulations and by-laws were duly read and revised by a majority vote of the membership on January 6, 2003.



Larry Tomas  
Captain, Volunteer Fire Dept.



Patrick Dooley  
Captain, Volunteer Fire Dept.



Russell Chote  
Fire Department Chief