

Minutes for a Regular Meeting on Monday, August 2, 2021, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

John Jennings opened the meeting with prayer. Jim Darby was absent.

Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to remove Item III. Potential Development under New Business due to it being listed for Jim Darby and him being absent due to sickness. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

Everyone reviewed the minutes from the June meeting. John Jennings found several grammatical changes that needed to be made on the regular meeting minutes. Jimmy Brashier motioned to accept the minutes after the changes are made. Donnie Freeman seconded it. All were in favor.

Jennifer Adams reviewed the financial reports and check registers for June and July. There were no questions about the financial reports. Donnie Freeman motioned to accept the Financial Report. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

Chief Sutherland started the Staff Report with a discussion about the FY 2022 budget. The staff is currently working on the preliminary budget to present in the October meeting. The new Brush-74 is scheduled to be built in August. We had a firefighter resign from A shift. Chief Sutherland gave an update on the 2021 CIP. The Training Facility and Rescue-80 will be discussed later in items on the agenda. Chief Sutherland is still working on the new platform. All of the equipment has not come in yet. The bunker gear we ordered may be delivered next month. The hose we ordered has been put in service. The nozzle evaluation project for future purchases has been completed. We are waiting until the end of the year to potentially hire three new personnel. The Capital Equipment Budget line item for large purchase such as new air packs will be created by the end of the year. Donnie Freeman asked where our response area and the response area for Simpsonville Fire Department meet on Fork Shoals Road. Chief Sutherland told him that you can put a fire district layer on the GIS map on Greenville County's website. Chief Sutherland reminded everyone of Family Day on August 7 from 4pm - 8pm. We are hosting two Fire Academy classes and a Training Drill with SCHART/GCERT this month. Promotional Testing will be August 30 – September 3.

Assistant Chief Finley reviewed the Operational Report for calls with everyone for June and July. Chief Finley said we are waiting on parts to come in for repairs on several trucks. Rescue-80 had to have a tire replaced. Engine-80 had to have two steer tires put on it.

Fire Marshal Horn has been doing lots of plan reviews. He currently has five plans and needs to pick up two more from codes. The new training process having one person train everyone for the month is working well. We will also be hosting twelve Fire Academy classes a year. We are currently behind about 20 inspections, but most of them are churches that are hard to schedule.

Chief Sutherland said that the Co-Op student we hired for dispatch did not work out. Jessica Phillips is currently interviewing people for the open position.

Jennifer Adams reported that the LGIP account is earning 0.1% interest. This is more than we are currently getting on our other account with Southern First. We have received the reimbursement from the Lease Purchase for the new Platform. We are waiting on the invoices for all of the equipment to come so we only have one request for that reimbursement.

#### Old Business

- I. Chief Sutherland said that the Lease Purchase was complete. He said that we prepaid for the new Rescue-80. The equipment for the new rescue has also been ordered. The new Platform is at Spartan getting the PM done on it. The equipment for the Platform has also been ordered.

- II. The survey for the property for the Training Facility is complete. Chief Sutherland has signed the contract. T. Cox is waiting on some paperwork from the Masonic Lodge. Terry Chasteen, whom we have used before will be the attorney for the closing. It is scheduled for August 30. The total area of the property will be 3.982 acres. This will allow us to get credit with ISO for a Training Facility. ISO requires a minimum of 3.0 acres of property where the Training Facility is located for credit.

#### New Business

- I. The annual South Carolina State Special Purpose District Association Conference will be at Myrtle Beach at the Embassy Suites at Kingston Plantation September 29 through October 1. The information about the conference including the schedule of speakers was included in your packets for review. Please let Jennifer know by Monday of next week if you are going so that we can make reservations at the hotel. John Jennings asked if they would still have the conference since the COVID cases have increased. Chief Sutherland said that he thought we should go ahead and book everything. We can cancel and should get a refund if they end up cancelling due to COVID later.
- II. Chief Sutherland said that a committee has been formed with Paul Horn, Matt Klink, Tommy Todd and Dalton Nations for our Training Facility. They have toured several training towers in the area. They have decided what we need in our Training Facility. They have submitted the specs for what we want to several companies that make training towers. American Fire Training Systems, Inc that was able to give us what the committee wanted. (See attached) Chief Sutherland asked Paul Horn to review the information since he was head of the committee and our Training Officer. There are detailed floor plans for each floor. FM Horn reviewed the floor plans and different props. There is an interchangeable maze with entanglement props and openings that can be moved. There is a roof deck that has rails, ceiling prop, stairwells, sofas and furniture props, ceiling prop with sprinklers and FDC, Denver Drill prop, wireless temperature monitoring, windows and doors that can be used, pitched roof prop, four forced entry door props, movable burn carts and smoke machines. The first floor has a burn room with walls that can be reconfigured every time you go through. You can also use it for confined space training. The second-floor has a burn room. No walls move on the second floor but it has a pike pole prop that can be used from the top or the bottom. There is a roof prop that has two pitched sides. Donnie Freeman asked if we can change the scenario every time, we use it. That way we can concentrate on our deficiencies. Chief Sutherland said that we can actually recreate scenes that we have on calls. He said that this company offers so much more than just boxes to burn in. With the Training Facility that we have designed, we will be able to create and train on anything you can imagine. There is a temperature monitoring system included to keep you from overheating and damaging your boxes. We will have up to 12 people trained on operating the training tower. We will invite our neighboring departments to come and train with us. Sabrina Bedingfield asked if there would be a charge for others to use it. Chief Sutherland said that we will have to charge a small fee because we will need to have someone from our department present at all burns. Jimmy Brashier asked if we will have site utilities on the outside. Chief Sutherland said there will be various utility props on the building like a gas meter and a power meter. Chief Sutherland said that AFTS has a site plan but no recommendations on the General Contractor. Chief Sutherland enclosed a cost breakdown for everything in the packet of information. Chief Sutherland said that we used a high number for the concrete and General Contractor. Based on his estimates we should spend \$490,250.38. This includes \$50,000.00 for the site prep works that includes the concrete pad and foundation. Sabrina Bedingfield asked if there was enough money for all the concrete we will need. Especially since the cost of everything is rising so much right now. FM Horn said that the concrete will be six inches thick and wider than the building itself for a walkway around the building. The building is 20' by 40' and there will be a walking path completely around the building. Chief Sutherland

said that the we estimated \$50,000.00 for the General Contractor, which is higher than what others recommended at \$25,000.00. We will accept bids for that part of the project from local builders like York Construction, Hogan Construction, and other general contractors. Sabrina Bedingfield said that she wanted to make sure the cost estimate from Chief Sutherland included the money for the concrete. She knew prices of everything had increased and wanted to make sure that we had included price increases. Donnie Freeman asked if this Training Facility would meet our needs for a long time in the future. He wanted to make sure that we are getting everything we could possibly need. Chief Sutherland said this is so versatile that it should meet our needs for a long while. Jimmy Brashier motioned to allow Chief Sutherland to proceed with the plan and process as presented to complete the construction of the Training Facility. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

#### Executive Session

- I. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to go into Executive Session. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. Jimmy Brashier motioned to come out of Executive Session. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. No Motions were made after Executive Session. Jimmy Brashier motioned to adjourn. Donnie Freeman seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by:   
Jennifer Adams, Administrative Specialist