



# 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

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

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), Mike Ellis (FFMOB), Will Vaigneur (Lady's Island-St. Helen FD), Brick Lewis (SC Firefighters' Association), and COL Brian Pipkin (SC National Guard). State Fire employees included Amy Williamson, Eric Bolen, Devon Crape, Erick Adams, Emily Joyce, Laura Spivey, Don Headrick, Brian Archibald, Cindy Brazell, and Joe Borelli. Other attendees included Andrew MacIver, Abigail Scott, and Austin Owens.

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	A	Jamie Helms	P	Bruce Kline	P	Charlie King	V	Mark Davis	P
Kim Stenson	P	Mike Bedenbaugh	V	Phil Jolley	P	Tres Atkinson	V	Joey Tanner	V	Mark Keel	P

#### III. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes:

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

Mark Keel made a motion to approve the October 7, 2025, minutes. Bruce Kline seconded. The motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

**IV. Chairman's Remarks/Financial Update:**

Chairman Jones noted that the awards luncheon had previously been cancelled, so the awards would be presented during this meeting. The meeting was to be followed by a FEMA Supplemental Response Team Training for the IST.

Chairman Jones provided a comprehensive financial update, including details on the current budget and remaining balances for non-recurring US&R funds.

**V. SC-TF1 Awards and Recognition**

Chad Beam awarded the following:

- Firefighter Mobilization Coordinator of the Year Award - Russell Alexander

Brian Archibald awarded the following:

- Leadership Award - Abigail Scott
- Shon Robert Hamilton Award - Andrew MacIver
- Lifetime Achievement Award - Don Headrick
- Rookie of the Year Award - Austin Owens

Chairman Jones awarded the following:

- Exceptional Teamwork Award - Emily Joyce
- Team Leadership Award - Devon Crape

Chairman Jones awarded COL Brian Pipkin with a Focal Point challenge coin in recognition of his work with SC-HART.

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

Chad Beam delivered a report to the committee. Since the previous meeting, two official mobilizations have occurred:

- Greenville County ice storm: moved resources from Jasper County and Pine Ridge Fire Department up to Greenville County, provided drivers for 4-wheel drive vehicles to move citizens to shelters
- Union County Apartment Complex: sent Clinton, Due West, Newberry, and Western Laurens to Union County

The new notification system, ReadyOp, was used successfully statewide and in two regions. Notifications could be sent in under five minutes, with the fastest at three minutes.

**VII. SC-TF1 and SC-HART Update**

Brian Archibald delivered a comprehensive report to the committee.

- SC-TF1 staffed a team for the Ice Storm to do logistics for SC-TF4
- Currently have 170 members on the roster; interviewing 100 additional members
- Working on onboarding two doctors and a hazmat specialist
- The second Mack truck has come in
- A total of 4,633 training hours were logged since November 1, 2025
- Partnering with Chief Johnson to do simulated building collapse training in Charlotte
- Working on K-9 training with Florida Task Force 2

HART successfully conducted an upstate drill last November. Nine members are training to become rescuers.

Joe Borelli delivered an update on logistics to the committee.

- Received the second box truck this morning
- New aluminum boats are in
- Custom box truck set up to use for logistics
- Quick response boat trucks are in

### **VIII. Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

### **IX. New Business**

Chairman Jones reported the Firefighter Mobilization Plan has been reviewed and updated by Chad Beam. Minor changes included changing references to the mobilization technology to "ReadyOp". The committee discussed including references of the governance committee and the ERTF, and including the definition of EMAC. Bruce Kline motioned to adopt with identified changes. Seconded by Kim Stenson. The motion carried unanimously without discussion.

Chairman Jones recommended adopting the South Carolina All Hazards Incident Management Qualifications System Governance Committee Charter and the base plan (who the committees are, committee structure, committee responsibilities) in order to adopt the Incident Management Qualification Guide. The committee discussed adding language regarding a codified executive order, defining the governance committee, and moving a responsibility from the vice chair to the secretary position. Bruce Kline motioned to approve with identified changes. Phil Jolley seconded. The motion carried unanimously, with discussion.

The committee discussed adopting the South Carolina Incident Management Qualifications System Guide. Discussion included adding language regarding a codified executive order, moving a responsibility from the vice chair to the secretary, and individual responsibilities. Mark Davis motioned to adopt with identified changes. Phil Jolley seconded. The motion carried unanimously, without discussion.

Chief Keel reported on a proviso in the house budget for Palmetto 800, including details about fees and building new towers.

Chad Beam announced his resignation; his last day is March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Jamie Helms opened a discussion on the future of swift-water training. Options include the Fire Academy, the National Whitewater Center in Charlotte, and North Carolina Fire Marshal's Office.

Chairman Jones presented a video showcasing the South Carolina Emergency Response Task Force System.

### **X. Next Meeting and Adjournment**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 27, 2026 in the State Fire Marshal's conference room in Columbia. There will be a virtual option.

Kim Stenson made a motion to adjourn. Mark Davis seconded. The motion was carried unanimously without discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.