



Rural Fire Commission

624 Wilson St
Chester, South Carolina 29706

October 23rd, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Gene Hudson and opened in prayer by Trowell at 5:34pm.

Commission Members Present: Martin, Jordan, Hudson, Williams & Trowell

Departments Present: Richburg

Special Guests: None

Motion by Jordan, second by Trowell to approve agenda, motion passed.

Motion by Martin, second by Trowell to approve the minutes, motion passed.

Citizens Comments: None

Fire Coordinators report: Kell Benson- He is now full-time as the Director of Emergency Services. 2 of the 3 new pumpers are on the production line at Pierce. The old Fort Lawn truck is being outfitted with some large ticket equipment so that if a department needs it, they will not have to transfer a lot of stuff from their engine. The office is working on a list of all the airpack cylinders in the county, looking for their manufacture date. We are doing this to prepare for replacement when they go out of date. There was money allocated in this year's budget for their replacement, however, that money would be better spent on obtaining more rechargeable airpack batteries. The North Chester substation is complete but the contractor is working on some small ticket items. The county attorney has offered to do a policy and procedure training for the Rural Fire Commission sometime in February.

Old Business: None

New Business: Chairman Hudson requested when the fire departments should be turning in their capitol project requests. The requests should be turned in ASAP so that the commission can make sure there is appropriate documentation and they are filled out correctly. The commission was also given a copy of the expenditures from July 1 til October 23rd.

J. Williams asked how we go about getting 800 more radios for the stations. He stated that we should be able to ask Doug for more. Chief Melton spoke on behalf of the radio committee and stated that they have requested a meeting with Mr. McMurray to address the issue.

Chairman Hudson stated that the commission needs to get ahold of the trucks that are being put on the county insurance and then failing to come before the commission to make the official request. Mrs. Brewer from the fire office stated she is working on getting more information from VFIS as to what trucks are currently on the policy.



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JP McNeil motions, D. Jordan seconds to go into executive session regarding a personnel matter. Motion passed at 6:17pm

D. Jordan motions, D. Trowell seconds to come out of executive session regarding a personnel matter. Motion passed at 6:39pm

A motion by D. Trowell, seconded by JP McNeil to have Mr. Benson obtain advice from the county attorney regarding the personnel matter was made. Motion passed.

Additional Business: J. Williams stated he have Mr. Benson information on a company that will test fire hose. He suggested that we try to work the service into the next budget cycle. Mr. Williams also cautioned everyone to check their credit and debit cards as the Lewis Fire Department was hit twice last month with fraud.

A motion by J. Williams, seconded by JP. McNeil to move November's meeting date to 11/20/2023 was made. Motion passed.

A motion by D. Jordan, seconded by D. Trowell to move December's meeting date to 12/18/2023 was made. Motion passed.

J. Williams motions, JP. McNeil seconds to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned 6:39pm