



Rural Fire Commission

598 Saluda Road
Chester, South Carolina 29706

April 24th, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Gene Hudson and opened in prayer by JP McNeil at 5:39pm.

Commission Members Present: Martin, Jordan, Hudson, Williams and McNeil

Departments Present: Richburg

Special Guests: T. Melton, J. Agee

Motion by Williams, second by Martin to approve agenda, motion passed.

Motion by Jordan, second by McNeil to approve the minutes, motion passed.

Citizens Comments: None

Fire Coordinators report: There are 2 radios left for Richburg, 1 left for South Chester, all the City and EMS units still need to be done.

Old Business: Martin makes a motion, Williams seconded to send a letter to Mr. Hester in support of continuing to allow TJ Martin to respond to fire calls while working for the County. Motion passed.

Ms. Jordan asked if the Chiefs are being included in the design process of the trucks that are on order in regard to equipment, lights, etc.

Mr. Hudson stated that the truck specs are as close as possible to the last 4 trucks that were ordered. We are trying to keep everything the same since they are all county trucks, and we need them to be uniform.

Mr. Williams stated that if they trucks are going to the interstate, they are not properly equipped with the current specs. The need a light tower, top mount pump and bumper turret. We need to stop production of the trucks until they can be outfitted the way the departments need them.

Mr. Hudson- If we keep the specs uniform, it will make it easier to rotate the trucks where they are needed in the county.

Mr. Williams- The recommendation of the truck committee is as follows: Place the 3 pumpers that are on order at Rossville, Richburg and Chester Fire District.

Mr. Martin- would like a pumper to go to Richburg, a tanker to Rossville, a pumper to Lando and tanker to South Chester.

Ms. Jordan-would like the pumpers to go to Lando, Richburg and Chester Fire District.



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Mr. Williams motions, Mr. McNeil seconds to put the new pumpers at the following locations: Rossville, Richburg and Chester Fire District with the caveat that each department receiving a truck must turn in a county truck, minus the loose equipment, into rural fire to be sold to allow the funds to be put towards newer equipment if necessary.

Ms. Jordan questioned as to how we are going to approach the departments that were “told” they were getting new trucks and aren’t? A letter will be sent to those departments letting them know they will be kept in consideration for future replacements.

After a long discussion the motion was passed.

New Business: Chief Melton of the Richburg Fire Department spoke about growth within their and Landos fire districts. (Document attached). He stated that there is a tremendous amount of growth coming and challenges to face. He is disappointed that they were not involved in the specs of the trucks. Every chief deserves a chance to spec the truck. Let us have the opportunity to see if we can come up with the money to outfit the trucks the way each department needs them.

Mr. Ramsey of the fire office will contact Pierce to see if/how changes being made will affect production. An email will be sent to the commission members with updates and a special meeting will be scheduled.

Mr. Williams motions, Mr. McNeil seconds to allow the fire coordinator’s office to transfer left over monies from the grant match account to equipment to purchase rechargeable batteries and their chargers for the SCBA’s located in the county fire stations. Motion passed.

Mr. Williams spoke about the land that Luck Stone wants to donate to the county fire and sheriff’s department for a training facility. He has been in contact with Sheriff Dorsey and they will be drafting a letter to go to the council.

Ms. Jordan motions, Mr. McNeil seconds to hold a special meeting on 5/9/23 at 5:30pm to discuss the truck upfits and land from Luck Stone. Motion passed

Williams motions, Martin seconds to adjourn meeting, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 18:56



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