

ANDERSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING 3/18/2025

Minutes subject to approval by the Fire Commission

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

Mr. Keaton called the meeting to order. Mr. Dickerson offered the invocation.

MOTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the 2/18/2025 meeting was made by Mr. Branyon, second by Mr. Merk, and all members approved.

MOTION: Motion to approve the agenda of 3/18/2025 was made by Mr. Dickerson, second by Mr. Branyon, and all approved.

There were no visitors to address the Commission.

Old Business -Committee Reports:

Personnel: Chris Branyon reported that applications for the Investigator and Captain slot have been received and they will setup interviews soon.

Finance: None

Purchasing: Following hose and ground ladder testing, the replacement ladders are in, and we are still waiting on hose to be delivered. The equipment for the ladder truck is on order.

Rules & Regulations: None

Maintenance: Mr. Wilson advised they had received a letter from Station 22 requesting a modification of their new pumper. This is the only formal request received as of yet, but several departments have asked.

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Merk to call a vote on the question of whether to allow any modifications to the new county owned pumpers.

Two members were in favor of allowing modifications (Keaton, Wilson), and three members opposed (Branyon, Dickerson, Merk) of allowing modification of the new County Owned pumpers.

Planning & Development: Mr. Merk asked for a more effective communication by Headquarters Staff and departments as far as picking up and returning trucks and equipment. Also, in the future if we could also look into possibly hiring an Administrative Assistant for the Chief and Assistant Chief. Chairman Keaton advised we should have the Personnel, Finance, and Planning & Development Committees to work on that.

Communications: None

Motion to go into Executive Session: Motion by Branyon, second by Mr. Wilson to go into Executive Session for Personnel and all members agreed.

Motion to return to Open Session: Motion by Branyon, second by Mr. Merk to return to open session, and all members approved. Chairman Keaton advised Personnel matters were discussed and there are no announcements.

New Business -Committee Reports:

Personnel: None

Finance: Mr. Dickerson reported it is budget season. We are starting to populate the budget for the new year. He would like to see an April workshop for the June presentation to Delegation.

Purchasing: None

Rules & Regulations: Mr. Branyon advised that he has a letter from District 4 requesting a review of the rule on the age of a used vehicle (currently fifteen years). This will remain in Committee for review.

Maintenance: Mr. Wilson reported that the committee has asked Chief Sutherland to spec out two new maintenance trucks' pricing for budgeting purposes.

Planning & Development: Mr. Merk reported that Councilman Davis has extended an invitation to the Commission to attend their meeting of Planning & Development and Growth at the Civic Center on March 25th at 1800 hours. Chairman Keaton advised this will be treated as a Planning and Development Committee meeting and all members are encouraged to attend.

Mr. Dickerson asked for an update on RedNMX and Asst. Chief Freeman gave an update. Mr. Dickerson elaborated on problems with Central Square and getting each stations CAD to route to the right location. Asst. Chief Freeman elaborated on the Training module as well as Maintenance work order modules. Mr. Dickerson commended and thanked Asst. Chief Freeman for his work on the project. The app can be downloaded by each station and used to help track many things: truck checks, work as Active 911, bulletin board features, response tracking, etc. Chairman Keaton advised taking the time to build it right is a good way to do it.

Communications: Mr. Wilson reported that Kimball Communications is working on a map survey for VHF for our needs to get better coverage throughout the whole county, especially in the trouble sites. Our radio system is not working as well with all the growth. We are also going to give a directive to County Radio Maintenance to put VHF Channel 1 on the repeater (Channel 2 is currently on there) to see if coverage is better. He advised they will let everyone know before the switch is made.

Mr. Merk advised they had met with Central Dispatch personnel and offered key takeaways: SOGs should remain standard across the board for all fire departments, they are having challenges with mapping issues – if there is something wrong to let them know but the system is not giving district line information as it should. Also, use basic radio discipline – keep emergency transmission quick and concise; as short as possible, as meaningful as possible and to communicate this to your firefighters. Also, the dispatcher may direct you or your department to another operation channel. The Chief will be sending out an email to all fire chiefs and we will discuss in the future. Also, he reiterated to follow up with the Chief or your Commissioner instead of the dispatcher if there is an issue with a call.

Department Reporting: Wendell Hunter offered the department report for Investigations. The Commission expressed appreciation.

Comments from the Fire Chief: Chief Sutherland advised the used trucks have been sold. He advised we will have a copy of the hose test results for each station and will be calibrating the gas monitors at the next Chiefs' meeting.

Comments from Chiefs Advisory Board: Brad Hart advised the next Chiefs Meeting is Monday 3/24/25 at Circle M Barbecue. Elections will be held.

Vote for Commission Officers: The Commission voted to stay the same. Chairman Keaton advised he will assign Committee members and send to Angie and Chief Sutherland.

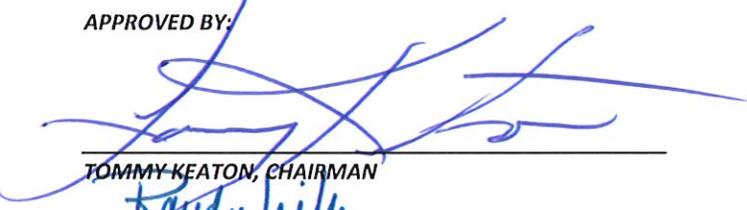
Other Business: None

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

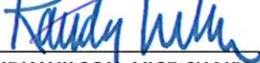
Respectfully submitted,

Angie Bryant

APPROVED BY:



TOMMY KEATON, CHAIRMAN

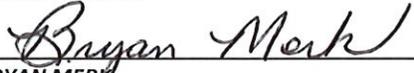


RANDY WILSON, VICE CHAIRMAN



CHARLIE DICKERSON, TREASURER

CHRIS BRANYON



BRYAN MERR