

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, January 12, 2026, 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.

The Election of Officers for the 2026 Board was next. John Jennings suggested that if there were no objections from anyone, he recommends that we leave the current officers in place. We have a lot of issues going on in the county with County Council and he feels that we need to keep the current Chairman and Vice-Chairman because they have been handling those issues. There were no objections. John Jennings motioned to keep Jim Darby as Chairman and Jimmy Brashier as Vice-Chairman for 2026 year. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor.

Jim Darby asked if everyone had time to review the minutes from the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting. Bubba Bagwell motioned to accept the minutes. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor.

The Financial Reports were presented and reviewed. Bubba Bagwell motioned to accept the Financial Reports as presented. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. Jennifer Adams said that LGIP closed out the month of December earning \$18,411.01 in interest at an Average Interest Rate (365) of 4.0851%. Greene, Finney, Cauley LLC, will be coming March 9th through March 20th to do our annual audit. Jennifer is also working on completing the end of year quarterly reports and W2's for everyone. 7710, our Workers Comp provider, has requested the information to do our 2025 audit and once everything is completed it will be provided to them. The new Southern First Credit Cards that were previously approved are activated and in use. We are in the process of transitioning away from the use of the other cards we have.

Deputy Chief Finley started his report with the call volume for December. It was 309 bringing the total unofficially for 2025 to 3,631. He said that Engine 75 and Engine 78 both are still at Spartan for warranty repair.

Chief Harbert started the Chief's report by telling everyone that we have the Greenville County SPD meeting January 29, 2026, at Canebroke Fire Department and January 22, 2026, is the Legislative Breakfast at the State House. We have completed the transfer of Highwater 80 to Greenville County Emergency Management and it has been removed from our business insurance. Fire Marshal Walker provided a report that has a list of all the new and on-going projects that they are working on. It was in your packet and will be included each quarter. If there are any questions, he is available the answer them. He will continue this and hopefully this will give everyone the information about new businesses in the area.

New Business

- I. Chief Harbert said that we are in a time crunch to get the Bunker Gear purchased to keep our current price we must have the order place by the end of February. We budgeted for 23 sets for this year. Included in your packet were quotes for 20 sets of AEST gear which includes coats, pants, boots, carabiner, structural firefighter gloves and extrication gloves. The total for this purchase is \$103,785.45. There are no helmets included in this order because at this point, we have plenty of them. John Jennings motioned to purchase the Bunker Gear as presented. Terry Creamer seconded it. All were in favor.
- II. Chief Harbert said that included in your packets were quotes for Chore Coats for everyone. These are best described as denim jackets for the firefighters to wear during the winter time while doing daily duties in the cold. They will be embroidered with our new South Greenville Logo. We are trying to create uniformity with our new uniforms and Chief thinks that we should buy everyone one of these coats. He feels it will help

build morale among the fire fighters and be an incentive to encourage everyone to work hard and we are trying to support them. There were quotes to purchase 81 coats at the highest price including tax for a total of \$7,366.95. John Jennings asked what would be the purpose. We just voted to spend over \$100,000.00 for turn out gear so why do we need to buy more jackets. Chief Harbert explained that these were not for firefighting duties. They were to be worn while doing truck check offs, daily duties, station duties and daily training. They were not to be used as bunker gear or to replace bunker gear. John Jennings said that he wanted to make sure that the fire fighters understood these were not to be used on scene to replace their gear. They are not a down grade from gear. Terry Creamer said they were for them to wear at the station doing their daily duties. He also asked if Commissioners could purchase one. Chief Harbert said that they could. John Jennings motioned to purchase the Chore Coats as presented. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were favor.

III. Chief Harbert said that he talked about trying to get all the uniforms consistent for everyone during the budget meetings. Part of standardizing the uniform is getting everyone the same Dress Coat, which is the quilted jacket known as the Bravest Jacket. Included in your packet were three quotes to get 81 jackets embroidered front and back for everyone so that we all have the same logo. The cost from Safe Industries with tax is \$7,973.64. Jim Darby asked if the Commissioners will be getting one. Chief Harbert said there is money in their uniform expense to cover the cost for them. John Jennings motioned to purchase the Bravest Jackets as presented. Terry Creamer seconded it. All were in favor.

IV. Chief Harbert said we have been trying to standardize the helmet shields over the last few years. Again, we are going to try to be uniform. We currently need to purchase up to fifty shields to complete this. Once you come off probation, your name will be on your shield. There were three quotes included in your packet. Phillips Leatherworks are handmade and better quality. John Jennings motioned to purchase as recommend. Bubba Bagwell seconded. All were in favor.

V. Jim Darby thanked everyone for coming. Jimmy Brashied motioned to go into Executive Session for Personnel, Hiring, Employee Benefits, Employment, Compensation, Promotions, Demoting or Discipline. Bubba Bagwell seconded it. All were in favor. Jimmy Brashier motioned to come out of Executive Session. All were in favor. John Jennings motioned to accept Issue I. Bubba Bagwell second it. All were in favor. Terry Creamer motioned to accept Issue II. 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, Administrative Specialist