



***Lancaster County Fire Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes***

January 8, 2026

The January meeting of the Lancaster County Fire Commission was held on Thursday, January 8th, 2026, at the Lancaster County EOC at 111 Covenant Place at 7:00 p.m. Freedom of Information Act requirements were met by notification to The Lancaster News, The Herald, Kershaw News Era, Learn TV and Fort Mill Times. The agenda was also posted on the bulletin boards at the Lancaster County Administration Building and the EOC on Wednesday, December 31st, 2025.

Chairman Clint Sowell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Justin McLellan gave the invocation.

Fire Commission Members:

Antioch – Eric Flynn*
Bell Town – Jamie Gainer*
Buford – Billy Morris*
Camp Creek – Toby Roberts*
Van Wyck – Mark Carnes*
Elgin – Billy Robinson*
Flat Creek – Ron Schachtner*
Gooch's – Terry Ward – Alternate – Anthony White*
Heath Springs – Matthew Harris
Indian Land – Greg Nicholson*
Kershaw – Todd Duncan*
Lancaster – Justin McLellan*
McDonald Green – Clint Sowell*
Rich Hill – Josh Alford*
Riverside – Chris Gardner*
Shiloh-Zion – Fred Plyler*
Tradesville – Jason Laney*
Unity – Kelsi Lang*
F-1 – Darren Player
F-2 – Keith Wilson*
F-3 – Britt Blackmon*
F-4 – Billy Lloyd*
F-6 – Sam Plyler
F-7 – Brian Stogner
F-9 – Tony Gainer*
F-10 – Mike Magette
Administrative Assistant – Sarah Jane Goode*

* - Members Present



Visitors: None.

Approval of the January 8, 2026 Agenda: Greg Nicholson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jamie Gainer seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approval of the December 4, 2025 Minutes: Josh Alford made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Chris Gardner seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Citizen Comments: None.

Standard Operating Guideline Committee – Nothing to report.

Strategic Planning and Governmental Operations Committee – Nothing to report.

Apparatus and Equipment Committee – Nothing to report.

Budget Planning & Appropriations Committee – Nothing to report.

Personnel and Interagency Relations Committee – Nothing to report.

Old Business:

- a. Discussion concerning Fire Rescue Moving Forward – Keith Wilson stated everything is kind of stalled out and is the same as it has been. Chairman Clint Sowell stated the outside Captain position has been posted. If anyone is interested, you can apply on the Lancaster County website. He went on to ask if there has been any interest shown in the position so far. Keith Wilson stated the posting has been up for approximately three days and no interest has been shown. No action taken.
- b. Discussion concerning Report for First Due – Billy Lloyd stated everything has transitioned over to NERIS. He noted they are still making changes and will continue to until everything gets the way we need it. The only issue that has presented thus far was Indian Land and Tradesville calls were self-populating as Lancaster County Fire Rescue. If this was not changed before hitting complete, the report was sent as Lancaster County Fire Rescue. Billy Lloyd clarified this issue has been fixed and the self-populate feature is no longer on. He stated he has sent an email and is awaiting confirmation back about a few other topics. He also noted if you apply for a grant and it asks, you would need to state you are reporting to the new NERIS. No action taken.
- c. Discussion concerning Fire Reports Summary – Chairman Clint Sowell stated some chiefs are receiving emails regarding incomplete or not started fire reports. He asked that you work on those and get the number of missing reports down. He stated some departments have been working on this but a few still have a large number missing. No action taken.



New Business:

- a. Discussion concerning Fire Commission Budget – Nothing to report. No action taken.
- b. Discussion concerning Gift Card Distribution – Chairman Clint Sowell stated gift cards were dispersed last month. Sign in sheets for gift card dispersement were to be turned in as of tonight's meeting but a few departments asked about turning their sheet in later. Please get the sign in sheets turned in by end of this week, January 9th. If you cannot get the sheet in by end of the week, please get it turned in as soon as possible.
- c. Discussion concerning Call Types – Nothing to report. No action taken.
- d. Discussion concerning Approval of Fire Department AFG Grants – Chairman Clint Sowell stated everyone should have gotten their emails regarding v-safe grants. If you have not, please ask your chief about this. He noted the v-safe grant is currently open and to please get your grants updated as needed. He stressed the VIP form for tax purposes should be in by January 31st as well. No action taken.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Grants Update – Nothing to report.
- b. Training Report – Britt Blackmon presented the training report. If anyone has any questions, please contact the training division.

SCFA

County SCFA Catalog Courses

- January – June 2026 Lancaster County SCFA Catalog Courses are in your packet. Members can sign up for classes via the portal. Please look at cutoff dates and prerequisites.

High School Program

- Students are now in Firefighter 1.

Rescue

Rescue Drills

- Airbag training scheduled once all have been delivered to stations
- Large Truck and School Bus Extrication



Social Media / Station History

Year End Reports Due by Thursday, January 15th

IST 2026 has been emailed to Training Officers

Elections January 15th at the Training Officers Association Meeting

LZ class February 25th at 2pm and 6pm EOC by Meducare

- c. Maintenance Report – Billy Lloyd stated spring hose testing is coming up. Indian Land will be on February 19th and 20th, Shiloh Zion will be on February 21st, Gooches will be on February 23rd, Bell Town will be on February 24th, Elgin will be on February 25th, Antioch will be on February 26th, Rich Hill will be on February 27th, Heath Springs will be on March 1st, Kershaw will be on March 2nd, and Flat Creek will be on March 3rd. An email with the stations and dates of testing will be sent to all Fire Chiefs. Billy Lloyd explained Tradesville would normally be included in this batch of hose testing, however, they were not tested until the fall last year; therefore, they will now be in the fall group moving forward. Lesslie Welding and Fabrication will begin their annual pump and chassis service in the upcoming weeks. They normally begin on the north end and move south. As soon as he has a definite date, he will notify the Fire Chiefs. Indian Land Ladder 3 is out of service. The ladder was being used in a fire as a carriage for water way and came lose. More than likely, this will require a complete carriage replacement. Indian Land Engine 2 is also out of service due to a drive shaft issue. Billy Lloyd stated they have gotten 1922 back in service. He clarified they used parts they had and so far have not had any after effects from the transmission and throttle sensor. He stated the only 98 truck experiencing issues as of now is the spare truck. Chairman Clint Sowell asked where we are on getting iPads installed. Billy Lloyd stated everyone needs to figure out where they want the iPads mounted and they will get to them when they have time. Toby Roberts asked if he wanted an email with the location for the mounts. Billy Lloyd stated to place a piece of blue painters tape in the spot for the mount. Toby Roberts asked to clarify the mounts will be able to swivel. Billy Lloyd stated they would move from side to side.
- d. Notes from Keith Wilson – Keith Wilson stated ISO is coming at any moment. They stated they would be in December and have not arrived yet. He stressed for everyone to have his or her records in order. He went on to clarify they will come to the EOC to look at records and we would like to maintain our ISO rating that we have. If you are not already doing so, Please participate in the ISO trainings. Mark Carnes asked if there is no physical work. Keith Wilson stated he knows they are not doing that now, but they can do that at any time so we need to be prepared. Keith Wilson went on to notify everyone Mr. Billy Catoe passed away and the funeral was held this week. He stated he hopes the Fire Commission could have a plaque made to honor and recognize the original seven members appointed by the governor for the Lancaster County Fire Commission.



- e. Commissioner Station Announcements – Mark Carnes stated Van Wyck’s BBQ will be January 17th. Kelsi Lang stated Unity’s BBQ will be February 21st. She noted it will only be pounds of BBQ and chicken halves. Fred Plyler stated Shiloh Zion’s BBQ chicken will be February 7th. Toby Roberts stated Camp Creek’s chicken and rice will be February 28th. Britt Blackmon stated Flat Creek’s chicken and rice will be February 7th.

Adjournment:

Fred Plyler made a motion to adjourn. Jason Laney seconded the motion, which received unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

***For the Commission,
Sarah Jane Goode***