

ANDERSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING 7/15/2025

*Minutes subject to approval by the Fire Commission*

**ORIGINAL**

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

Chairman Keaton called the meeting to order. Chief Sutherland offered the invocation.

**MOTION:** The motion to approve the minutes of the 6/17/2025 meeting was made by Mr. Dickerson, second by Mr. Branyon, and all members approved.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve the agenda of 7/15/2025 was made by Mr. Merk, second by Mr. Branyon, and all approved.

There were no visitors.

**Old Business - Committee Reports:**

**Personnel:** None

**Finance:** Mr. Dickerson stated the budget was submitted to Delegation and approved. He expressed appreciation to Chief Sutherland and Assistant Chief Freeman for their presentation to Delegation.

**Purchasing:** None

**Rules & Regulations:** Mr. Branyon reported on three items:

**MOTION:** Motion on recommendation of the Rules & Regulations Committee was made by Mr. Branyon to accept the Chaplain SOGs as presented, and all members approved.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Mr. Branyon to accept the Marine 4 SOG's, with the addition of an age requirement for being on the boat. Under discussion, Merk stated the only question he has is on the Firefighter I criteria. Merk reported he cannot vote in favor. Motion passed with (3) in favor and (2) opposed (Dickerson, Merk).

Mr. Branyon stated the committee has received a letter from District 4 asking the committee to review the regulations on the purchase of station-owned vehicles. After review and discussion, the committee proposed to amend #9 to read "any grass truck, brush truck, rescue, service truck, or tanker purchased by a station must not be older than twenty years old. Any other type of apparatus purchased by a station must not be older than fifteen years old" and move for a vote for these changes.

**MOTION:** Motion on recommendation of the Rules & Regulations Committee was made Mr. Branyon to approve the amended regulations on purchasing station-owned vehicles. After discussion, all five members opposed.

Under discussion, Mr. Merk questioned if it's being changed because of District 4's request and if so is that what was asked for. Mr. Keaton elaborated on the information. Merk inquired about the type of apparatus and if the station would be given any options or just cut it off by years. Dickerson stated he personally liked the 15-year rule and that it set the standard in his opinion. Merk stated that he is in more for the station to determine if we're not assuming much liability or cost, why would we keep them from a purchase. Keaton stated that ultimately we're accepting the liability either way we go if bringing it into the system. And that with the purchase of the new trucks, we have been trying to get the older vehicles out of the system and going against that defeats it, in his opinion. Merk asked if we have brought in any other trucks in since a

year ago, since April when those trucks were denied. Chief reported no, not that he is aware of. Merk asked do we know of any incoming, does that have anything to do with that, trying to change to allow. Keaton advised the only reason for even looking at it was because District 4 had brought that up about brush trucks. Merk advised that he didn't have anything else. A vote was held to change to proposed amendments and no members were in favor. All five members opposed. Mr. Keaton advised that it stays as is.

**Maintenance:** None

**Planning & Development:** None

**Communications:** None

**ORIGINAL**

**Motion to go into Executive Session:** Motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Branyon to go into Executive Session for 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. Contracts were discussed and will be presented in Committee reports.

**New Business - Committee Reports:**

**Personnel:** None

**Finance:** None

**Purchasing:** Mr. Wilson stated he has received information from the Ryan Herring with the Technical Rescue Team in regards to a discount offer on items needed to upgrade their Air Source shoring equipment. Ryan is working with Paratech equipment representatives with Safe Industries to get a quote for submission to the Commission once it is received.

**Rules & Regulations:** Mr. Branyon reported that the District 3 Ladder team rules & regulations have been submitted and will be placed in committee for the August meeting.

**Maintenance:**

**MOTION:** Motion on recommendation of the Maintenance Committee was made by Mr. Wilson to approve Station 20's apparatus allotment in the amount of \$17,800.00 for the purchase of their grass truck. All members approved.

**MOTION:** Motion on recommendation of the Maintenance Committee was made by Mr. Dickerson to purchase (3) replacement vehicles, (2) in the amount of \$71,240.00 each from Hardy Chevrolet to replace the red 2009 service truck and the black spare truck and (1) in the amount of \$53,800.00 from Richard Kay superstore to replace the Chief's truck. All members approved.

Mr. Dickerson added that this was a significant savings and thanked Chief Sutherland and Freeman for their work on this. These will replace the red service truck and the black F150 and give Headquarters staff three service trucks to work. It will also give them another light duty truck to use, as the Chief's older truck will be passed down to staff.

**Planning & Development:**

**MOTON:** Motion on recommendation of the Planning & Development Committee was made by Mr. Merk to approve and authorize Zion station 14 to use their station funds in the amount of \$30,0000 for station improvement. All members approved.

Mr. Merk also advised they have received a request of a proposed substation location from Station 17. This will remain in committee and allow them to work with Station 17.

Communications: None

Department Reporting: Terry Vaughan presented the department report for the Fire Marshal's office. Mr. Merk thanked them for checking on the alarm issues he reported. The Commission expressed their thanks.

Comments from the Fire Chief: Chief Sutherland reported that batteries have been replaced in SCBA equipment. As an update on the Three & Twenty truck, he is waiting to receive the graphics plan. He met with EMS and the Chiefs advisory board working on SOG's and is waiting for a response from the Advisory Board. He thanked the Commission for approval of the purchase of the staff vehicles and thanked staff members Chief Freeman and Zach Arnold for their help in getting good prices for the trucks.

Comments from Chiefs Advisory Board: None

Other Business: None

MOTION: Following a motion by Mr. Branyon with a second by Mr. Wilson, all members were in favor to adjourn.

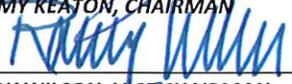
Respectfully submitted,

*Angie Bryant*

Recording by Joey Freeman

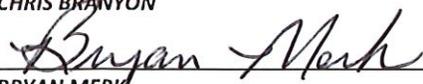
APPROVED BY:

  
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TOMMY KEATON, CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RANDY WILSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHARLIE DICKERSON, TREASURER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRIS BRANYON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BRYAN MERK

**ORIGINAL**