

Brown Co Approves Purchase of New Rescue Truck

(KNZA)-The Brown County Rescue Squad will be getting a new truck.

The Brown County Commission on Monday accepted the lone bid received from North Carolina-based VT Hackney, Inc. for a 2015 Ford F550 XLT crew cab and chassis at a total cost of \$159,109, which will be paid for by the county.

The new truck will replace the existing late 90's truck, which Rescue Squad officials say isn't very efficient.

Delivery of the new truck will take up to 330 calendar days.

The Rescue Squad, which is manned by volunteers, responds to all major calls in the county—including injury wrecks and structure fires.

The Commission also Monday held the first round of hearings on 2015 budget requests.

The largest budget request came from Sheriff John Merchant, who requested a total of nearly \$1.6 million for the sheriff's office, dispatch and jail. The request represents a substantial increase over what was approved for 2014. Merchant said his budget includes funding for the hiring of an additional deputy and purchase of a new patrol vehicle.

The budget hearings will wrap up next Monday.

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