



**York County
Justice & Public Safety Committee
Minutes
January 28, 2026**

Regular Meeting	Large Conference Room, Heckle Complex 1070 Heckle Boulevard Rock Hill, SC	6:00 PM
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Call to Order

Order of Business

1. Committee to approve the minutes from the November 25, 2025 Justice & Public Safety Committee meeting.

Motion to approve

Passed	Yes 2, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
SECOND:	Tommy Adkins
AYES:	Tommy Adkins, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Tom Audette
RECUSED:	None

2. Committee to review the EMS Ordinance

Assistant County Manager, David Garner, presented information regarding the proposed EMS Franchise Ordinance that establishes system reliability and accountability; protection of 911 emergency resources and alignment with the County's EMS Strategic Plan.

Mr. Garner explained that this ordinance strictly applies to EMS transport services in York County. This ordinance establishes a required County franchise for ambulance services operating in York County and applies to emergency ambulance services and combined emergency/non-emergency providers.

This ordinance will require participation by County-led quality review/oversight committees and use system metrics (utilization, response trends) rather than fixed quotes.

Franchises will be issued for a 3-year term with a renewal. This will allow the county to renew, amend, suspend, or revoke franchises and adjust unit numbers based on system performance.

This will also give the County enforcement tools such as: civil penalties, probation or suspension, franchise revocation for repeated or serious violations, and protects patient choice and prohibits destination steering.

The next steps are as follows:

Existing providers will receive conditional franchises during transition;
Defined timelines for full compliance and formal franchise approval.

This ordinance aligns with EMS Strategic Plan implementation and future franchise agreements.

The JPS committee's role is to review the policy framework, provide feedback and recommend ordinance to County Council for consideration.

3. Staff to provide a brief fire update.

Fire Services Director, Matt Davis reviewed the Fire District analytics that is posted on their website for viewing. Mr. Davis explained that the data is updated monthly and is available to the public.

Mr. Davis also reviewed the travel distance from fire stations. For each fire station, the maximum travel distance at 35mph within each time constraint.

Mr. Davis explained that staff is going to engage with the Fire Advisory Committee on current response standards for discussion, evaluation, and recommendations, engage the Fire Chief's Association in a recruitment program, engage Fire Advisory to address concerns and opportunities on the current stipend program, follow up with the fire tax districts to explore incorporating staffing into a coordinated countywide service delivery model, work with departments to develop budgets, and engage municipalities in York County long-term plan vision.

Council member Huckabee stated that a way that the fire departments can maintain their identity is by allowing the departments to maintain the current truck colors.

David Garner, Assistant County Manager, stated that the wrap concept has been discussed as a purchase for each department to address the color concerns and respects the individuality of each department.

4. Discussion regarding Boards and Commission members conduct.

Chairman Adkins stated that this item was referred to the Committee in November and requested that Management and Legal research other jurisdictions and see how this issue is handled.

County Manager, Josh Edwards, suggested that a decorum policy for Council members be established as well.

The Committee requested staff research further and bring back a recommendation to Council.

Staff will report back to the committee with their findings and recommendations.

Public Comments (10 minutes maximum)

Bill Dunlap, Chief of Oakdale Fire Department, addressed the Committee and requested that each individual fire department keep their identity with their truck colors that they have had since the inception of the department.

Carl Faulk, Chief of Newport Fire Department, also requested that each individual fire department keep their identity with their truck colors that they have had since the inception of the department.

Doug Morris, Chief of Lesslie Fire Department, also requested that each individual fire department keep their identity with their truck colors that they have had since the inception of the department.

David Hord, Chief of Riverview Fire Department, also requested that each individual fire department keep their identity with their truck colors that they have had since the inception of the department.

Pete MacVean, Chair of the Newport Fire Tax District Board, also requested that each individual fire department keep their identity with their truck colors that they have had since the inception of the department.

Executive Session

Matters for consideration following Executive Session

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn

Passed	Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
SECOND:	Tom Audette
AYES:	Tommy Adkins, Tom Audette, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	
RECUSED:	None



Karen M. Brogdon, Clerk to Council

