

Minutes for a Regular Meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

Jim Darby asked Jimmy Brashier to open with prayer. John Jennings was absent.

Jim Darby opened the Regular Meeting. Due to the fact there were only 4 Commissioners present, it was decided to wait to vote for officers. Jimmy Brashier motioned to table voting for officers until the February meeting. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

The Financial Reports for November and December were reviewed. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to accept the Financial Reports as presented. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

Chief Sutherland started the Staff Report by telling the Board that we accomplished a lot of projects in 2022 and it was due to the help of the Commission Board. We hope to do the same thing in 2023. New Rescue-80 is in South Carolina. It is at Spartan being cleaned and prepared for delivery. There is a meeting tomorrow with Chris Harris from Spartan to discuss Engine-77 and Engine-80. The expected delivery date for Engine-77 and Engine-80 is in the fall of 2023. The Greenville County SPD meeting is on January 19th at 7pm at Gantt. Please let Jennifer know if you are going, so that she can RSVP for everyone. Chief Sutherland said that we are hoping to get the fence around the training tower by the end of January. Old Engine-80 was sold to Pulaski Fire Department in southern Illinois. Their fire truck had burned in a fire, and they bought it to replace that truck. We received \$54,000.00 for the sale of that truck. The 2022 Year End Review will be presented next month to the Board. We did not receive the grant we requested from FEMA. We have been having hiring tests to fill the shifts so that we have 22 people per shift. The last two weeks of December were crazy. Chief Sutherland wanted to thank everyone for being so adaptable and helping out when there were issues at the stations. The well house at Station 75 was damaged in the wind storm and we also had two stations that had frozen pipes from the cold. The CAD went down on Christmas Eve along with all other types of communications. In 15 days, we had 166 calls. Chief Sutherland said he wanted to brag on the whole department because everyone stepped up and made sure we could still protect our community.

Assistant Chief Finley said the call volume for December was 268. The total call volume for 2022 was 3,502 which was what we were predicting. He will review all of the other information next month in the Year End Review.

Fire Marshal Horn thanked Commission Board for adding the Deputy Fire Marshal position. Jeremy Lathem has already started his position and he has lifted a heavy burden off of Fire Marshal Horn.

Old Business

- I. Chief Sutherland said the concrete issues were tabled last month to get updated quotes for 6000 psi concrete instead of 4000 psi. Some vendors have had price increases from when this was originally presented in the November meeting. Tommy Hopkins stated that his quote for \$76,810.00 includes all the dirt and gravel needed, but there is no warranty or testing done on the work. His price includes wire mesh, dowels, and fiber concrete to 8 inches thick. This price did not increase for 2023. Tommy Hopkins said he could go to 5000 psi, but not 6000 psi. He stated the price increase to go from 4000 psi to 5000 psi would be \$1,500.00 for Headquarters and \$1,500.00 for Station 74. Co-Con LLC is now at \$62,430.00 with price increases of materials and that does not include testing, extra gravel or dirt. The dirt and gravel are \$225.00 per yard. They will have a third party test the concrete for us, but it only guarantees the workmanship, not the actual concrete itself. The cost for the testing at Headquarters is \$3,200.00 and Station 74 is \$2,430.00. This is for 4000 psi fiber concrete up 8 inches thick and dowels. Co-Con recommended staying with 4000 psi concrete because it has the same structural integrity as 6000 psi concrete.

The 6000 psi would give us more wear resistance on the surface, but no increased structural integrity. To make the change from 4000 psi concrete to 6000 psi concrete would add an additional \$1,960.00 for Headquarters and \$1,780.00 for Station 74. Southern Concrete and Construction's quote is \$71,880.00 and does not include testing or extra dirt work. Extra dirt work is not priced, and testing would be an additional \$3,600.00 per site. This price includes 4000 psi concrete at 8 inches thick and dowels. Southern Concrete and Construction did not return a quote for 6000 psi concrete instead of 4000 psi concrete. Donnie Freeman said he originally brought up going to 6000 psi concrete because he thought it was a structural increase, not surface wear. Jim Darby said the wear would be low for our use. Chief Sutherland that the most wear would be at Headquarters where Engine 80 and Rescue 80 turn around. The increase to 6000 psi concrete would bring Tommy Hopkins' quote to \$79,810.00 to complete the project. The other quotes do not have a total maximum price. Donnie Freeman said that if it did not increase the structural integrity of the concrete that we should not spend the extra money for 6000 psi concrete. Donnie Freeman asked Chief Sutherland if he could better spend the \$3,000.00 elsewhere. Chief Sutherland said yes. Jimmy Brashier motioned to use Tommy Hopkins with 4000 psi concrete for \$76,810.00. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

New Business

- I. Assistant Chief Finley stated we did not receive our 2021 FEMA Grant to replace fire hose. We will need to purchase two loads of fire hose that the grant would have purchased for Engine 75 and Quint 78. This is the same hose package that was purchased last year and recommended by our equipment committee. The quote is from Carolina Fire Equipment, the Bulldog Hose vendor for our area, at a per truck price of \$5,647.68. Two orders will total \$11,295.36. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to purchase the two orders as presented. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

- II. Assistant Chief Finley stated we needed to purchase our allotment of bunker gear for the year. We allotted \$85,000.00 for 18 sets of bunker gear in the 2023 Budget. Atlantic Emergency Solutions quoted \$78,248.08, Feld Fire quoted \$85,385.10, and The Fire Store quoted \$97,965.50. Assistant Chief Finley stated we have used Innotex from Atlantic Emergency Solutions for the past two years at the request of our gear committee. Sabrina Bedingfield asked if we were happy with the current gear, even though it is the lowest priced. Assistant Chief Finley stated the gear committee was happy with the current gear. Jimmy Brashier motioned to purchase the 18 sets of bunker gear from Atlantic Emergency Solutions as presented. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by
Jennifer Adams, Administrative Specialist

