

Minutes for the Regular Meeting on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

Jim Darby called the meeting to order. Chief Sutherland opened with prayer.

Chairman Darby asked if everyone had reviewed the September minutes. John Jennings motioned to accept the minutes. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor.

The Financial Reports for September were presented and reviewed. Jimmy Brashier motioned to accept the Financial Reports. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor. Jennifer Adams said LGIP earned \$25,469.95 in interest with an Average Interest Rate (365) of 5.3381% for the month of September. John Jennings asked if the rate was down some. Jennifer Adams said it was down one tenth of a percent from 5.4% to 5.3% since August.

Chief Sutherland started his report with brags from Hurricane Helene. Everyone did a great job during the storm. The storm was a major event for us. We lost power, internet and even radios for a period of time. It began on A-Shift and then continued into B-Shift but several people from A-Shift continued to stay and work. We estimate that our dispatch center processed 362 calls in the first 24 hours of the storm. There were a lot of calls that our people took care of that are not recorded due to lack of communications during the first part of the storm. We worked to clear primary roads first, secondary roads second, and then began to work on rural roads and subdivisions. As we transitioned to recovery, South Greenville handed out MRE's and water, and also set up watering stations in our area for the public. Chief Sutherland said that we had open doors to the Dollar General across the street from Headquarters and Huffs for supplies during the storm. North Myrtle Beach FD sent a crew up here that stayed with us for several days to help out. They fit right in and helped out when needed. The hurricane brought to our attention that we have several issues that need to be addressed with our outlying station generators and our generator at Headquarters that also powers dispatch. We also had several station issues that came up including leaks that need to be fixed. We are working to prioritize a list of these replacements, upgrades, and repairs, and will have more information forthcoming. We have not heard anything from USDA. We were expecting to receive information and applications to fill out from them, but we have not received anything yet. We will update you when we have something from them. Chief Sutherland has several brags for this meeting. The first one is from an email from Charles Harris at GCEMS bragging that our crew consisting of S. Moses, L. Rogers, M. Hood and J. Thibault responded to the scene with all of their equipment, which is not normal with other departments. They worked very well with the EMS crew that was on the scene. BC King sent an email saying that Communication Supervisor Jessica Phillips handled an Image Trend issue that she did not have to deal with. Also, on September 6, 2024 C-shift was at a Woodmont High School Football game where a Dunklin Board Member was attending that emailed about the way they handled a situation with a sick person at the game in the bleachers that needed help getting down. C. Altman, D. Whittington, E. Garner, T. Hampton, T. Merritt, and K. Adams overcame several obstacles to get the person down and provided excellent medical care during the game.

Communications Supervisor Jessica Phillips said that our open house has been changed to a Fire Trunk or Treat on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 3-5 pm or whenever we run out of candy. It will be a drive through the back parking lot. We will have popcorn, cotton candy, fire prevention materials, candy and other things to give out. All of the vendors have been invited to come and give out items.

Assistant Chief Finley said Engine 76A is at Spartan being repaired. The pressure governor for it is obsolete. They are having to find a replacement for it. We are waiting for pump parts for

Engine 75. We had to replace the tires on FM80A after it had several tire fixes. The call total for September was 390 and the total for this year is 2,567.

Chief Sutherland said we did go help Dunklin with a tree on a house and the occupants of the house had been released from the hospital and were doing good.

#### Old Business

- I. Jim Darby said that the 2025 budget had been presented last meeting. He asked if there were any questions or changes regarding the budget. There were none. John Jennings motioned to accept the 2025 Budget as presented having the 2025 Public hearing on December 11, 2025 at 5pm at Headquarters with it advertised in The Journal on November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor.

#### New Business

- I. Assistant Chief Finley said that quotes were included in your packed for flow test meters to use for hose and pump training. These are very practical and can give us more data than we can manually calculate. They will be used during training to get accurate readings for the flow on the hose to use on calls. We can use this data to be more efficient and effective with our trucks and our hose/nozzle packages. Atlantic Emergency Solutions was the lowest bidder. Jimmy Brashier motioned to accept the recommendation to purchase the flow meters from Atlantic Emergency Solutions. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. John Jennings asked about a warranty on the items. Chief Finley said he was not sure but he could check. Chief Sutherland said that there was a two-year warranty on the electronic components and a five-year warranty on everything else according to the Elkhart Brass website. All were in favor.

#### Executive Session

- I. Jimmy Brashier motioned to go in to Executive Session for Contractual Arrangements and Personnel. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor. John Jennings motioned to come out of Executive Session. Terry Creamer seconded it. All were in favor. Terry Creamer motioned to accept Issue I. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor. Bubba Bagwell motioned to adjourn. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by:   
Jennifer L. Adams, Administrative Specialist