

Minutes for a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

Jim Darby opened the meeting with prayer. Donnie Freeman was absent.

Chief Sutherland presented a plaque from Bomberos Polo R. D. in the Dominican Republic for our donation of a Fire Truck to them last year. It will be hung up for everyone to see.

Everyone reviewed the minutes from the August 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. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

Jennifer Adams reviewed the financial reports and check registers for August. She explained that the Bond Proceeds account on our Balance Sheet now has a \$0 balance and no longer shows on the report. She reminded everyone that the cost of State Retirement went up 1% for the fire district in July. There were no questions about the financial reports. John Jennings 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 still working on the preliminary budget to present in the October meeting. The new Brush 74 cab and chassis will be picked up later in the week. The winch and brush guard are not here and may not be available for 12 months. The truck will have to be picked up and taken to Columbia for the flat bed to be installed, then come back here for the tank and pump to be installed. After that, it will have to be sent to have the lights and radio installed. Once all of that is complete, we can put it in service. The new equipment for Platform 77 and Rescue 80 has started to arrive. We ordered the equipment for the new rescue when we ordered the truck so that it would all be here when the new truck arrives. Some of the equipment will be placed in service on our current rescue. We are still waiting on one part for Platform 77 to put it in service. The Firefighter Cancer Bill was passed by State Legislation and took effect on July 1, 2021. It has guaranteed funding for 5 years in the State Budget. The website with all of the information about it is [scfirefighterscancer.com](http://scfirefighterscancer.com). It will pay a lump sum for a diagnosis of cancer and will pay up to \$20,000 a year medical reimbursement. The diagnosis must be after July 1, 2021. On August 19, 2021, we closed on the purchase of the property behind the lodge. We are going to have to ask for a zoning appeal. This property is zoned residential and we have to petition Greenville County for use by special exception to build the training tower. There will be a hearing at County Square with the Zoning Committee on October 13, 2021. We will have to post a sign about the hearing on the property until then. We were involved in an ERT rescue where people fell off a cliff at Raven Cliff Falls. There was a special request for Lt. Jeremy King and Lt. Dalton Nations because they are highly skilled and specialize in this type of rescue. They had to use SCHAT, which we just trained with in this of type rescue. Also, Dick Bennett from Sandy Springs Church sent a letter to thank us for teaching a CPR and AED class to 9 of their members. He specifically thanked Assistant Chief Finley, Battalion Chief Kevin Adams and Master Firefighter Brandon Jones for all their help setting up and teaching the classes. John Jennings asked Chief Sutherland how we advertised for bids on the site preparation for the training tower. Chief Sutherland said we advertised on [SCBO.sc.gov](http://SCBO.sc.gov) which is through the SC State Contract, a division of procurement services; South Carolina Business Opportunities. We put in our information and it can be reviewed by anyone. That is where we advertised the Prebid meeting and the specs for our project.

Assistant Chief Finley reviewed the Operational Report for calls with everyone for August. Chief Finley said we have been hit hard recently by COVID cases in our employees. All but one has returned to work. Engine 77 had new brakes installed and some electrical problems fixed. Engine 75 had some lights that were replaced and we replaced the hose bed cover. Engine 80 blew a radiator hose and it had to be towed to Headquarters to be repaired.

Fire Marshal Horn has been doing lots of plan reviews. He has also been working on completing inspections. There have been several new subdivisions submit plans for review too.

Chief Sutherland said Jessica Phillips hired a dispatcher that is currently in training.

John Jennings asked about the new subdivisions that we know are coming. Chief Sutherland said there are two on Fork Shoals Road, one near Woodmont High School, one at Bessie Road and Hwy 25, and a large storage facility across from Old Station 3 that has staging for it beside the old station. Chief Sutherland said he did not know when they were going to start working on the V-Go on West Georgia Road. Chief Sutherland said there may be a possibility that some of our employees that had COVID may receive a \$75.00 benefit from the SC Firefighters' Association. It must be traced to a specific call or training event. We are getting the paperwork filled out and submitted for all personnel that potentially could receive this benefit.

#### Old Business

- I. Chief Sutherland reminded everyone of the SPD Conference on September 29 – October 1. We plan to leave Headquarters at 11:00 am on Wednesday and return on Friday afternoon. Please let him know if you need a ride.

#### New Business

- I. None

#### Executive Session

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

Minutes recorded by:   
Jennifer Adams, Administrative Specialist