



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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MEETING MINUTES

Firefighter Mobilization Oversight Committee

Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025

10:00 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 and LLR employees included Michelle Stanly, George Stapleton, Emily Farr, Chad Beam, and Amy Williamson.

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

II. 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	P	Charlie King	V	Mark Davis	V
Kim Stenson	P	Mike Bedenbaugh	V	Phil Jolley	V	Tres Atkinson	V	Joey Tanner	V	Stewart Robertson for Mark Keel	P

III. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes:

Kim Stenson made a motion to approve today's agenda. Bruce Kline seconded. The motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

Bruce Kline made a motion to approve the April 30, 2025, minutes. Darryl Jones seconded. The motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

IV. Chairman's Remarks/Financial Update:

Chairman Jones announced that the 2026 FFMOB meetings will be scheduled during the second month of each quarter to allow for presentation of finalized budget figures from the previous quarter.

Chairman Jones provided a comprehensive financial update, including details on the current budget and remaining balances for non-recurring US&R funds. The committee discussed reimbursement timelines, pending orders, and emphasized the importance of timely submissions.

FEMA reimbursement processes are ongoing for several events. Some challenges related to documentation and federal processing delays were noted.

An update was provided on internal restructuring and personnel changes within the finance and procurement departments.

**V. Mobilization Coordinator's Report
Review of Deployments and FFMOB Missions**

Chad Beam delivered a report to the committee.

Since the previous meeting, three official mobilizations have occurred:

- Orangeburg County scrapyards fire (August): three engines, 12 tankers, one aerial, 11 departments responded.
- Camden commercial structure fire (September): overnight response, two departments assisted; coverage for the local district was provided.
- Berkeley County (Moncks Corner): Line of duty death coverage, involving five local fire departments, four engines, one aerial.

Additionally, an unofficial mobilization was coordinated for a Mauldin firefighter's funeral, with support from multiple departments and attendance by approximately 1,400 individuals.

The notification system transitioned from Palmetto to ReadyOp, enhancing communication, accountability, and mobilization tracking.

Updates were provided regarding reimbursement for Hurricane Debby and Hurricane Helene.

VI. SC-TF1 and SC-HART Update

Chad Beam delivered a comprehensive report to the committee.

- SC-TF1 was activated for Tropical Storm Imelda with a Type IV US&R team; however, deployment was not required as conditions improved.
- A total of 3,397 training hours were logged over the past three months.
- The application cycle for new SC-TF1 members is now conducted annually.
- Tornado response training is scheduled for this week.

Regional US&R Update:

- SC-TF2, SC-TF3, and SC-TF4 were activated for Tropical Storm Imelda but were ultimately not utilized.
- SC-TF5 and SC-TF6 were also activated for potential deployment but were ultimately not utilized.
- SC-TF3 responded to a house explosion, providing support for SLED and ATF investigations.

The HART program held a major training event in August, completing 178 hoist operations over two days, with 23 rescuers participating. Plans are underway to improve helicopter fleet availability.

A major multi-agency SC-HART training event is scheduled for November.

VII. SC-IST (Palmetto IST) Update

Chairman Jones provided an update on the Incident Support Team (IST):

- The team is currently undergoing staff transitions, with the manager position posted and interviews in progress.
- To improve operational flexibility, custom T-cards for resource tracking are being produced.
- The IST is also leading the All Hazards Incident Management Team and Liaison Officer trainings.
- Progress continues toward achieving FEMA Supplemental Response Team status, with onboarding and background checks currently underway.
- Future SRT deployments will take place through US Forest Service/IROC system.

Chairman Jones presented Daryl Jones with a plaque in recognition of his support.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

IX. New Business

Daryl Jones provided an update regarding anticipated federal organizational changes. Wildland fire response will be consolidated under a new National Wildland Fire Service within the Department of the Interior.

The upcoming wildland fire season (November–April) is expected to be active, contingent upon weather patterns and fuel conditions.

X. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 25, 2026 in the State Fire Marshal's conference room in Columbia. There will be a virtual option.

Director Daryl Jones made a motion to adjourn. Kim Stenson seconded. The motion was carried unanimously without discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.