

ANDERSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING 1/21/2025

Minutes subject to approval by the Fire Commission

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

Chairman Keaton opened the meeting, and Mr. Dickerson offered the invocation.

MOTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the 12/10/2024 meeting was made by Mr. Branyon, second by Mr. Merk, and the vote was unanimous.

MOTION: Motion to approve the agenda of 1/21/2025 was made by Mr. Dickerson, second by Mr. Wilson, and all approved.

There were no visitors to address the Commission.

Old Business -Committee Reports:

Personnel: None

Finance: None

Purchasing: None

Rules & Regulations: None

Maintenance: None

Planning & Development: None

Communications:

MOTION: Motion on recommendation of the Communications Committee was made by Mr. Wilson to approve the quote for the microwave on the Headquarters tower in the amount of \$23,076.99 from Kimball Communications, and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Dickerson added that we should have a plan to replace all the equipment.

Mr. Wilson gave an update on the dispatch SOG's. They have met with the dispatch supervisor to get the new changes implemented and to review and make sure everyone is on the same page. They had a couple of questions on a few things for clarification and we didn't make any written changes to the SOG's. Since then, there have been no change except the Rescue Team with the Friday announcement will be separate because they simulcast with the city. (This change was already in writing). They also updated the Red Cross's telephone number on the sheet. We also noted to drop the Active between the toneout and siren tones. The implementation date will be Monday (January 20th) at 7am. He and Merk will meet in February for updates and will continue to meet quarterly.

MOTION: Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel issues was made by Mr. Branyon with a second from Mr. Wilson, and all members approved.

MOTION: Motion to return to open session was made by Mr. Branyon with a second from Mr. Merk, and all members approved.

Chairman Keaton advised personnel issues were discussed during executive session and there are no announcements.

New Business -Committee Reports:

Personnel: Mr. Branyon reported that during November the Commission decided on hiring an intern from Anderson College for the social media program. They only had one person to apply and since then she has found employment elsewhere and is no longer available. Since then, Allie Dickerson has been recommended from Anderson University. She will be on a no-pay internship for the social media program.

MOTION: Motion on recommendation of the Personnel committee was made by Mr. Branyon to approve the internship. The vote was 4-0 in favor, as Mr. Dickerson abstained from the vote.

Mr. Keaton also announced that Assistant Chief Brian Moon will be leaving and February 7, 2025 will be his last day. He has taken a job in Abbeville County. The Personnel Committee will meet before the next meeting to plan how we will proceed. Chief Sutherland will spread some of the work around. Captain Joey Freeman will be the contact for issues normally handled by Chief Moon until a replacement is officially hired. The Commission congratulated Chief Moon on his new job and thanked him for his hard work during his employment with ACFD. Chief Moon asked to address the Commission at the end of the meeting.

Finance: None

Purchasing: Mr. Wilson advised that they have received an equipment list from the Station 9's ladder team for review. This will remain in Committee.

The Maintenance staff has also requested to purchase more 1¾" hose.

MOTION: Motion on recommendation of the Purchasing Committee was made by Mr. Wilson to approve the purchase of 1.75" hose in the amount of \$4,033.90 and all members approved.

Rules & Regulations: None

Maintenance:

MOTION: Motion on recommendation of the Maintenance Committee was made by Mr. Wilson to approve the estimate for repair to the Hazmat Building's two heater replacements. They have two quotes, and are recommending an amount not to exceed \$12,018.00 for repair until any more quotes are obtained. All members approved.

Mr. Wilson also advised that the older trucks will still be put on gov deals, but they have been offered \$25,000 per truck on the old E11 and E12 from Aiken which beats the minimum bid on gov deals.

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Keaton to let them purchase the two trucks and if they are interested in more of the old trucks, let them purchase more if the minimum bid is met. Second by Mr. Branyon, and all members approved.

Mr. Merk gave to the Commission for their consideration and review a request from Hopewell on their new E20 that is coming in. Mr. Keaton asked the Maintenance Committee to review and report at the next Commission meeting.

Mr. Keaton also gave a request from Station 22 to the maintenance committee for their review.

Planning & Development: None

Communications: Mr. Dickerson asked for an update on the reporting system from Chief Moon. He advised he and Captain Freeman have a meeting set up later in the week. Some of the stations have signed on. Some of the older files need to be transferred to the new system, and they didn't want to send over old and bad information. They have created a training system for review of this information and what needs to be transferred. If stations are having problems logging in, contact the number on the website and they will help them get set up. The software requires a Windows device. You technically don't need to download, but you can do 98% of the stuff on the app. It won't be 100% until everything is loaded to the live version of the software and the CAD link is active from dispatch. Once our CAD link is working, updates will be automatic. 98% of everything can be done from the app. NFIRS final reports will have to be done from a desktop. Chief Moon advised he and Joey will follow up after the meeting to give an update.

Department Reporting: Mr. Zach Arnold offered the department report for Maintenance. The Commission expressed appreciation.

Comments from the Fire Chief: Chief Sutherland reported that the new ladder truck is in Spartanburg and hopefully we will receive it by the end of the month. The spare truck that we kept here is almost ready to go into service. The radio and hose have been installed. He added that we did get some 3" and 1.75" hose donated/taken out of service at another station that can be used. Trying to get some more hose donated so we don't have to buy a lot. He is getting a list together of a few things we need to buy. Hopefully by next week we can get the trucks going. He thanked Assistant Chief Brian Moon for 17 years they worked together and expressed his appreciation and for Chief's Moon help to the fire system.

Mr. Branyon asked for an update on the lettering of the other trucks. Chief Sutherland advised he will have them all done at the same time.

Comments from Chiefs Advisory Board: None

Comments from Others: Assistant Chief Brian Moon expressed his appreciation to the current Commission, the past Commission, and to Chief Sutherland for the last 17 years. He said he enjoyed every minute of it. He added, "I think our accomplishments over that time have been something to be said, and I am just glad to be a small part of that. The opportunity just came up and I decided to take that opportunity. I will still be a volunteer at Station 15 so I am not going away. Thank you also to the staff, we have great people at Headquarters and also to all the Chiefs and volunteers in the system. I have enjoyed it and look forward to just being a volunteer in the system again. I really just wanted to say I have no regrets, I enjoyed every minute of it, thank you for what you all do and if I can ever be of any assistance I am just a phone call away."

Chairman Keaton expressed appreciation to Chief Moon and added that most folks will never know the effort Chief Moon put in to getting the millage increase approved. He wished Assistant Chief Moon the best.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Bryant

APPROVED BY:

TOMMY KEATON, CHAIRMAN

Randy Wilson

RANDY WILSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

CLD

CHARLIE DICKERSON, TREASURER

CLB

CHRIS BRANYON

Bryan Merk

BRYAN MERK

ORIGINAL