

ANDERSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING 10/15/2024 – 5:30 pm

Minutes subject to approval by the Fire Commission

ORIGINAL

Present for the meeting were: Tommy Keaton, Charlie Dickerson, Randy Wilson, Chris Branyon, and Bryan Merk. Also present were Jimmy Sutherland and Brian Moon.

Chairman Keaton opened the meeting at 5:30 pm. Mr. Dickerson offered the invocation.

MOTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the 9/24/2024 meeting was made by Mr. Dickerson with a second by Mr. Branyon, and the vote was unanimous.

MOTION: Motion to approve the agenda of 10/15/24 was made by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Merk, and all approved.

There were no visitors to address the Commission.

Old Business -Committee Reports:

Personnel: None

Finance: None

Purchasing: None

Rules & Regulations: Mr. Branyon reported that dispatch SOG's will be reviewed and voted on at the next meeting. Mr. Keaton said they were waiting on a response from EMS following their review of the SOG's.

Maintenance: Mr. Wilson reported the Safe Air Quote has been tabled for a new quote.

Planning & Development: None

Communications: Mr. Wilson reported they will have a meeting to discuss the radio service agreement, as there were some issues when the tower went down.

There were no motions for executive session.

New Business -Committee Reports:

Personnel: None

Finance: Mr. Dickerson reported that another 3.5 million transfer and draw has been made for the new trucks purchase. The last five will draw later. Chief Sutherland reported that bank signature cards will need to be updated.

Purchasing: None

Rules & Regulations: None

Maintenance: Mr. Wilson commended headquarters staff on the high-quality work on getting the new trucks out and looking so good. Mr. Merk asked for the status on Broadway's truck. Chief Sutherland advised it was being tested and waiting on the power back to Cummins after the hurricane to be evaluated, it came back with a clean test. Mr. Dickerson added that if there are any future related failures, they will be addressed.

Planning & Development: Mr. Dickerson updated the continued relationship with the social media group, who has reached out to every Chief. They have been working on the website, which is a bit clunky right now but being worked on. Tommy Miller will be helping on our end in getting the information to the group as needed. They hope to hire student workers to help with the projects.

Communications: Mr. Wilson reported a lot of fallback on the tower as the Manse Jolly site on not working and we are currently working on a repeater antenna. They are working on a quote for repair. Also, the radio grant may not be likely, so they are setting up meetings for ideas in case the grant money is not received.

Department Reporting: Tim Burton presented the Department Report for the Maintenance. The Commission expressed appreciation.

Comments from the Fire Chief: Chief Sutherland commended the staff on all the work during the hurricane and on the new trucks.

He also commended Richard Donald of Emergency Services for saving the radio system, when it wasn't even his job to do so he helped get us back to a working order. Mr. Keaton added that he would like to send a formal letter to the County Administrator commending his work and willingness to step in and help out.

Mr. Dickerson commended the Communications committee and Chief Sutherland on the ops plan for the 800 system during the storm when the radio went down.

Comments from Chiefs Advisory Board:

Comments from Others: Former District 5 Commissioner Mark Cole expressed his appreciation to the Commission and added that he has enjoyed working with everyone. He hopes to continue to stay involved on a few projects and work with Mr. Merk during the transition to ensure there are no loose ends. He expressed to everyone that if there's anything he can do to help in the future, he'd be glad to help.

Mr. Keaton reminded everyone of the prayer breakfast at the Civic Center Wednesday 10/16/2024.

Mr. Merk addressed two issues for clarification/info. 1) Mike Benoir has asked to work on a 4-door custom cab for districts 3,4,5. Mr. Keaton advised to take to Maintenance Committee. Mr. Dickerson advised there will be an evaluation and a decision will need to be made on which trucks to keep and what goes where. For the ones we won't keep, they will look into Brindley Mountain and Gov Bills for their pros and cons. 2) How to go about getting a Substation at Station 11 (Highway 29 and Norris Road (S-4-104) near Mt Creek Baptist Church). Mr. Keaton advised it will need to be assigned to Committee.

Mr. Wilson expressed appreciation to everyone who worked in the storm. He's worked several fires but cutting trees and hearing others popping around you in the dark got pretty scary. Mr. Keaton advised this is the worst and most widespread damage he's seen in over 30 years for the area. We have several trucks damaged, and some can be fixed here, but thankful that all staff are okay. Mr. Branyon added that whoever made the call to stand down during the worst of the storm was a good call as conditions were very dangerous.

Chief Sutherland advised they have reached to the North Carolina Fire Marshal's office for help where needed after the devastation of Hurricane Helene.

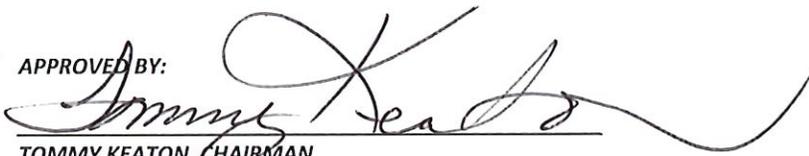
MOTION: Following a motion by Mr. Branyon with second from Mr. Merk, the meeting adjourned.

ORIGINAL

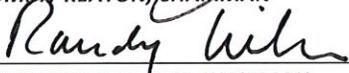
Respectfully submitted,

Angie Bryant

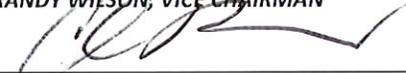
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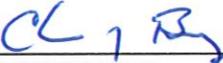
TOMMY KEATON, CHAIRMAN



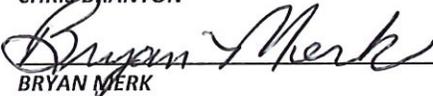
RANDY WILSON, VICE CHAIRMAN



CHARLIE DICKERSON, TREASURER



CHRIS BRANYON



BRYAN MERK

ORIGINAL

Commission Meeting Agenda – November 19, 2024

Standing Committee Meeting – 5:15 pm / Commission Meeting - **5:30 pm**

Date of Next Meeting – 12/17/2024

1. **Open & Welcome**
2. **Invocation**
3. **Approval of Minutes for Commission Meeting – 10/15/2024**
4. **Approval of Agenda – 11/19/2024**
5. **Visitors**

6. **Old Business –**
 - A) **Committee Reports**
 - 1) Personnel – (Keaton, Chairman / Branyon, Member)
 - 2) Finance – (Dickerson, Chairman / Merk, Member)
 - 3) Purchasing (Wilson, Chairman / Branyon, Member)
 - 4) Rules & Regulations – (Branyon, Chairman / Keaton, Member)
 - 5) Maintenance – (Wilson, Chairman / Dickerson, Member)
 - 6) Planning & Development – (Merk, Chairman / Dickerson, Member)
 - 7) Communications – (Wilson, Chairman / Merk, Member)

7. **Motion for Executive Session (if necessary)**
8. **Motion to Return from Executive Session (if held)**
9. **Announcements/ Motions to be Made from Executive Session (if any)**

10. **New Business –**
 - A) **Committee Reports**
 - 1) Personnel – (Keaton/Branyon)
 - 2) Finance – (Dickerson/Merk)
 - 3) Purchasing – (Wilson/Branyon)
 - 4) Rules & Regulations – (Branyon/Keaton)
 - 5) Maintenance – (Wilson / Dickerson)
 - 6) Planning & Development – (Merk/Dickerson)
 - 7) Communications – (Wilson/Merk)
11. **Department Reporting – Fire Prevention / Recruitment & Retention**
12. **Comments from the Fire Chief**
13. **Comments from the Chiefs' Advisory Board**
14. **Comments from Others**
15. **Motion to Adjourn**