Minutes for a Regular Meeting on Monday, November 1, 2021, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

John Jennings opened the meeting and asked Donnie Freeman to pray. Jim Darby was in attendance by Zoom. John Jennings thanked Bubba Bagwell for attending.

Everyone reviewed the minutes from the September meeting. Jimmy Brashier motioned to accept the minutes. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor

No one from the public signed up to comment on the agenda items.

Jennifer Adams reviewed the financial reports and check registers for October. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to accept the Financial Reports as presented. Donnie Freeman seconded it. All were in favor.

Chief Sutherland started the Staff Report with updates on the 2021 CIP. Brush 74 is here and we are still trying to get everything ready to put in service. Platform 77 is back from preventative maintenance and repairs. We are currently training everyone on how to operate it. We will have the dedication for it when everything is completed. We have a new dispatcher starting their shift tonight. We are on track for the Training Tower. We are hoping to have it completed in February or March. We will be having our department and 1% meetings on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 each day. The Christmas Party will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> at Washington Baptist Church. The dress will be casual for everyone. All the kids that competed in the Kid's Firefighter Challenge on Family Day need to be there please. We will also be having a Children's Christmas Party on December 4 at 10:00 am for kids 12 and under. They will be doing crafts. We had a firefighter resign from A shift. We have also been allowed to use two buildings until the end of the year for training. PEBA did an audit of all of the policies and procedures that we do for our retirement. There were no discrepancies or issues with our retirement. Jennifer Adams was mentioned as being easy to work with and having everything in order. He thanked her for everything she does for us that most do not know takes place.

Assistant Chief Finley reviewed the Operational Report for calls with everyone for October. Chief Finley said overall our calls went up for October. Rescue 80 had to be towed and repaired. Quint 78 is fixed and Hazmat 78 is having trouble with the turbo. Engine 77 is still waiting to be looked at due to there being no room available at the shop. Chief Finley met with the representative from the company we ordered our gear from and he said that he said we should have our gear by Thanksgiving.

Chief Sutherland said Fire Marshal Horn is currently working on reviewing plans and finishing inspections. Most of the plans he is reviewing are not complete. Jeremy Lathern has been coming in to help him on some of the big inspections and sprinkler tests.

## **Old Business**

- 1. Assistant Chief Finley told everyone we did not receive the FEMA grant for the Breathing Air Compressor. He has included a quote for a new system from Safe Air Systems (see attached). The system is an upgrade that we need. It doubles the flow rate of our current system. The cost is \$75,280.52. This is the company that we currently use for maintenance and our air quality testing. The cost includes installation, training and an air test. The price is good through December 31, 2021. It will refill three SCBA cylinders at a time. It should last for a long time. Jimmy Brashier motioned to purchase the breathing air compressor that was recommended by Assistant Chief Finley from Safe Air Systems. Donnie Freeman seconded it. All were in favor.
- II. Chief Sutherland said the first draft copy of the 2022 budget had some small changes made to it. We included the tax dollars received for October. We also received the actual cost for the Workers Comp next year, so that number was increased. The increase

was due to the additional employees for next year and a few small claims we have this filed this year. Donnie Freeman motioned to accept the 2022 budget as presented. The Public Hearing will be on December 1, 2021 at Headquarters at 5:00pm. It will be advertised on November 17 and November 24 in The Journal. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

## **New Business**

I. Chief Sutherland said that he has done a lot of research for us on ways to liquidate our assets. The auditor had recommended that we use a third party to do that. Chief Sutherland said that he asked other chiefs in the area and some close municipalities and most of them are using GovDeals.com. All of the fees are the passed to the buyers. Chief Sutherland is going to set up an account if it is approved and try to sell some old parts we have. If we sell something big like a fire truck, we will still have to use a broker for that. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to use GovDeals.com at Chief Sutherland's recommendation. Donnie Freeman seconded it. All were in favor. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to adjourn. Donnie Freeman seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by

Jennifer Adams, Administrative Special