



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

June 4th, 2026

The June meeting of the Lancaster County Fire Commission was held on Thursday, June 4th, 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 Thursday, May 28th, 2026.

Chairman Clint Sowell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Jamie Gainer 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*
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 – Greg Nicholson
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 June 4th, 2026 Agenda: Ron Schachtner made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Toby Roberts seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Approval of the May 7th, 2026 Minutes: Ron Schachtner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jamie Gainer 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 – Chairman Clint Sowell stated the committee did meet with Pierce regarding apparatus last month. Some changes were made to the trucks they discussed but they are still waiting to receive the updated specs. Billy Lloyd stated they have some more questions regarding the tankers and are waiting for Pierce to get back to them. Todd Duncan asked if there would be time for departments to look at what the spec ends up being. Chairman Clint Sowell stated once the final updated specs are received, an email can be sent out to the commission for everyone to view. Billy Lloyd clarified there are not really specs but instead a list of options. He went on to explain the changes that were made were updating items to the new standard such as the old trucks having different lights that no longer exist and the options for truck lengths. Todd Duncan stated departments that do not have this same generation tanker have never seen them and they need to be able to view them before purchasing. Billy Lloyd stated once the final option list was complete, it would be sent to everyone to view. He also stated the Chiefs have been given the option for him to bring an example of this type of truck to them to view. Josh Alford asked about the latest version of the rescues. Billy Lloyd stated this would be like Gooches, Unity, and Elgin's. He went on to explain the specs were based on the recommendation that came four years ago. The hope was to have trucks furnished so that a department would not have to spend their own funds on the trucks since they are essentially county owned. The options selected on the trucks include what is the minimum standard. Todd Duncan asked if this was approved by the commission. Billy Lloyd stated yes, this was approved four years ago by the commission. Todd Duncan asked if there was any chance of upgrading features such as pump size. Billy Lloyd clarified if you start changing specs themselves, the volume discount will change. He went on to explain if you make changes to your specific truck, you will have to take the price of your specific truck and subtract it from the baseline prices for that truck. This amount would be what the fire department is responsible for. Along with this, you will need to take the total purchase price for all the trucks and subtract it from the total purchase price of all the trucks including the one specific one for your department. The fire department will also be responsible for this total cost. He went on to explain if you alter one truck, you alter the volume discount for the entire truck purchase. Todd Duncan asked once the commission receives the final spec or option sheet, who do they need to send any questions to. Chairman Clint Sowell stated to send questions in an email to himself,



Greg Nicholson, and Billy Lloyd. Toby Roberts asked if these would be poly tanks. Billy Lloyd explained the dry side tankers we currently have changed to a second-generation tanker which is basically an engine. He went on to clarify the back end has changed and the truck has a longer body. He stated we do not want a longer body because we want to keep our current turn radius. Because of this, they are working on how to still get a tanker like what we currently have. Due to this, there is a possibility of having to go to a wet side. He clarified a wet side is like the tankers are Camp Creek, Bell Town, and Rich Hill. These tankers hold water above the compartments; therefore, the tank sits on top. Todd Duncan asked if different paint schemes would be available. Billy Lloyd stated yes, all trucks were listed with two tone paint schemes so each station can decide how they would like them painted. Josh Alford stated he feels we need to discuss things more and be notified of what is going on so everyone is on the same page. He went on to clarify when watching a council meeting and council begins to discuss funding, we do not always know what it is for and he believes the commission should be recommending that. Chairman Clint Sowell agreed and went on to explain the committee for the future of the fire service has not yet been formed. He clarified they are still waiting to receive final numbers from Brad Carnes to have all information to form the committee. He continued to explain items such as more stations are considered administration level and are not up to the commission. Josh Alford stated the commission should still be notified. Todd Duncan asked how administration came up with the number for all the trucks being purchased and if that was approved by the committee. Chairman Clint Sowell stated when the truck purchase list was created by the commission, they went off worst-case scenario for the price of trucks. Billy Lloyd stated the numbers were updated prior to Darren Player retiring. He clarified we can get updated numbers because this purchase will not have to go through the bid process since Pierce is on a state contract. Josh Alford stated the commission all needs to be on the same page in case someone asks questions. Todd Duncan asked if the members of the commission could get a report when standing committees met so everyone knew what was going on. Clint Sowell stated minutes are taken at meetings and it is discussed at the Fire Commission meeting.

Budget Planning & Appropriations Committee – Nothing to report.

Personnel and Interagency Relations Committee – Nothing to report.

Old Business:

- a. Discussion concerning Fire Rescue Moving Forward – Nothing to report. No action taken.
- b. Discussion concerning Report for First Due – Billy Lloyd stated training has moved over but he is still waiting on the training dates. He explained you will see red boxes now if you have not entered some information when you hit complete. It will not let you complete the report until these boxes are filled out. You will see more of these as they continue to add what is required for a report. He clarified they are only requiring what should have already been required to complete a report. He stated they are getting close to swapping apparatus over as well. He explained some full-time staff are starting on pre-plans. Britt Blackmon stated he is only missing



Camp Creek and Elgin for training. Billy Lloyd stressed to remember everything you do in First Due is recorded. He clarified the only way it can record you is if someone has logged in using your username and password. He stressed to please not give your information out. He went on to state if you filter the call list and enter your FDID number, it will only pull up your reports, so you do not have to sift through everyone else's. He explained to just make sure the period searched at the bottom includes the time frame you are looking for. If you have any questions or problems, contact him directly. No action taken.

- c. Discussion concerning Fire Reports Summary – Chairman Clint Sowell stated the missing and incomplete reports list is in your packet. If you need help, please reach out to Julie Kent, Tony Gainer, or Billy Lloyd. Please work on getting your reports completed. No action taken.

New Business:

- a. Discussion concerning Fire Commission Budget – Billy Lloyd stated the second reading of the budget is June 8th. He went on to state all the matching funds money has been used. He clarified that for us to use the full matching funds allocated; reimbursement checks must be deposited into the account prior to the final purchase orders being issued. Finance will not override the account to have a purchase order made before the funds are shown deposited into the account. No action taken.
- b. Discussion concerning Call Types – Billy Lloyd stated First Due reached out through email regarding the problem with lift assist calls not showing. He stated he would research this and get back to them. No action taken.
- c. Discussion concerning Approval of Fire Department AFG Grants – Nothing to report. No action taken.
- d. Approval of SCFA Course List – Britt Blackmon stated course highlighted in yellow are either a new course, the hours have changed, or the price has changed. If you have any questions, please let him know. Eric Flynn made a motion to approve the course list as presented. Jamie Gainer seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.
- e. Approval of Fire Commission Alternates – Chairman Clint Sowell stated Sherrie Simpson presented to the commission last year the new rules set by Council. He explained the dates for terms are to run from January to December instead of July to June. He went on to state he is waiting to get clarification on the new rules and how to go about implementing them with the



commission. Todd Duncan asked if this would explain why there is only one member coming off the commission this year. Billy Lloyd stated part of that is due to when some people were elected to the commission by Council, they were given a term limit, not finishing their predecessor's term. With that being said, there were a few members that finished their term early that we are not clear on.

Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Grants Update – Billy Lloyd stated he has received several emails asking about last years grants. He asked that everyone please make sure to read the guidance on grants moving forward to ensure you know what the funding can be used for and what it cannot be used for.
- b. Training Report – Britt Blackmon presented the training report. If anyone has any questions, please contact the training division.

SCFA

County SCFA Catalog Courses

- July - December 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.
- Retest Policy

High School Program

- 16 students in Fall class.

Rescue

Rescue Drills:

- Airbag Fall timeframe

Social Media / Station History

Boat Operator class July 16th and 17th

Art of Reading Smoke July 27th or 28th. See flyer in packet

Lithium-Ion Battery class. See attached flyer.

- c. Maintenance Report – Billy Lloyd stated air bags have been passed out except for two stations; Kershaw and McDonald Green. He explained that the air bag kit comes with a controller, four hoses, and four pads. He went on to state they will try to get some rigid pads for the base using special projects in the upcoming budget. The price of the pads has increased significantly. He



clarified they have all the serial numbers written down for the bags and controller so your station can label them if they would like. He went on to state they are receiving many questions about the maintenance trucks. He explained they are not only responsible for fire apparatus, but all emergency back up generators for the county as well. Their trucks are equipped with the tools and resources they may need in a moment's notice. For example, the crane was used earlier this morning to set generators that needed to be moved at the Sheriff's office. If someone has questions regarding the trucks and their use, please direct them to him. He also clarified ARPA funds are what is used for these trucks, not the county budget. He stated they are trying to standardize apparatus so they can be worked on and placed back in service quicker. He clarified this is also why they try to standardize tools and SCBA's. He stated flow testing has begun, and the training, swat, and school packs have been picked up. Testing will start at Indian Land Monday, June 8th then work South. He will notify Chiefs to make sure someone is available to ensure they look at all packs. AED maintenance was completed in the previous two days. He has had a discussion with EMS director, Clay Catoe, regarding the prompt return of these. He stated other facilities such as churches and parks and rec centers utilize this time for maintenance on their machines as well. He clarified all our AEDs were waiting at the EMS building when the maintenance tech arrived and should have been completed early in the day, however, other AEDs were placed in line in front of ours and were completed instead. He stated he has spoken with Clay Catoe about this in an effort to ensure all emergency services AEDs are completed promptly and returned so they may be placed back into service. Todd Duncan asked if there was an idea on receiving extended packs. Billy Lloyd clarified the air bags purchased were for those that did not already have one. He also explained Shiloh and Tradesville used their equipment funds last year to purchase a bigger set. Bell Town, Riverside, and Tradesville also used grants to purchase more last year. If you would like more, you will need to use your own funding to purchase them.

- d. Commissioner Station Announcements – Chairman Clint Sowell asked that you keep Sam Plyler and Garrett Chapman in your prayers. They are in Atlanta competing. He also asked that you check for any equipment that needs to go back to your station before leaving.

Adjournment:

Billy Robinson made a motion to adjourn. Toby Roberts seconded the motion, which received unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 8:05p.m.

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