

Meeting Minutes
Firefighter Mobilization Oversight Committee
Wednesday, August 24, 2016, 1010 hours
141 Monticello Trail, Building 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 1008 by Chairman Polk. The former LLR Director, Richelle Taylor, was present to introduce LLR’s new interim director, Emily Farr.

II. Roll call of members

| SC Firefighter Mobilization Committee | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|
| Bert Polk | X | Darryl Jones | X | Joe Palmer | X | Bruce Kline | X | Alvin Payne | X | Mick Mayers | A |
| Kim Stenson | X | Mike Bendebaugh | A | Phil Jolley | X | Tommy McDowell | X | Harry Tinsley | A | Mark Keel | X |

X: Present A: Absent

III. Approval of agenda and previous minutes

Director Stenson motioned to approve the agenda. Chief Payne seconded. Motion carried without discussion.

There was a discussion regarding the amended version of the minutes distributed during the meeting. Director Stenson motioned to table the approval of the minutes until the next meeting. Chief Payne seconded. Motion carried without discussion.

IV. Old Business – None

V. New Business

- Budget review: The committee was reminded the budget reflects the June 2016 yearend balance. No further discussion.
- Employment update: Chief Kerber is the new program manager for ERTF. He is actively engaged in filling the Program Manager I position. Applications have been reviewed. No further discussion.
- Task Force/ SC Hart update: Chief Kerber provided an update regarding the number of USAR team members and stated he was reviewing each task force member’s file to ensure the proper paperwork is on file. There was a brief discussion regarding three strategically designated crews across the state and the need to ensure the same team members are not on call 24/7/365. Director Stenson informed the committee the S.C. legislature approved \$40,000 to reimburse the National Guard and any unused portion will be carried over.

- Mobilization coordinator: Chief King discussed the July 18 Sumter Casket Company fire and submitted the attached report. Additionally, two HART requests were submitted – but ended before the flight was initiated. Chief Polk reminded the committee about the timeline for requested missions. Chief King invited the interim director, Emily Farr, to the September 8-9 Upstate training mission. Chief McDowell asked about the Firefighter Mobilization website being under construction and when it would be operational. Chief Polk responded there is no set timeline as the agency is working to standardize the look and allow staff better access to update the information.
- Mobilization Plan committee: Chief Polk asked the committee to consider revisiting the plan and suggested setting up an ad hoc committee. There was a discussion regarding annually reviewing the plan. Chief McDowell, Chief Palmer, and Director Stenson support the committee idea. Chairman Polk will reach out to committee members regarding participation.
- Task Force Technical Assistance: Chairman Polk asked the committee if they would be interested in looking for an external subject area expert contract employee to assist in planning and preparing us for an emergency response. Chief Palmer, Chief McDowell, and Chief Kline stated buy-in from the task force leaders would be critical. Chairman Polk will set up a meeting with task force leaders to discuss. Chief Payne asked Chief Kerber about task force training. Chief Kerber responded a yearly schedule is set up through next August. Chairman Polk stated a Guard MOU was approved by LLR legal counsel (Melina Mann). There was a discussion regarding the “State Guard” (800 members) and their interest in partnering with training and responding to emergencies.
- Review of Mobilization Coordinator Position: Chairman Polk reminded the committee Chief King continues to serve as the interim coordinator. A motion was made by Chief Jolly and Payne seconded to allow Chief King to serve in this capacity. The motion carried without further discussion. There was a brief discussion about the use of statewide radios. Chief Kerber asked for time to research for the best return for the investment. Chief King asked for a letter of support to be provided to PAL8.

VI. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Chairman Polk stated November 16 at 10 a.m. is the next scheduled meeting (or at the call of the chair). Chief Keel motioned to adjourn and Chief Payne seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.