

Meeting Minutes
Firefighter Mobilization Oversight Committee
Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2017, 1 p.m.
141 Monticello Trail, Bldg 2
Columbia, SC 29203

I. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was posted and advertised pursuant to all South Carolina laws, rules, and regulations. The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. by Chairman Jones. Major Dave Tafaoa, SLED, sat in on behalf of Chief Mark Keel. Others in attendance included: Emily Farr, LLR Director, Firefighter Mobilization Regional Coordinators, Pierce Womack, Kevin King, Keith Minick; Rick Dangerfield, North Charleston FD, Assistant State Fire Marshal Nathan Ellis, Susan Duncan (State Fire), and Chief Ken Kerber (ERTF), Jason Pope (SCFFA), and Chief Dennis Ray, Lugoff Fire Department.

Chairman Jones welcomed the Committee members and guests.

II. Roll call of members

SC Firefighter Mobilization Committee											
Jonathan Jones	X	Darryl Jones	A	Joe Palmer	X	Bruce Kline	P	Alvin Payne	X	Mick Mayers	A
Kim Stenson	X	Mike Bedenbaugh	X	Phil Jolley	X	Tommy McDowell	X	Harry Tinsley	X	Mark Keel	A

P: Via Phone X: Present A: Absent

III. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Phil Jolley made a motion to approve the agenda. Harry Tinsley seconded. Motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

Phil Jolley made a motion to approve the August 16, 2017 minutes. Harry Tinsley seconded. Motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

IV. Mobilization Plan Committee Report

Director Stenson provided a status update to the plan revision. Director Stenson indicated the updates pertaining to credentials and qualifications from Charlie King are pending. Regarding the medical attachment, LLR legal counsel will need to review.

V. Mobilization Coordinator’s Report

Chief Kerber stated to allow Fairfield County fire service members to attend Asst. Chief Skip Hannon’s funeral, 10 different departments from around the state manned four stations and six engine companies covering Fairfield County.

He also provided a synopsis of the seven day Harvey, Texas HART deployment. Chief Payne asked about tasking orders. Chief Kerber stated, in the future, he will make it part of the process.

Chief Kerber stated a new organizational chart and yearly training schedule is going to be created.

Chief Kerber recommended not using the Firefighter Mobilization Plan for funerals – unless there is a line of duty death. This topic was discussed. Kim Stenson made a motion funerals will be handled locally and not by the Firefighter Mobilization Plan. Alvin Payne seconded. Motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

The notification process was discussed. Chief Jones stated that according to the Plan, the committee must be notified of any event. Phil Jolley stated being notified by email was acceptable. However, if the respective department is involved, please call.

Director Stenson informed the committee of a December 7, 2017, county director's workshop.

Chief Kerber distributed a copy of the desktop manual. He also stated there is a growing interest in the HART program.

Chief Alvin Payne asked Director Stenson about the new mutual aid agreement. Stenson responded all have been asked to sign it. Since all of them have not completed the task, the old one is still being honored.

Chief Kerber provided an update regarding inventory. Ten new temps have been hired.

VI. Budget Review

Chairman Jones provided a budget report for Firefighter Mobilization and USAR.

Firefighter Mobilization's revenue is \$165,000 a year. Due to a vacancy, the fund balance has increased.

Chief Jones mentioned two new hires – George Stapleton, Finance and Procurement, and Dennis Ray will assume the role of Academy Superintendent Dec. 1.

Chief Payne asked about LLR's administrative fee. Director Farr stated it is not collected from Mobilization.

Chief Jones stated the USAR budget is approaching \$700,000. The number of part-time temporary employees will be decreased once the inventory project is complete. This will reduce the USAR budget by \$80,000.

Chief Palmer asked how long the budget is sustainable before more funding has to be requested. Chief Jones stated it is sustainable for a couple of years. Director Farr reminded the committee that without part-time employees for inventory, more than \$80,000 will be saved.

Chief Payne asked about the sustainability of 14 year old equipment. Chief Jones reminded the committee the inventory project will show the equipment on hand and a replacement cycle can be created.

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. New Business

Chief Jones requested feedback from the committee on the participation and planning for Hurricane Irma. Director Stenson stated all involved are in a better place than five years ago. Everyone has more experience and there is a strong relationship with LLR and State Fire.

IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2018, at 10 a.m.

Alvin Payne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Harry Tinsley seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.