

CHARLTON COUNTY FIRE BOARD MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 24th, 2025
FOLKSTON FIRE STATION
97 RAILROAD STREET
6:00 P.M.

3/24/2025 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present was Jesse Crews, Orival Thompson, Lee Gowen, Mike Harris, Kip Taylor, Chief CL Lewis, County Administrator Glenn Hull, and County Clerk Madeline Nettles.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Gowen led the invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chief Lewis recommended adding another grant opportunity to discuss under agenda item 8.1.

Mr. Crews motioned to adopt the agenda with the recommended change. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Crews motioned to adopt the minutes as presented. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

The board discussed the salary line of the budget that has not been adjusted to reflect the position changes.

Mr. Harris motioned to adopt the financial report. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. REPORTS: OWLR

No reports made.

7. REPORTS: GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION: ROGER TODD

No reports made.

8. REPORTS:

8.I. DISCUSS GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Chief Lewis discussed multiple grant opportunities and the equipment the grant would cover. The board discussed equipment needs, fund match, previously received grants, and application process.

Mr. Thompson motioned to support taking the grants to the Commissioners for approval. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8.II. REPORT ON JUNIOR PROGRAM

William Turner discussed the junior program.

There has been a reduction in members for personal reasons, with three members remaining active.

The junior program has been assisting with inventorying, assisting with truck checks, and training on hoses at Station 4. They will be moving on to Station 2 next.

The program was represented at career day at the high school last Thursday, where they handed out over thirty applications and talked with fifteen potential applicants.

8.III. DISCUSS CHIEF TRUCK UPDATES

The chief truck has arrived. The county is working on getting the graphics placed. The lights and radios will be installed. The skid unit has been ordered and will be installed once received.

9. PURCHASING ITEMS

9.I. DISCUSS PURCHASE OF HEAD-TO-TOE BUNKER GEAR

Chief Lewis discussed the purchase of bunker gear would be the fourth time of replacing ten sets of gear annually. The purchase will be funded from SPLOST.

Mr. Crews motioned to support taking the purchase to the Commissioners. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9.II. DISCUSS PURCHASE OF EXTRICATION EQUIPMENT (JAWS)

Chief Lewis discussed the equipment that was previously demonstrated at the annex building. Chief Lewis would like to request 2 sets, one each for the North and South sides of the county.

Mr. Crews motioned to support taking the purchase to the commissioners. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Mr. Thompson asked for confirmation the funds would come from SPLOST. The motion carried unanimously.

10. PERSONNEL REPORT:

There are five firefighter applicants currently. Some applicants have had prior training.

Chief Lewis discussed the personnel numbers as presented in the report.

11. FIRE RUN REPORTS BY TYPES (ENCLOSED IN HANDOUT)

Mr. Gowen asked for an update on dispatch providing further information. The communication has been a lot better.

There is protocol in place in dispatch on how to handle a mayday situation in case it ever arises. The monthly training on Saturday covered mayday situations, including how support personnel can assist.

12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT

County Administrator Hull provided updates on the Georgia Bend fire station.

County Clerk Nettles is working on coordinating reservations with Chief Lewis for the community rooms.

13. GUESTS

No guest comments were made.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

No executive session was required.

15. ADJOURN

Mr. Thompson motioned to adjourn. All other board members seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM.