

Prince George's County Fire Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday March 6th, 2024

Tonight's meeting was held virtually with approximately 49 participants, was gaveled to order by Chair Bolden at 7:30 pm.

Chaplain– Opened the meeting with an invocation prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chaplain's Corps Provided the Champlain's report.

Volunteer Services Office –Assistant Chief White

- We are approaching Quarter 3 for FY2024, reminded VSE forms are due by Friday April 12th, 2024.
- Budgets have been forwarded to all Commissioners, We have spent 68% of tool funding, 67% of warehouse, and 29% uniforms.
- \$900,000 in Ambo billing issued in FY24.
- April 30th last day for submissions for Fiscal Year, please get orders in by the end of March into mid-April.

Commissioner Hegwood (Lisa)-

- **Made a motion to approve expenditures for Co. 11, \$8,354.25 for Insurance. The motion was 2nd by Vice Chair Surles, with all in favor the motion passed.**

Commissioner Snyder (Kyle)–

- **Made a motion for the approval of the March 21st, 2024, Commission Minutes. The motion was 2nd by Commissioner Holbert, with all in favor the motion passed.**

Commissioner Chandler (Michelle)– Excused

Commissioner Holbert (Antwan)– No report

Commissioner Bell (Gloria)– No report

Commissioner Selmon- No report

Commissioner Schaible- Not present.

Commissioner/Vice Chair Surles (Vanessa)- Excused

- **Made a motion to approve LOSAP award Co. 27 Richard Pool of Co. 27. The motion was 2nd by Commissioner Holbert, with all in favor the motion passed.**
- Advised that an email will be coming from her to get a background on a bill to get a tax credit.

Chair Bolden-

- Last couple weeks have been busy, make sure the edits and adjustments to the bylaws will be making public between tomorrow and Saturday
- Information has been sent out for Station Management Audit, please reach out to the Commission Office if you have any questions or need help.

- They are aware of the stations that have not signed the
- Completed final budget process for FY25, presented in person at the Beltsville Town Hall workgroup regarding
- Completed 1:1 with the Fire Chief, and met with Deputy Fire Chief Smedley for CIP projects. Due to emergencies that came up CIP projects were shifted by Facilities
- Met with OCS on station update and repairs
- Fire Commission budget has been submitted and met with CAO Jackson.
- Will be meeting with PGCPD regarding the cadet program to get them circulated into the volunteer system as well.
- **Made a motion to approve equivalency for of Company 9. The motion was 2nd by the Vice Chair, with all in favor the motion passed.**

Recruiter Update:

The volunteer recruiter provided an update on the recruitment.

Chairman of the Chief Council- Ben Ross (Chief 14)

No Report.

President of the Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association—President Lee Lutz

- Next meeting March 13th at Bladensburg Co.9
- Also attended the meeting on the renovations of Station 31 Beltsville. Chiefs and President's meeting this Saturday at 4pm at Bladensburg.
- Had a question on the process of speeding up the application process. Volunteer recruiter advised that they are working with different options to turn around the application process.
- Also asked if there has been any progress in having Concentra drug testing after hours in Prince George's County instead of Arbutus. VSO advised they are working the County Concentra contract to figure out a resolution.

Ladies Auxiliary:

- Next meeting March 7th at Beltsville Co.31 dessert only.

Questions from the floor:

-Donnie Wells asked that since there has been a lack of Fire Commission members other than Commissioner Hegwood attending the Association meetings

-Janet Demerit asked the volunteer recruiter if we are still 2 months out on the background, and if we are on a quicker pace for physicals, and an overview on some State bills in Annapolis.

Trish provided a current estimate of timelines.

-Pete Mellits asked the Chair that a few months ago when the Chair appointed a Chief Officer from Company 49 Rajah Rose to assist the Commission with a temporary basis with the roll out of the new County legislation. It now appears that Mr. Rose is an officer of the Commission and performing duties well outside the initial approved scope of work.

-John Roberts provided the Chair with an update on the facilities for the Landover Hills VFD.

Chaplain providing a closing benediction.

Chairman Bolden adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner Kyle Snyder, Secretary.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kyle Snyder', is written over the text 'Commissioner Kyle Snyder, Secretary'.