



# *Rural Fire Commission*

624 Wilson St  
Chester, South Carolina 29706

Special Called Meeting

April 11th, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Mike Walley and opened in prayer by Beard at 5:37 pm.

Commission Members Present: Martin, Edwards, Walley, Trowell, Beard and Hudson

Departments Present: Leeds

Special Guests: Chief Michael Waits, Deputy Chief Todd Shugart and Treasurer Dwayne Schell, all from Leeds Fire Department.

Motion by Hudson, second by Beard to approve agenda, with amendments, motion passed

## **New Business:**

The meeting was called to discuss the issues with the Leeds Fire department regarding the power bill not being paid as well as paperwork not being turned into the Fire Coordinators office. The bill was paid and it was an oversight stated Treasurer Schell. Chief Waits stated that they don't have any help within the department. He and his community pay taxes like everyone else. He stated that they did have a recruitment sign up in front of the station for over a year and they only received one call. Chairmen Walley stated that he understands the lack of volunteers and that we have stressed to Dr. Frederick and council how important it is to get the fire service in this county additional paid staff. Chairman Walley asked Chief Waits if there was something that the fire department could do so that the paperwork is completed in house and not paid staff. Chief Waits stated that we can try but that the county needs to give him part time help. After a lengthy discussion amongst the commission members and Leeds members it was agreed that there would be an effort within the fire department to get the paperwork and tasks completed.

**Beard motions, Edwards seconds to adjourn meeting, motion passed**

**Meeting adjourned 18:13.**