

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2022**

**Attendance: In Person:** Jamie Caggiano, Josh Holzheimer, Malcolm Burns, Jamie Helms, Keith Minick, John Bowers, Tracy Williams, Jason Pope, John Jones, Mickey Folsom, Tres Atkinson, Charlie King, Brick Lewis, Zorrina Harmon, Ashley Boltin, Patti Graham, Rick Dunn, Carter Jones, Jeff Oswald, Marcia Greer, Mark Bryant, Paul Cromer, Jana Kassianos

**Zoom:** Ross Vezin, Ryan Eubanks, Terry Sheriff, Mike Norket, Brian Moon, Jack Kirilin, Brook Dennis

**Guest:** Kyle Minick

10:00 am Meeting called to order by President Caggiano.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance by Carter Jones

President Opening Remarks: Chief Caggiano ask that we all continue to keep Brook in our thoughts and prayers after the unexpected loss of her father. Last week your elected board members went to Washington DC, we had a good trip and brought back good information. We were able to meet with a number of our legislative staff members, and some of our legislators.

***A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to approve the Spring Work Session Meeting Minutes February 15 -17, 2022 as presented; seconded by Tracy Williams. All in favor***

***A motion was made by Malcolm Burns to approve minutes from March 8, 2022, as presented; seconded by Josh Holzheimer. All in favor.***

**Committee Reports**

Finance & Audit – All is well, no further information to report.

Legislative – Legislative update by Malcolm Burns and Charlie King, VSAFE is quickly moving. All of our updated legislative reports can be found online.

Advisory – Palmetto 800 meeting initiated by Randy Arant to discuss fees.

Past President – Keith Minick sat in on the Pal800 Meeting and went to Washington last week, it was a good week in Washington.

Supervisory – John Bowers reported that they met on March 24 with Chief Ale and were able to present him with a plaque and lunch for his service he has dedicated to the supervisory committee. Jeff Oswald and John Bowers had the opportunity to speak at the SCAT conference last week. The scheduled 1% meetings are in Cherokee County and Jasper County. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, the committee will meet with Larry Finney to review Audit reports for the year. Larry will be at our next Executive Committee meeting to present the final report. A discussion on voting members and forms submissions, as of today per Jana all 206 & 207 forms have been

submitted, we have a total of 19 departments that are not in good standing due to not selecting voting members for 2022.

***A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to give direction to the Executive Director to draft and send a certified letter to the 19 departments that are not in compliance that gives them 15 day to comply or they will not be members in good standing; seconded by Malcolm Burns. All in favor.***

The Bylaws committee was asked to review internal policy, It was suggested the data base should be designed to not allow you submit budget until voting members are selected.

Member Benefits – Chairman Ross Vezin reported that the FSI Conference was Awesome, at the business meeting they updated the membership on the Cancer Bill.

Training & Education – Chairman Terry Sheriff showed the most up to date schedule of the 2022 Fire – Rescue Conference to be held in Myrtle Beach June 8 -11, 2022. The Vendor Hall Soft opening will be on Thursday night June 9<sup>th</sup>. The Executive Committee will arrive on Tuesday June 8, 2022.

The Company Officer Academy (A handout was given) was discussed. This is a weeklong program boot camp style to be held May 15 -20, 2022. We have 26 people that have applied and completed the prerequisites. This academy will be hosted at the SC Fire Academy with area fire service sites to assist with hosting training. The Executive Committee is invited for dinner on that Sunday night for the kickoff. There will be a graduation ceremony on that Friday afternoon May 19<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 pm at the Academy.

Health & Safety – Chairman Williams reported they we had a meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

EMS Committee – Chairman Ryan Eubanks reported that the committee has not met. He gave an updated report on the Children’s Burn Fund Camp. They will be moving forward with a Children’s Burn Camp this year. The board has met, and they would like to move forward with becoming a section of the foundation. He would like to know what the process is to become a section.

***A motion was made by Malcolm Burns to have MUSC Children’s Burn Board work with Interim Executive Director Joe Palmer to develop a plan of moving the MUSC Fund and board to the SC State Firefighters’ Association; Seconded by Josh Holzheimer. All in favor.***

Strategic Planning – John Jones reported the committee is reviewing the work session goals and will be meeting with Joe Palmer to go over with him before reporting back to the group.

Diversity Committee – Chief Mickey Folsom reported that the committee met on April 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the tangibility. How to talk to departments on a coach level and maybe explore having a professional go with them to the department meetings to talk with them. The diversity committee has secured a guest speaker Meg coming to the Fire – Rescue Conference.

Conference Committee – Chairman Mike Norket we are looking forward to a great conference, we are currently working on locking in Wednesday night event.

NVFC – Brian Moon & Jack Kirilin gave an update on the NVFC Conference.

SCFIS – Zorrina Harmon – The time has come that we need to replace a few trustee's members on the South Carolina Firefighters Trust. Currently serving have been Dennis Ray, Keith Minick & Marquis Solomon. The new names we would like to present to you today are Keith Minick, Bryan Bailey & Steve Graham. All of the past and new appointees have been notified and accepted the new role or been thanked for the role they have served. Zorrina presented that the Executive Committee needs to approve these names. Additionally, SCFIS tax returns and audits will be placed on the website for transparency. A health care trust is to be able provide health care to our members. We are a sponsor for the trust, just as you are a sponsor for the retirement system.

***A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to accept Keith Minick, Bryan Bailey & Steve Graham as our new SC Firefighter Trust trustees; seconded by Malcolm Burns. All in favor.***

Also, Zorrina added as to the Cancer Bill, we have had a cancer death since the start of the cancer bill. That family was paid out. Currently we have received 27 Cancer Claims. We continue to pay out lots of reimbursements. The system seems to be running well.

Foundation – Tres Atkinson – A contract was signed for the venture of collecting funds. Bryan Bailey has done a great job raising funds for the Golf Tournament. We are still looking at hiring for a part time person.

Lunch

SCFAST – Patti Graham – Gave an update of all the good work this group has been doing with responses and trainings.

### **Old Business**

A FSI Conference After Action was conducted by Terry Sheriff.

Rick Dunn made sure to announce all pictures from the conference are on the events website.

History – Carter gave an update on the Fire Service Cultural Project Updates. Names were presented for consideration for the Historical advisory board. Name presented are as follows

1. Jack Jansen, Ret. Columbia Fire Dept.
2. John Bowers, Camden Fire Dept.
3. Shawn Irvin, Travelers Rest
4. Tony Dicks, Barnwell Fire Dept.
5. Lauren Virgo, Aiken County Museum
6. Mish Witherspoon, Clarendon County Museum

7. John Odom, Lake City
8. Donnie Carver, City of Greenville Fire Dept.
9. Raymond Lloyd, City of Charleston Fire
10. Cater Jones, SCSFA Staff Liaison

It was in question of whom the chairman would be of this committee and suggested that John Bowers would be a good candidate as the Chairman.

The Executive Committee supported and gave direction to move forward.

#### Hall of Fame Award Recommendations

The following names have been recommended for approval from the Advisory Committee for your 2022 Hall of Fame.

Keith Minick, Past President, Eddie McNeil, LODD, Stephen Mixon, LODD, John L. Melton, Cheraw FD, Jack Veal, City of Columbia Fire Dept., Richard Fanning, Lifetime Member, Tom Carr, City of Charleston Fire Dept.

Chief Caggiano stated we have written criteria that we need to stay true to. He urged all to be cautious if you change the rules and make exceptions for one, that opens the door for others down the road. Her stated that he was hesitant in changing the rules for one person, that concerns him. Discussion was had if a proclamation or resolution has the same prestigious recognition.

***A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to accept Keith Minick, Past President, Eddie McNeil, LODD, Stephen Mixon, LODD, John L. Melton, Cheraw FD, Jack Veal, City of Columbia Fire Dept., Richard Fanning, Lifetime Member as members of the 2022 Hall of Fame and to accept Tom Carr, City of Charleston Fire Department as Firefighter of the Year; Seconded by Malcolm Burns. All in favor.***

Staff has been task with coming up with a plan as to how we can showcase and honor all of the Firefighter of Years in the Denny Auditorium.

Retirement program – a discussion was had about in our retirement plan, when a legal matter comes up for a department and or Individual, that could have significant financial impact, can these bills go back to that department rather than being paid out by the plan as a whole. Joe Palmer has reached out to our attorney, and he feels this is perfectly legal, however there needs to be some verbiage changes in our written policy to be a little clearer on this. Joe Palmer is currently working with our attorneys to get this language corrected.

#### **New Business**

A new email distribution list has been created for just the elected members and Joe Palmer. It is [ec@scfirefighters.org](mailto:ec@scfirefighters.org), Brick ask Josh Holzhiemer to test this for them to make sure it is working properly. It has been requested that a separate/new group email be created that everyone can reply to for meeting purposes and what not.

2022 Fire – Rescue Conference update. An updated schedule was handed out. We are currently securing a venue for a Wednesday night appreciation that will be sponsored by SCFIS and

partners. This will include finger foods, beverages and live entertainment. We look forward to providing more information.

IMT – this year our State Forestry group is hosting the National Foresters Convention so they will not be able to support us in a IMT function. State Fire IMT has agreed to support our Fire Rescue Conference as our IMT. It was proposed to the group to make sure the executive committee supported this change. All were in favor without a motion.

New Building – Our current building has served us well, but we have outgrown it. Charlie was directed to explore to see what option were out there, Chief Burns and Caggiano have been very helpful in these endeavors. Charlie has been looking for land and existing buildings in the area. We are looking for a unique building that will serve our needs and there doesn't seem to be one out there that fits our needs. A meeting was had with J. Davis Construction as Charlie has a relationship with this group as they built the fire stations when he was in Oconee County. This group works with DP3 Architects as well. They invited a small group to their office for lunch and discussion on what does this process look like. The attendees were offered a handout proposing a process. It looks like we are looking at 18 to 24 months before the construction phase would begin, after you are able to purchase land. The group agreed to move forward with a schematic drawing to identifying our needs and drawings of what a new facility would look like. Chief Caggiano ask the group to take this document back and review, we will discuss and vote at our May meeting.

Tomorrow's Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 am at the SC Fire Academy. They will be honoring 2 LODD and 18 past LODD's to be added.

***A motion was made by Malcolm Burns at 2:15pm to adjourn for the day; seconded by Josh Holzheimer. All in favor.***