

**Oconee County Fire Rescue
Station Chiefs Meeting
Station 8 – 6:00 PM
February 12, 2024**

CHIEFS PRESENT:

Fire Chief, Bruce Thaxton
Station #1 Chief, Mike Link
Station #2 Chief, Greg Peck
Station #4 Chief, Chris Higginbotham

Station #5 Chief, Jason Mauldin
Station #6 Lieutenant, Matt Gentry
Station #7 Chief, Nelson Wilbanks
Station #8 Asst. Chief, Paul Thaxton

Neil Boss, Michael Eddy, Hunter Hargrave, Chris Mobley, and Matt Nunn were also in attendance.

OPEN MEETING called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to approve the January 9, 2024 minutes was approved.

I. Truck / Station Maintenance:

1. Looked over outstanding work orders for Fire Rescue. Chief Link inquired about status of Engine 101 “check engine” light. Chief Higginbotham inquired about Unit 403’s wiper blade arms.

II. Training:

1. Chiefs reviewed the training schedule for February. February training consists of (19) various fire & medical classes, and Truck / Station Maintenance nights at each station.
2. Chiefs reviewed the Potential Firefighter and Medical Responder roster.
3. Chiefs reviewed the monthly training hours for January. Bruce noted January 2024 was the highest number of membership training hours for a January month in history with 732 hours.
4. Bruce noted the NPQ FF1 course has (5) Firefighter 1 recruits, and (3) Support Firefighter recruits at this time.

III. Miscellaneous:

1. Lieutenant Michael Eddy discussed potential leadership classes for the Station Chiefs, Officers, and members. There would be three 2-hour classes. Bruce asked Chiefs to consider future dates for the classes.

2. Bruce noted the opportunity and need to appoint a new Chaplain for OCFR. Pastor Larry Davison has agreed to serve in the role of Chaplain. All Station Chiefs concurred with the appointment of Pastor Larry Davison.
3. The Station Chiefs discussed swapping radio frequencies with Greene County Fire Rescue. All Chiefs agreed to swap Dispatch, Operations, & TAC channels. Bruce and Keith Kelley will meet with Oconee County 911 Director to review the change, and updating the channel banks. Chris Mobley suggested to have all radio channels audible when a member changes the channel. The channel revisions could take place when Motorola touches all radios during April 8-12.
4. Bruce reviewed the need to swap fire helmets due to recent officer elections. Chief Mauldin advised he would get the helmets swapped between members.
5. Chiefs reviewed an appeal for a red light permit from Matt Nunn.
6. Chiefs reviewed an appeal to drive Rescue trucks from Jason Toledo.
7. Chiefs reviewed volunteers that are lack training hours. All non-career Medical Responders and Firefighters must have the annual 24 hours of training prior to December 20th, 2024. Chiefs were encouraged to contact members that are lacking training hours.
8. Neil Boss, Hunter Hargrave, and Chris Mobley brought up discussion on the current FF1 physical training.

Executive Session:

Nelson Wilbanks made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, Jason Mauldin seconded the motion, and all Chiefs present voted to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:57 pm.
No action taken – 7:05 pm

Open Meeting:

Mike Link made a motion to adjourn back into Open Meeting. Greg Peck seconded the motion, and all Chiefs present voted to adjourn into Open Meeting at 7:05 pm.

Chris Higginbotham made a motion to deny a red light permit for Matt Nunn. Greg Peck seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Voting in favor of the motion were Mike Link, Greg Peck, Chris Higginbotham, Jason Mauldin, Matt Gentry, and Paul Thaxton. Nelson Wilbanks voted against the motion.

Nelson Wilbanks made a motion to approve Jason Toledo to drive Rescue trucks. Jason Mauldin seconded the motion, and the motion failed. Voting in favor of the motion were Jason Mauldin, Matt Gentry, and Nelson Wilbanks. Voting against the motion were Mike Link, Greg Peck, Chris Higginbotham, and Paul Thaxton. Adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Adjourned:

All Chiefs concurred to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm.

Minutes taken & typed by Bruce Thaxton.