

Lancaster County Fire Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2015

The October meeting of the Lancaster County Fire Commission was held on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at the Lancaster County EOC at 111 Covenant Place at 7:00 p.m. Freedom of Information Act requirements were met by fax notification to The Lancaster News, The Herald, Kershaw News Era, Learn TV and Fort Mill Times. The agenda was also posted on the bulletin boards at the Lancaster County Administration Building and the EOC on Friday, September 25, 2015.

Chairman Timmy Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00. Tracy Caldwell gave the invocation.

Fire Commission Members:

Antioch – Ken Helms *
Bell Town – Timmy Baker *
Buford – Rocky Hudson
Camp Creek – Matt Baker *
Charlotte Rd/Van Wyck – Craig Roof *
Elgin – Brooks Faulkenberry *
Flat Creek – Ken Sims *
Gooch's – Terry Ward *
Heath Springs – Tracy Benton *
Indian Land – Michael Gilson *
Kershaw – Tracy Caldwell *
Lancaster – Tom Lever *
McDonald Green – C. J. Addison *
Pleasant Valley – Greg Nicholson; Alternate – Stephen Blackwelder *
Rich Hill – Scott Barton
Riverside – Adrian Caskey *
Shiloh-Zion – Tracy Hardin *
Tradesville – Marvin Catoe *
Unity – Jay Hayes *
F-1 – Morris Russell
F-2 – Darren Player *
F-3 – Keith Wilson *
F-4 – Billy Lloyd *
F-6 – Britt Blackmon
F-9 – Tony Gainer *
F-10 – Stephen Blackwelder
Administrative Assistant – Donna Greene *
* - Members Present

Visitors: Patrick Helms, Emergency Management; Doug Spinks, Kershaw Fire Department

Visitor's Comments: None

Approval of September 3, 2015 Minutes – C. J. Addison made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Tracy Benton seconded the motion, which received unanimous approval.

Information Items:

- Grants Update – Darren Player stated there was nothing to report.
- Training Report – Keith Wilson reported to the Commission:
 - 1152 started with 12 students registered and now has 8 students.
 - Building Construction – Noncombustible at Gooch’s Fire Department begins October 3rd and 4th with 13 students registered.
 - DIMCO at Buford Fire Department begins November 14th and 15th with 19 students registered.
 - School Bus Extrication – Will be rescheduled as soon as the buses are moved.
 - Training Officer’s meeting on September 17th did not have quorum. We will go over the rope equipment and equipment log at the October meeting on October 15th. Please encourage your Training Officer to attend this meeting.
 - September Training Officer’s meeting included setting classes for January through June 2016. We have the following:
 - Firefighter I at Pleasant Valley Fire Department in February
 - I-400 at Kershaw Fire Department in February 23rd, 25th and 27th
 - Fire Service Supervision Increasing Personal Effect at Flat Creek Fire Department – March 5th & 6th
 - Municipal Approach to ARFF at Rich Hill Fire Department – March 12th & 13th
 - Rope Rescue Operations at Kershaw Fire Department – March 29th – April 3rd
 - Leadership I at Indian Land Fire Department in April 23rd & 24th
 - Aerial Operations at Pleasant Valley Fire Department in May
 - From Clay Catoe: Due to a major health issue, I would like to ask that we not start any first responder classes until after the first of the year. Currently, Phil Polston is out of work with an unknown return date and we have to cover current trainings with other staff. If any fire department needs an update, which I am told they do not for the remainder of the year, please contact me or Len Robinson so we can find someone to teach. At this point, we do not know if or when Phil might return. Please keep him in your thoughts as we try to still keep things moving. We have all City Fire in-service trainings covered, as far as we can tell. Thanks, Clay Catoe
- Maintenance Report – Billy Lloyd stated the monthly maintenance reports have been placed on the table. He stated pump testing is ongoing; ladder testing had no issues with the exception of an issue with rung replacement.
- Budget Detail Account Inquiry – Darren Player stated the information is provided. He asked that all fire departments continue to send in their equipment orders and insurance/building repairs reimbursements. If anyone has any questions, please let him know and he will respond.

Matt Baker arrived at 7:11 pm.

Action Items:

1. Discussion concerning Approval of 2016 Meeting Dates (See Attached) – Darren Player stated the attached list of 2016 meeting dates has been provided. He stated the July meeting date needs to be decided. Jay Hayes made a motion to approve all dates with the July meeting held on June 30, 2016. Brooks Faulkenberry seconded the motion which received unanimous approval.

2. Discussion concerning Selection of Recruitment & Retention Committee Representatives – Darren Player stated a review committee will need to be established consisting of two members from the Fire Commission, two members appointed from the Fire Chiefs’ Association, the Director and Deputy Director along with one other staff member. Tracy Caldwell made a motion for the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Fire Commission to serve on this committee. Jay Hayes seconded the motion which received unanimous approval.
3. Discussion concerning New Radio System – Darren Player stated nine (9) sites will be necessary for the 95% coverage on hand-held radios with 150 ft. poles with antennas. The county can save money by doing our own civil work. He stated if the County provides the land, it will minimize costs. He also stated every grant awarded for radios can also save money. No action taken.
4. Discussion concerning Rescue Transition – Darren Player stated the County is still trying to get the trucks from the Lancaster Rescue Squad even though none of the trucks are in good running order. No action taken.
5. Discussion concerning Fire Apparatus Purchase – Darren Player stated County Council approved sending the bid package out and it was mailed last Monday. He stated the package was sent to 12 vendors. He stated the Fire Commission needs to authorize who can accept the bid on behalf of the Fire Commission. He recommended establishing a Bid Acceptance Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Apparatus & Equipment Chairman, Fire Rescue Director and the Equipment & Apparatus Officer. He stated the Committee will need to decide whether to bid each specification as individual units or bid the entire package. He stated study could be needed. C. J. Addison made a motion to authorize the recommended people to process the bids. Brooks Faulkenberry seconded the motion which received unanimous approval. The bid opening will be held on October 19th at 2:00. The bids must be opened and in County Council packages for the meeting on Monday, October 26th at 6:30.
6. Discussion concerning Helmet Cam/Social Media Policy – Darren Player stated it was discussed last month that a policy was needed to address helmet cams and social media. Tony Gainer stated after researching other policies, he found that most departments treat helmet cams in 1 or 2 ways; they either allow or they ban the cams. He asked for opinions from the Commission: It was stated that helmet cams could help and exonerate; they could be useful tools if used properly. Some stated they supported banning helmet cams altogether. It was also stated there was a case where the insurance company used the camera footage against the homeowner and firefighter. There was another suggestion about the possibility of allowing one camera on an engine and use it for training purposes only. It was suggested that maybe we establish strict policy that if you post pictures or footage on social media, it could result in immediate termination. It was also suggested we not necessarily ban but filter through someone, such as the Fire Chief. Some video could be a great tool for recruitment. There should also be an education process on the liability the firefighter carries with a helmet cam and maybe adopt a HIPPA type policy on takings pictures. The firefighters need to be mindful of scene control. Chairman Baker sent the item to the SOG Committee for a recommendation on establishing a policy.
7. Discussion concerning Authorized Special Rescue Training Participants/Water Rescue (See attached) – Darren Player stated we are getting ready to look at buying equipment and suits. We need to look at the physical condition and ability to do the job. He stated it will cost \$3000 to \$5000 in equipment per person. Darren Player stated possibly set up committee on peer

review. 20 to 25 candidates for this budget year with a goal of 50 to 60 total trained personnel. Tracy Caldwell made a motion to approve the Rescue Criteria with change in item 1 to preferred 5 years of service and the addition of the Personnel and Interagency Relations Committee (PIRC) to serve as a peer review committee. Jay Hayes seconded the motion which received unanimous approval.

8. Discussion concerning Fire Commission Budget – Billy Lloyd stated the flow test and phase 2 of service on chassis are due. C.J. Addison made a motion to approve. Matt Baker seconded the motion which received unanimous approval. Darren Player stated the Fire Commission needs to authorize the purchase of water rescue equipment for three (3) staff members already trained for water rescue. We need rafts, suits and equipment for each team. He stated the Indian Land Rescue boat is housed at Pleasant Valley Fire Department. It has been tested, fueled and needs some equipment. The two new boats, one housed at City Fire and the other at the EOC in the fenced area, needs to be equipped. Brooks Faulkenberry made a motion to authorize the purchase of the needed equipment. Terry Ward seconded the motion which received unanimous approval.
9. Discussion concerning Approval of Fire Department AFG Grants – Darren Player stated there is nothing to report. County Council approved the match on Riverside’s grant.
10. Standing Committee Reports:
 - Standard Operating Guideline Committee** – No report
 - Strategic Planning and Governmental Operations Committee** – No report
 - Apparatus and Equipment Committee** – Billy Lloyd stated the 2015 Fire Expo will be held on Saturday, October 10th. The list of requested apparatus is provided on the table. Please have someone from your fire department bring the apparatus to the Expo. Staging will be in the parking lot across from USC-Lancaster at 9:00.
 - Budget Planning & Appropriations Committee** – No report
 - Personnel and Interagency Relations Committee** – No report
11. Commissioner Comments: Darren Player stated a request from Antioch Fire Department will be placed on the November agenda. They would like the Commission to make an exception for SOG 204.04, Section V, Item B and allow an Inactive member to return to service before his 90 days expire. Rich Hill will have their BBQ this weekend.

C. J. Addison made a motion to adjourn. Matt Baker seconded the motion which received unanimous approval. Meeting was adjourned.

*For the Commission,
Donna Greene*

The Lancaster County Fire Commission meets the first Thursday evening each month in the Lancaster County Fire Rescue Office classroom at 111 Covenant Place, Lancaster, S.C. at 7:00 pm.

January	Thursday	January 7, 2016
February	Thursday	February 4, 2016
March	Thursday	March 3, 2016
April	Thursday	April 7, 2016
May	Thursday	May 5, 2016
June	Thursday	June 2, 2016
July	Thursday	June 30, 2016 or July 7, 2016
August	Thursday	August 4, 2016
September	Thursday	September 1, 2016
October	Thursday	October 6, 2016
November	Thursday	November 3, 2016
December	Thursday	December 1, 2016

Strategic Planning Committee

Rescue Criteria for Fire Personnel

Specialized Rescue consists of the following Courses:

- Rope Rescue – High Angle
- Swift Water
- Confined Space
- Trench
- Hazmat
- FUNSAR
- USAR

Basic requirements to join and maintain membership of Lancaster County's Specialized Rescue is as follows:

1. The length of service for members of the Specialized Rescue shall be 5 years
2. Members of the Specialized Rescue Team shall be a minimum of Firefighter 2
3. Before applying, the applicant must have Basic Rope class
4. Each member shall have a minimum of an Awareness Level in each area
5. The member shall be at minimum a technician in 2 areas
6. Each member must attend annual training where required
7. Participate and pass annual agility test (This is to be determined)
8. Comply with NFPA 1006 (Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications)
9. Comply with NFPA 1670 (Standard on Operations & Training for Technical Search & Rescue)