

ANDERSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING 9/16/2025

*Minutes subject to approval by the Fire Commission*

**Present for the meeting were:** Randy Wilson, Charlie Dickerson, and Bryan Merk. Chief Jimmy Sutherland and Assistant Chief Joey Freeman were also present. Chairman Tommy Keaton and Chris Branyon were absent due to work obligations.

Vice-Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order. Chief Sutherland offered the invocation.

**MOTION:** The motion to approve the minutes of the 8/19/2025 meeting was made by Mr. Dickerson, second by Mr. Merk, and all members approved.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve the agenda of 9/16/2025 was made by Mr. Dickerson, second by Mr. Merk, and all members approved.

There were no visitors.

**Old Business - Committee Reports:**

**Personnel:** None

**Finance:** None

**Purchasing:** None

**Rules & Regulations:** None

**Maintenance:** None

**Planning & Development:** None

**Communications:** None

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**Motion to go into Executive Session:** Motion by Mr. Dickerson, second by Mr. Merk to enter Executive Session, and the vote was unanimous.

**Motion to return to Open Session:** Motion by Mr. Merk, second by Mr. Dickerson to return to open session, and all members approved. There were no announcements.

**New Business - Committee Reports:**

**Personnel:** Chief Sutherland advised that Terry Vaughan is now the Training Officer. They will be hiring a Fire Marshal and taking applications through Friday (9/19/2025).

**Finance:**

**MOTION:** Motion on recommendation of the Finance Committee was made by Mr. Dickerson to approve West Pelzer Station 6's request to use \$28,000 of their own station funds toward station improvements. All members approved.

**Purchasing:** None

**Rules & Regulations:** None

**Maintenance:** Mr. Dickerson asked for an update from Chief on the new truck for Station 19. Chief Sutherland reported they are waiting on the siren, booster reel and graphics for the truck and we hope to have it in service in the next few weeks. He asked for an update on several trucks that need

to be re-lettered. Assistant Chief Freeman stated that the gold leaf is on backorder and estimated delivery is October 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Dickerson reported we will be taking sealed bids for two of the older assets: The black F150 pickup and the red F350 Service Truck. We will put a reserve on the bids and get that posted out to the county, with a possible target of opening being the next Commission meeting.

**Planning & Development:** Mr. Merk advised that Station 17 has sent a proposal on a substation at another location. It's a little different situation being a shared property, so the matter will remain in committee to gather more details and come back for a vote.

**Communications:** Chief Sutherland advised there is trouble at the 29 tower and they are working on getting it fixed. It has mostly affected district two's area. He advised that right now we are running on the backup microwave. Vice Chairman Wilson advised that if any station is in need of pagers, call Chief Sutherland to request getting a pager from stock at headquarters. Mr. Merk asked what needs to be done to communicate with the Sheriff's Office via radio. Chief Sutherland advised they are encrypted and Randy Wilson stated we need to work on being able to hear them on calls.

**Department Reporting:** Tommy Miller presented the report for Fire Prevention / Recruitment & Retention. The Commission expressed appreciation.

**Comments from the Fire Chief:** Chief Sutherland advised they have pump tested 72 trucks. Two pumpers and one ladder truck are 2000 gpm and they will need to outsource those. He also advised Training Officer Shanon Robinson has taken a job at Michelin.

**Comments from Chiefs Advisory Board:** Brad Hart reported the next Chief's meeting will be Monday September 22 at Chadwicks of Honea Path at 7pm. He attended the district two meeting with Assistant Chief Freeman and hopes to have the new accountability materials out to the county very soon.

**MOTION:** Following a motion by Mr. Dickerson with a second by Mr. Merk, all members were in favor to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

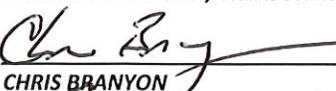
*Angie Bryant*

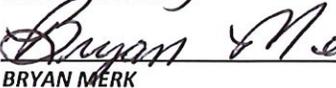
APPROVED BY:

  
TOMMY KEATON, CHAIRMAN

  
RANDY WILSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

  
CHARLIE DICKERSON, TREASURER

  
CHRIS BRANYON

  
BRYAN MERK

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