

ORIGINAL

ANDERSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING 3/17/2026

Minutes subject to approval by the Fire Commission

Present for the meeting were: Tommy Keaton, Charlie Dickerson, Chris Branyon, and Bryan Merk. Chief Sutherland and Assistant Chief Joey Freeman were also present.

Chairman Keaton called the meeting to order. Mr. Merk offered the invocation.

Chairman Keaton asked that we remember Mr. Wilson during his recovery from a recent surgery.

MOTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the 2/17/2026 meeting was made by Mr. Dickerson, second was made by Mr. Merk. The vote was unanimous.

MOTION: Motion to approve the agenda of 3/17/2026 was made by Mr. Branyon, second by Mr. Merk, all members approved.

There were no visitors to address the Commission.

Old Business-Committee Reports:

Personnel: None

Finance: None

Purchasing: Mr. Branyon confirmed with Chief Sutherland that the ladder truck equipment has been ordered. Chief Sutherland reported that we will need more hoses. We are going to pull from stock and will assess how many hoses are needed. Chief Sutherland reported that we will need some ladders also. We are going to try to move some ladders around to not have to buy anymore 35 ft ladders. All the ladders have been replaced with the exception of one at Starr and one at Friendship. We will not be able to get anymore ladders until August.

Rules and Regulations: None

Maintenance: None

Planning and Development: None

Communications: Mr. Branyon reported that he was able to attend the site meetings with Motorola and meet with the engineers and sales reps. They are working on figures and options. Mr. Branyon said they should have those to us by the end of March.

Motion to go into Executive Session: Motion by Mr. Merk, second by Mr. Branyon to enter into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter. The vote was unanimous.

Motion to return to Open Session: Motion by Mr. Branyon, second by Mr. Dickerson to return to open session, all members approved.

Announcements from Executive Session: The Maintenance Committee discussed a maintenance issue in the Executive Session.

New Business- Committee Reports:

Personnel: None

Finance: The Auditor is not finished with the audit yet. Auditor will be here for the April Commission meeting to discuss the Audit.

Purchasing: Mr. Branyon reported that new awnings had been ordered for the building with A.C.F.D. on them. Mr. Keaton brought a motion forward to approve the purchase of the awnings. The purchase will include removing the existing awnings and using the existing frame to install the new awnings. The cost to replace the awnings will be \$2,334.00. Recommendation comes from the Purchasing Committee and does not require a second. All in favor, no opposition. No discussion.

Rules and Regulations: None

Maintenance: Mr. Dickerson reported that the annual station allotment and allotment for fuel has been prepared and by Headquarters staff. Commission approved allotment with a few adjustments. Recommendation comes from Maintenance Committee and does not require a second. All in favor, no opposition. No discussion.

Mr. Dickerson reported they were able to purchase two fleet service trucks and Chief's truck early in this budget year. Committee has been looking at what to do with the aging fleet that other Headquarters staff use and were hoping to be able to get through this budget year, but unfortunately, we have had a catastrophic failure on a 2008 Ford F-150, it has a lot of miles and is expensive to repair. Maintenance Committee is suggesting to purchase a 2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Work Truck Package for a purchase price \$ 47,190.00. Committee will continue to evaluate the remaining Headquarters vehicles and look into a replacement plan for some vehicles in the next budget year. Recommendation comes from Maintenance Committee and does not require a second. All in favor, no opposition. No discussion.

Planning and Development: None

Communications: None

Department Reporting: Investigations was responsible for the report, but was not present due to being called out to a fire.

Comments from the Fire Chief: Chief Sutherland reported that hose testing is done. Most of the ladders that needed to be replaced have been replaced. Some ladders were moved around. We will also need to purchase some ladders for stock also. Two 35 ft ladders failed and will need to be replaced. Cost of these is \$2,800.00 each. Chief Sutherland expressed appreciation to the Headquarters staff that help clean-up around the training facility. Lights on the outside of the facility are now fixed. A dumpster had to be rented to dispose of items that were no longer needed. Pump testing is coming up soon.

The Ladder truck for Station #13 is done. The trip to view this was re-scheduled due to weather conditions. Assistant Chief and Mr. Arnold will be leaving next Monday, March 23rd, to view the ladder truck. Chief Sutherland reported he and Mr. Burton will be leaving on Sunday, March 22nd, to view the pumpers for Station # 3 and Station # 9. We expect to have all three trucks here by the end of April.

The Ladder truck at Starr Station # 4 will continue to use their tones until further notice. Pendleton Station # 2 will start using First Responder Tones.

The the other seven trucks are expected to be here by the end of this year to the beginning of next year.

Comments from Chiefs Advisory Board: Chief's Advisory Board Meeting has been re-scheduled to March 30, 2026. An e-mailed was sent notifying of this change.

Other Business: Mr. Merk asked if we knew approximately how many people that submit applications get accepted into a Fire Department. Chief Sutherland said approximately half the people that apply are accepted.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Mr. Branyon, with a second by Mr. Merk. All in favor.

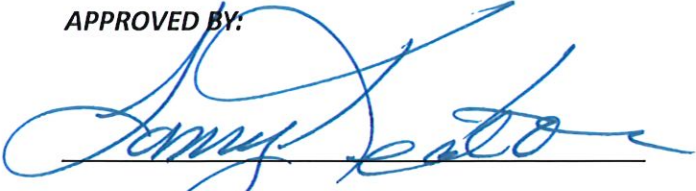
Respectfully submitted,

By: *Anna Bryan*

Anna Bryan

**Administrative Assistant & Finance
Coordinator**

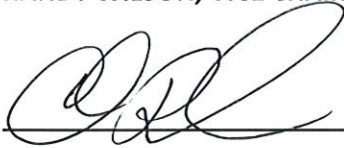
APPROVED BY:



TOMMY KEATON, CHAIRMAN



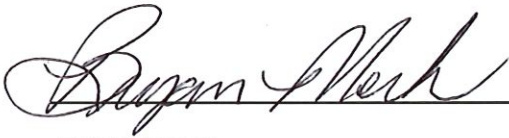
RANDY WILSON, VICE CHAIRMAN



CHARLIE DICKERSON, TREASURER



CHRIS BRANYON



BRYAN MERK