



SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FIRE

a Division of South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

South Carolina Firefighter Mobilization

141 Monticello Trail • Columbia, SC 29203

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www.statefire.llr.sc.gov

MEETING MINUTES

Firefighter Mobilization Oversight Committee

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 10 a.m.

**141 Monticello Trail, Building 2 and Virtually
Columbia, SC 29203**

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina State Fire, 141 Monticello Trail, Columbia, SC 29203 and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. The meeting was also held via video and teleconference.

I. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was posted and advertised pursuant to South Carolina laws, rules, and regulations. The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by Chairman Jones.

Others in attendance included Stewart Robertson (SLED). State Fire employees included Michelle Stanly, Brian Archibald, Shelly Allen, Jason Pope, Joseph Borrelli, and Amy Williamson.

A quorum was present. Chairman Jones welcomed the Committee members and guests.

I. Roll Call of Members

SC Firefighter Mobilization Committee											
P: Present V: Virtual A: Absent											
Jonathan Jones	P	Darryl Jones	P	Jamie Helms	P	Bruce Kline	V	Charlie King	V	Mark Davis	P
Kim Stenson	P	Mike Bedenbaugh	V	Phil Jolley	V	Tres Atkinson	V	Joey Tanner	A	Stewart Robertson for Mark Keel	P

II. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes:

Daryl Jones made a motion to approve today's agenda. Mark Davis seconded. The motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

Daryl Jones made a motion to approve the November 19, 2024, minutes. Mark Davis seconded. The motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

Chairman's Remarks

Financial Update:

Chairman Jones delivered a comprehensive financial update including current budget information and remaining balances for non-recurring US&R funds.

Chairman Jones provided an update for the new US&R building project. Initially, the new US&R building was estimated to cost approximately \$10 million. After the feasibility study, the revised estimate has escalated to \$18 million. The estimate includes about two million dollars in contingency costs. Before we can continue to Phase I, we will have to revisit the design to reduce the overall costs and identify the source(s) for additional funds.

III. Mobilization Coordinator's Report

Review of Deployments and FFMOB Missions

Chairman Jones delivered a comprehensive report to the committee members. FFMOB had two notable deployments at the Covington Complex and Table Rock Complex Wildfires.

Covington Drive Complex Wildfire:

Deployed from March 1-9

- Approximately 90 apparatus
- Over 250 personnel
- About 50 different departments

Daryl Jones stated: This wildfire grew rapidly. Although it is still burning, 90 percent of the fire is contained.

Table Rock Complex:

Chairman Jones has provided preliminary cost estimates regarding the largest SC Firefighter Mobilization response since the program's inception in 2000. As a cumulative summary, from the onset of the incident on March 22, SC Firefighter Mobilization coordinated:

- Approximately 1000 firefighters, primarily to provide structural fire protection, inclusive of local mutual aid response.
- Over 400 fire apparatus.
- Communications specialists from SC-Task Force 1, to assist other agencies with ensuring interoperability of radio communications systems.
- A Mobile Command Center, utilized by Greenville County and Pickens County for joint coordination.
- HART crews were on standby; this marked the first instance of HART crews being on standby as Rapid Intervention for wildland crews.

Daryl Jones stated: The incident experienced rapid growth, affecting two counties across two states. It had the potential to impact 1.3 million acres but ultimately burned just over 15,000 acres. The coordination and organization were commendable. SLED's helicopter delivered over 100,000 gallons of water. Fortunately, there were no injuries and no homes were lost.



Chairman Jones provided details of other mobilization events

- On January 25, the Amick Farms fire occurred, which lasted for a brief duration.
- HART conducted four missions, two of which were related to Table Rock.
- In the week following the Table Rock Incident, HART successfully executed a rescue of two hikers.

It is important to note that fire season is not yet over, and preparations for hurricane season are underway.

IV. SC-TF1 and SC-HART Update

Training hours provided by Brian Archibald:

There were 1,877 class hours and 2,081 hands-on hours for a total of 3,958 hours. There were 854 hours of instruction by the Task Force.

SC-IST (Palmetto IST) Update

Shelly Allen delivered updates regarding training, past/future events, member service, and recognition awards.

V. Old Business

SCERTF Plan Update:

Chairman Jones presented an overview of the Emergency Response Task Force System Plan (SCERTF) with an Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Annex. He presented an overview of the objectives and various components of the plan.

Director Kim Stenson made a motion to adopt the SCERTF Plan. Mark Davis seconded. The motion was carried unanimously without discussion.

IX. New Business

Chairman Jones provided details of the preliminary meeting with FEMA regarding the IST's role in the Supplemental Response team System that would allow FEMA to mobilize the IST to respond to large-scale disasters under Federal missions. Chairman Jones expresses gratitude for the opportunity to be considered, by FEMA, as a part of the response team.

X. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 29, 2025 in the State Fire Marshal's conference room in Columbia. There will be a virtual option.

Director Kim Stenson made a motion to adjourn. Daryl Jones seconded. The motion was carried unanimously without discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

