

Minutes for the Regular Meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

Jim Darby called the meeting to order. Jim Darby asked Donnie Freeman to open with prayer.

Everyone reviewed the minutes. John Jennings stated that he wanted Jennifer to put the reason that someone misses a meeting if they call and give that information. He thinks just putting that someone is absent if they called is not acceptable. If they call with an explanation that needs to be included. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to accept the minutes. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor.

Jennifer Adams reviewed the Financial Statements. Donnie Freeman asked what the check to Portraits Plus included. Chief Sutherland said it included him coming out for three days to take pictures, a make-up day and the large proof of our Annual Picture. Donnie Freeman also asked whose phones were paid for in the Verizon bill. Chief Sutherland explained that the normal Verizon bill includes Chief's phone, Joel's phone, Jennifer's phone, an iPad for Paul, Jessica's phone and the MDT mobile service fees for 15 of our trucks. The bill for this month also included the cost of a new iPad for the Battalion. Donnie Freeman also asked why is there a negative amount on the Profit and Loss for the Medical Expense category. Jennifer Adams explained that was because an AED was broken and our insurance policy paid to replace it. The reimbursement for it has arrived and been deposited in the account but the actual AED has not, therefore we have not paid for it. That makes the account have the negative balance. Jimmy Brashier motioned to approve the Financial Statements. Donnie Freeman seconded it. All were in favor.

Chief Sutherland started the Staff Report (see attached) by reminding everyone of the upcoming events. We will be having Family Day on August 6th from 4–7pm. He also told everyone that the information about the SPD Conference in Myrtle Beach was in the information packet. Please review the information and let Jennifer Adams know by Tuesday of next week if you will be attending so we can get registered before the rooms are all gone. Chief Sutherland said that the building of the actual training tower is 75% complete. We are still working on the soil mitigation. The rain has stopped the progress of the proof rolling of the foundation. There will be a meeting with all parties involved to meet and agree before any concrete is poured. The brag session for this meeting is for an MVA that was at Valley Brook Road and Augusta Road. The CAD worked correctly and sent the closest truck. There was a patient that was taken to the burn center from the scene. There have been several brags and good comments from multiple agencies about how well the scene ran and how good of a job our people did. All the employees involved were included in the packet. Jeremy King has been working on the history of the department. We have put some pictures and the drawing for the old Ladder 1 in the lobby. Please take the time to walk over to look at it. He is working on some other things to go in the lobby.

Assistant Chief Finley started his report with the June call volume. He said the calls were down to 270 for June and totaled 1,825 for the year.

Chief Sutherland also said that he forgot to mention that the New Deputy Fire Marshal started today. He is out doing inspections and had actually placed a business under Fire Watch. Donnie Freeman asked what it meant to be on Fire Watch. Chief Sutherland said it is done when the alarm for a business is in test mode. The business must have someone walk the property to check for fires during this time.

Old Business

- I. SC Representative Ashley Trantham was supposed to attend the meeting to discuss the Legislative process, but something came up over the weekend and she will not be here. Mr. Darby did talk to her to let her know what the Board was wanting to talk about with her. She told him that she would need to have parameters of what the board wants. For example, a dollar amount the board wants to be compensated or the legislation the board wants to be changed. John Jennings said we just want to motion to change the policy. Jim Darby said that we cannot change the policy unless it goes to the State Legislation and they vote to change the statute. After that, we change the By-Laws with the help of an agency like Appalachian Council of Governments. John Jennings motioned that we

put on paper to move forward at this time. Donnie Freeman asked why we needed Appalachian Council of Governments. Chief Sutherland explained that Appalachian Council of Governments is an agency for Governments to reach out to for help with things like resolutions, contracts, etc. We must have the State Statute changed before we can do anything else. Donnie Freeman asked who changes the State Statute. Jim Darby said we would have to go through Ashley Trantham and she said we would have to have a reason for the change and the type of compensation. Donnie Freeman said that he thinks we need to table the idea until Ashley Trantham can be at a meeting. John Jennings withdrew his motion. Donnie Freeman motioned to table the issue until SC Representative Ashley Trantham could be present. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it, but said that she thinks we need to discuss this more before we meet her. Chief Sutherland asked that we not discuss it or meet with her in a regular meeting. He asked that we do it in a workshop or a special called meeting due to time constraints. All were in favor. There will be a workshop or special meeting scheduled to discuss this issue.

New Business

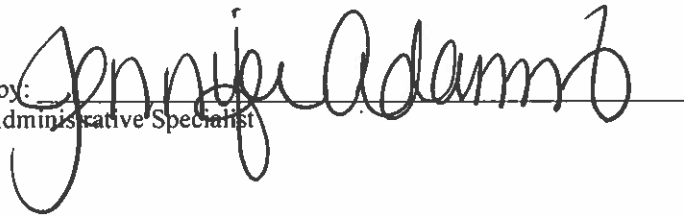
- I. Chief Sutherland said that we use a cost recovery company, InnovaPad, to reimburse us from insurance companies. In South Carolina, you have a line in your insurance policies that is for MVAs and extrications. Our current resolution with them is from June 3, 2013, and we need to update it along with the fee schedule. There was a copy of the new resolution in your packets. This is what he recommends for us to approve. Jimmy Brashier motioned to approve the resolution. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

- II. Chief Sutherland said that we all know that we are having supply chain issues. We still have not received the truck we ordered for Paul earlier this year. Chief Sutherland was trying to think of a different way to approach purchasing the two vehicles in the CIP FY23. We are planning to purchase a new Battalion. All of the current Battalion Chiefs agree that they do not want to get another truck. Our plan was to use the truck as a replacement for Brush 73 and Car 80 will become a vehicle for the new Deputy Fire Marshal. The Battalion Chiefs decided to go with an SUV as their vehicle and it makes sense for Chief to get the same vehicle. Chief's vehicle can be repurposed in the future for an ALS vehicle or additional Battalion vehicle. The Ford Explorer does not have enough room for what we need. The Chevrolet Tahoe is the vehicle that they think would be best for them. Currently, the Tahoe is not on State Contract. It can be purchased through the General Motors Bid Assistance program. The vehicle quoted is a Tahoe SSV, which is similar to the Z71 model but is for public service. Love Chevrolet has a vehicle that would fit our needs ordered that should be here by the end of the year. It is priced at \$45,998.00. The same vehicle on HGAC is \$47,542.00. Kevin Whitaker Chevrolet in Greenville also has the vehicle for \$74,315.00. All of these prices are for one vehicle. Chief Sutherland had a spreadsheet along with all the quotes for everything that these cars will need. The total cost for two vehicles is \$134,802.34. If we purchase them now, then they will be here by the end of the year. This will allow us to put them in service at the beginning of 2023. All we need to do is put in writing on our letterhead that we want two purchase two vehicles and send it to Love Chevrolet. If they arrive before the end of the year, we will take the money to pay for them out of our New Apparatus Account and put it back in the account in January when we get our funds. Donnie Freeman asked what a Command Cabinet was. Chief Sutherland explained that it was an accountability cabinet that the officers can run command of a scene out of the back of the vehicle. Donnie Freeman asked if the firefighters change out their gear every shift. Chief Sutherland said yes and they also change out the names on the Command Board for accountability for that day. John Jennings said that he thinks the Board needs to review the information more. Chief Sutherland said that if we wait there may not be any vehicles available when we try to purchase due to supply chain issues. Donnie

Freeman said that we could wait if that is what John wants to do. Sabrina Bedingfield said that if we have the money then we need to go ahead and purchase the vehicles. If we have to take the money out of our account because they arrive before January, then we will put it back. Jim Darby said we will have the purchase of the vehicles in the budget anyway because they are in the CIP FY23. If we have to use the money in that account it would be like borrowing from ourselves. Right now, we know we can get the vehicles. Donnie Freeman asked why Chief did not want to put the Deputy Fire Marshal in the truck. Jim Darby said because we need that vehicle for a brush truck right now. Chief Sutherland said it would also be more fuel efficient. Sabrina Bedingfield said that we know we are having issues getting things right now, so we need to get them because we know they will be available. She also reminded everyone that prices are still going up too. Sabrina Bedingfield said that because of our economy right now we really have to go ahead and purchase them. Jimmy Brashier motioned to purchase the vehicles as presented by Chief Sutherland in the amount of \$134,802.34. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

- III. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to go into Executive Session. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to come out of Executive Session. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to accept Issue I. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. Jimmy Brashier motioned to accept Issue II. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor. Jimmy Brashier motioned to adjourn. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by:
Jennifer Adams, Administrative Specialist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Adams", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.