

## Executive Committee Minutes

May 14, 2024

### Denny Auditorium

Attendance: Malcolm Burns, Randy Arant, Tres Atkinson, Pierce Womack, Jason Dennis, Josh Holzheimer, John Bowers, Ross Vezin, Terry Sheriff, Kevin Henson, Charles Lamoreaux, Billy Barnes, Mike Norket, Jack Kirlin, Doug Cline, Rick Cramer, Jamie Caggiano, Rickie Jenkins, Ashley Boltin, Brick Lewis, Zorrina Harmon, Jamie Helms, Joe Palmer, Jana Kassianos

Guest: Jason Pope, Jonathan Jones, Britt Blackmon, Eric Burwell, Cory Chinn, Sean Collins April Conyers, Peter Dontje, John Galganski, Austin Keith, Alex Long, Micah Rains, Danille Smith, Josh Yale, Larry Finney, Emily Soz

Call to Order by President Burns

Invocation & Pledge by Rickie Jenkins

Welcome & Recognition of the 2024 -2025 Leadership Institute Class

***A motion was made by Randy Arant to approve the March 13 -15, 2024 minutes; seconded by Holzheimer. All in favor.***

***A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to approve the April 18, 2024 minutes; seconded by Randy Arant. All in favor.***

### **New Business**

John Bowers & Jeff Oswald explained the responsibility of why we do the one percent audits. This year they completed 62 departments with 20 of those being follow-up audits for folks that did not pass previously. The floor was turned over to Emily Sozebeck & Larry Finney to explain their audit findings.

One Percent trainings started in 2018 and to date, they have completed 56 regional trainings.

***A recommendation out of the supervisory committee that the following 7 Departments will lose Membership this year this year due to not being compliant.***

- 1. Callison***
- 2. Eddytown***
- 3. West Middle***
- 4. West Union***
- 5. Dillon Station 4***
- 6. Jumper Station***
- 7. Olar***

***All in favor.***

Departments that passed their audits and are allowed to rejoin, if they apply :

1. Indian Land
2. Northside
3. Patrick Rural
4. Marion Rural
5. Windsor

Executive Director Helms discussed the Messer Rescue Squad, out of Cherokee / Spartanburg Counties. They had applied for membership, due to concerns of not meeting the definition of a regularly organized fire department. Helms email a list of questions to the Chief and contact determine their appropriate membership status.

Larry Finney brought to our attention that many departments were not spending their 1% money on a regular basis. This could cause an issue with the Legislative Financial Audit Council. He asked that the Association adjust of training information, provide communication and possibly determine a procedure for holding money for "Capital" type of projects.

Jeff and John discussed several regional trainings coming up in Dorchester County & Lake City. If a department rates a C or below they are required to attend the training.

### **Committee Reports**

Everyone was instructed to please explain what their committee does to help the Leadership Institute folks understand about the committees.

Finance & Audit – Randy Arant – No report

Legislative – Tres Atkinson – Legislative Day at the State House went well, there were lots of good conversations. We had a successful trip to Washington DC to meet with our Legislative Delegation. Our Cancer bill to lift the residency requirements is moving forward. S969 Subsistence allowance has gone to the Conference Committee, and we are waiting to see how that favors. Your legislative reports are posted weekly on our website.

Advisory Committee – Pierce Womack – Award recipients have been notified and those will be given out at Fire – Rescue Conference.

4<sup>th</sup> VP – Jason Dennis – It was asked that those of us who will be skipping a chair position, if we can still sit in on those meetings so we have a working knowledge of the committee since we didn't get to chair those meeting.

Past President Section – Josh Holzheimer – Past Presidents will meet in Manning on Friday of this week, we currently have 7 past presidents in the room today.

Member Benefits – Ross Vezin – We are currently working on alerting systems for discounts to our membership. We want a group rate for our state, active 911 said they were not interested but we will continue to seek out the other companies to see if they are willing to partner.

Training & Education Committee – Terry Sheriff – We are excited about Fire – Rescue coming up, our committee is already working on the Fire Service Improvement Conference. We attended FDIC to try and find new speakers for our conference. The T & E Chairman also chairs the SC Fire Academy Advisory meeting to try and keep a pulse on what's going on. They have lots of good things happening at the Fire Academy.

Strategic Planning – Kevin Henson – We work collaboratively with each other, in March we had our Strategic Planning retreat we hope to have that published updated plan by June or July. We also will be working with the Officer Section on a strategic plan and the SCFAST team.

By- Laws Committee – Charles Lamoreaux – Nothing to report

EMS – Billy Barnes – We continue to work with DHEC, EMS Association and other groups. We look forward to hosting several EMS classes at the Fire – Rescue Conference.

Conference Committee – Mike Norket – We are assisting the staff so that all have a good experience at the Fire – Rescue Conference, we will talk more about it under the Fire – Rescue Report.

Heritage Committee – John Bowers & Carter Jones – We have spent a lot of time with ETV / PBS on the Cleveland fire documentary that will be coming out soon. Friday will be the 101 Anniversary of the fire that killed 77 children and adults. We are working on our History booth at Fire – Rescue conference, we have several different pieces of apparatus coming to be displayed.

NVFC – Jack Kirlin – NVFC has a working group that Jack is on for this OSHA Review. Dave Denniston is heading it up a strike team though the NVFC.

Officer Section – Doug Cline – The officer section had a proposed by- law change that has gone to the membership for vote. The next Fire Officer Academy applications open June 1<sup>st</sup> the actual academy will be September 29 – October 4, 2024. We look forward to working with the strategic planning committee to help develop a 5 year strategic plan for the officer section.

SCFIS – Rick Cramer & Zorrina Harmon – They explained that the SCFIS created by the SCSFA offers Group Life Insurance Policies, Property & Casualty, Health Insurance and is currently the provider for the Cancer Policy. We give back to the membership through sponsorships. We have 6 board members and the chairman is Rick Cramer.

Foundation – Jamie Caggiano & Sara Moore- Chairman Caggiano introduce Sar Moore as the new Foundation Employee, if you have a business that wants to donate to the foundation let them know. The foundation golf tournament at Fire – Rescue is almost full. Scholarships are being given out on Thursday during the business meeting. We will have a silent auction again this year it will be in the Hall of Fame area from Thursday until Saturday, the goal is to raise \$10,000. The Burn Children Fund is surveying to inventory all of there burn can trailers, if you have one reach out to Stephanie Julazadeh to let her know. Camp Can Do will be held at Camp Cole in Eastover this year.

Chaplain - Rickie Jenkins – Thanked everyone for the opportunity he has been working with Chief Helms on a project to create a statewide networking support of Chaplains that can assist if there were a need. We are looking forward to continuing the morning devotionals at Fire – Rescue Conference.

State Fire – Jason Pope – The Advisory committee met last week and Chief Jones and I are currently working on the budget. We are working on updating the Wifi at the academy. We are evaluating how to use the facilities more efficiently for instance in the dorms folks want single occupancy but we are working on getting back to double occupancy.

Break for Lunch

OSHA ad hoc committee – Joe Palmer – Federal OSHA dropped this proposed language change back in December / January it has been a 17 year work in process but they wanted us to have public comments by May, which has now been extended to June 21<sup>st</sup>. We have put together a committee

Communications Review – Jamie Helms – There will be a premium invoice increase in October for the 2024 member benefits package, currently Membership dues are \$9 per person & Member benefits are \$31 per person totaling \$40.00 per person This has been the rate for over 10 years, in order to offer and maintain the level of benefits we currently have, we must increase from \$31 per member to \$41 per member totaling \$50 per person on membership invoices. We hope that increasing by \$10 will help us sustain for the next however many years so that we don't have to continually increase every so many years. The association has the authority to increase the member benefits portion, but in order to increase the membership dues (\$9) that takes a vote from the membership.

Fallen Firefighter Memorial – Jamie Helms – The fallen firefighters memorial is a three way partnership, we have had to do some maintenance to the memorial site and now it is time to have a fundraiser to replenish those funds. We will be selling stress bricks at conference a joint effort between the SC State Firefighters Association and the Association of Fire Chiefs each brick will go for \$10 each and you will have an opportunity to be put in a raffle for a leather helmet. The actual brick sale for the memorial will be increasing in price from \$50 to \$150 each for those that would like to buy a actual brick.

VSAFE – Jamie Helms – We have a opening on the VSAFE grant review panel, Chief Tony Dicks of Barnwell retired. We would like to recommend replacing him with Brandon Holloman from Lee County. Everyone on the committee approved this suggestion.

Deputy Director – Jamie Helms – We held interviews last week, we will continue with some follow up conversations.

Leadership Project Manager – Jamie Helms – The oversight committee has met twice, we are in the process of producing a scope of work plan.

Building Up Date – Jamie Helms – Our realtors are still looking, we had some interesting conversations with Edventure and they have let us know of a potential building that may be coming available on the complex, DHEC currently occupies it, but may be moving out.

#### New Business

Mobilization Positions Currently we have 3 positions that expire in July 2024 I have reached out to President Gibson with the Chief's association to ask about Phil Jolley. Our two names that are up are Charlie King & Tres Atkinson.

***A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to reinstate Charlie King & Tres Atkinson as our mobilization representatives; seconded by Kevin Henson. All in favor. 1 Obtained from vote.***

Fire – Rescue Update was given by Ashley Boltin  
**June 12 -15, 2024** – Myrtle Beach Convention Center  
No registration  
Keynote is Paul Combs  
46 Classes – 36 Instructors – 9 different states

#### Currently Can Purchase

- Conference T- T-shirt online
- Banquet Tickets (by May 30<sup>th</sup>)

#### Exciting Activities

- Beach Bash by SCFIS – Wednesday Night
- Round Table Discussion – Thursday afternoon
- Exhibit Hall Soft Opening – Thursday night
- Fun Run! – Friday Morning
- Fire Safe SC recognitions – Friday Afternoon
- Explorer Competition – Saturday Afternoon

Morning Devotional starting on Thursday at 8:30 am

App update – Brook Dennis – She explained how to download the app and how it works.

Playbook review by Executive Director Helms.

Our next meeting will be held June 11, 2024 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center room 106.

***A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer at 1:56 pm to adjourn; seconded by Randy Arant. All in favor.***

### **Online Reports**

#### **Diversity Committee – Mickey Folsom**

##### Committee Focus Activities

Meet and Greet conversation with Consultant Dr. Kiki Ramsey who will be presenting the DEI class at the June 2024 Fire-Rescue Conference. Committee members got to meet Dr. Kiki and hear an overview of the class she will be presenting at the conference. After meeting with Dr. Kiki, the committee stayed on for an additional 10 minutes to talk about two new members who will join the committee in July.

##### Executive Committee Action Items

Jennifer to draft a newsletter teaser for Dr. Ramsey's session at the conference to send to Association members before the conference. Tonya to reach out to two new members to get brief bio from them to have for their introduction to the committee members at the July meeting.

#### **Training & Education – Terry Sheriff**

##### Committee Focus Activities

Committee met to review and discuss classes for 2025 Fire Service Improvement Conference. Once classes are identified, the committee will provide the proposal to the EC.

##### Executive Committee Action Items

None.

#### **Health & Safety – Brad Kavetski**

##### Committee Focus Activities

Last month to submit Bingo cards. Please encourage all members to participate. It is super easy to complete one or all activities on the bingo card and submit to [healthsafety@scfirefighters.org](mailto:healthsafety@scfirefighters.org) by June 1st. The committee will meet before the conference to draw a winner for the Yeti cooler.