

*Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. Notice of this meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted online, at 8305 Augusta Road, Pelzer, and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.*

Minutes for a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road, Pelzer, SC 29669.

Jim Darby called the meeting to order and asked Bubba Bagwell to open with prayer. He said that he attended the Open House and it was a huge success. He thanked all those involved in the event.

Jim Darby asked if everyone had time to review the minutes from the September meetings. John Jennings motioned to accept the minutes. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor.

The Financial Reports were presented and reviewed. Jennifer Adams said that LGIP closed out the month of September earning \$27,800.38 in interest at an Average Interest Rate (365) of 4.3960%. Jimmy Brashier motioned to accept the Financial Reports as presented. Terry Creamer seconded it. All were in favor.

Deputy Chief Finley started the Chief's report with the call volume for September. We had 279 calls in September and the total year to date is 2,761. Engine 78 went to Spartan to have preventive maintenance and the annual service completed on it. Rescue 80 had the service and preventative maintenance at Spartan. There was warranty repairs made to it at Cummins. Quint 76 was having low power. It needed to have the turbo, actuator and intake pressure sensor replaced. Quint 76 had the aerial and ladder test completed. We had to replace a hose on Quint 76 that was leaking. Platform 77 had to have a transmission repair. Brush 73 had to have the tires replaced on it. New Engine 75 is at Spartan for the equipment to be mounted and all the final items added to it. It will be completed soon and delivered.

Fire Marshal Walker was in attendance to give an update on the growth and projects going on in the District. They have been reviewing and approving plans for a lot of different things. Nissin is planning to start production in 2027. They have access to use the warehouse and are planning on adding hydrants.

Chief Harbert started his report reminding everyone of the SPD Conference October 15<sup>th</sup> – October 17<sup>th</sup>. The local Greenville County SPD Meeting is October 30, 2025 at Piedmont Community Building. We will also be hosting the Firefighter Survival Classes October 27<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> at our Headquarters. We also had a resident call and thank us for the professionalism and promptness of our employees on a call that included Kinsley Darby, James Martel and Bryson Taylor. Our millage continuation was approved by County Council in September. We also received the rollback millage from the reassessment. Our millage was reduced from 42.5 mills to 36.2 mills but the new value of a mill estimated at \$220,011.00 per mill. We also received our evaluation from ISO that was included in your packets. We kept our current rating of 2/2Y. There is a new rating system that will be put in place before our next evaluation. The major things that affect ISO are manpower, stations and apparatus. We will need to be thinking about adding a ladder truck in the Moonville area and have a separate engine company. On September 29, 2025, our CRR team went to the game at Woodmont High School to promote our Open House event. The Open House was a success. We had approximately 300 people and over 15 vendors. We had live coverage on the local news and over 26 giveaways. This was a success for everyone. We are in the process to get our EMT numbers back up. There has been a new grant that is going to allow us 3 classes next year. Chief Blakely and Chief Adams have been working to get everything lined up to start the classes. The most it will cost is \$650.00 a person and that is

not until after the first year. We are going to have the class at Headquarters and it will start in December or January. There may be some cost for supplies and training materials for the additional classes. Big Country has started the clean up at the new property. They are hoping to finish it up later this week. Jim Darby said that he was glad that we were hosting an EMT class again, because he added Active 911 to his phone and in three days we had 11 medical calls. That is what we run most of the time. John Jennings asked if we knew what the current population was. Jennifer Adams said that according to the 2020 census that was used for the USDA loan we have approximately 35,000 to 40,000 residents. It is estimated that it doubles in the day time.

#### Old Business

- I. Chief Harbert said that he had included in the packets an updated version of the 2026 Budget. We updated the tax levy on the income side since we now have the new information from the reassessment. He said we have received some information back on quotes for some expenses. We know that physicals are going up so that amount has increased to \$32,500.00. We have placed money in Allocated Funds to include a remodel to Station 76. The quotes are around \$50,000.00. We need to do this since we have added the Battalion to that station and it is time to update that station. We hope to have a workshop in the next month for the budget.
- II. Highwater 80 ownership being transferred to Emergency Management was brought up a few months ago and was tabled so more information could be gathered. We have not used this truck and we are going to need space available for trucks. In the past five years it has only been used twice. We did a check on it for the maintenance. It needs tires and some routine maintenance. We got a quote from Snider Tire using State Procurement, which is where we get our tires from, and it was included in the packet. The total is \$15,086.32 and about \$2,000.00 in other repairs. John Jennings clarified that we could transfer it to Emergency Management and we would still have access to use it if we need too. He thinks that it may be time to let it go. Terry Creamer asked if we could sell it. He had heard that Canebrake had something similar that they sold for like \$27,000.00. John Jennings said if we sell it, we may not have access to it anymore. Jimmy Brashier said if we have not used it, it may be time to let it go. Terry Creamer motioned to donate Highwater 80 to Greenville County Emergency Management. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

#### New Business

- I. Chief Harbert told everyone in their packet there was a quote for a set of fire gear for \$4,897.77. We purchased a customized set of gear this year for a person that unexpectedly retired. He is working for a nearby department that has asked if they could purchase his gear instead of ordering some. The gear is now becoming more individualized and we do not have anyone that can wear the gear we have. If we allow them to purchase it, then we could replace it. John Jennings motioned to sell the set of gear for \$4,897.77 and replace it with a set for someone else. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor. Chief Harbert said there was twenty-three sets of gear approved to purchase in the 2025 Budget, but we only purchased 20 sets at the beginning of the year. We still have \$14,130.02 left in the budget. There is also a quote in your packet for \$13,580.32 for three pairs of pants, three coats and one pair of boots from AEST. This

would complete the complete the 2025 order. Bubba Bagwell motioned to purchase the rest of the fire gear include in the quote from AEST for \$13,580.32. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. John Jennings motioned to adjourn. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by: Jennifer L. Adams  
Jennifer L. Adams, Administrative Specialist