

## Prince George's County Fire Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Tonight's meeting was held in person at FSB with approximately 12 participants in person, and 27 participants online. The meeting was gavelled 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

- New Fiscal Year took effect, starting to receive orders from the Fire Commission. Talked about ambulance billing which will be forecasted to allow companies to receive the last average of FY2023 and an email went out about the accounts being drawn down to zero.
- Accounts for Ambulance Billing is managed by VSC, \$2.3 million is budgeted each year for Ambulance billing drawdowns. All stations who participate in EMS billing received an email with details. VSC will reconcile accounts once all the reports are provided by the vendor.
- Commissioner Hegwood asked for additional information on insurance that was discussed at the Association meeting, VSC advised no new updates, but there would be a \$500,000 increase. They are waiting on the billing statements.
- There was a request to increase the limits on Station Management for insurance, VSC advised that will be a discussion on the Station Management agreement coming up.
- Mr. Melito asked about the ambulance for his company, VSC advised they will have to speak with AMD and the information will be provided to the Company

### Commissioner Hegwood (Lisa)-

- **Made an authorization request expenditure request for Laurel Co. 10, so in the form of a motion \$3,435.25 for 4<sup>th</sup> installment of insurance. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Surles, with all in favor the motion passed.**
- **Made an authorization request expenditure request for Beltsville Co. 31, in the form of a motion \$3,139.13 for various hose lengths and diameters, and \$2,525 upgrade & security system. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vice-Chair Surles, with all in favor the motion passed.**
- For the companies in District 1, she has the allotments for the Fiscal Year she is handing out the information for.

### Commissioner Snyder (Kyle)–

- Congratulated Career Recruit School Class 67 on their graduation.
- **Made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Fire Commission meeting minutes that were sent out. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hegwood, and with all in favor the motion passed.**

### Commissioner Chandler (Michelle)–

No report.

Commissioner Holbert (Antwan) – No report

Commissioner Bell (Gloria) – No report

Commissioner Selmon- No report

Commissioner Schaible- Not present.

Commissioner/Vice Chair Surlles (Vanessa)-

- Property tax credit please submit ASAP. The County is looking to apply the credit to the October invoices, it is not reflected on the July invoices that went out. If anyone is unsure about their status of the credit, please feel free to contact the Commission office.
- **Made a motion to approve LOSAP Reports for FY 23 Co. 38, FY 23 Co.29, FY22 Co.7 FY23 Co.7. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Snyder, with all in favor the motion passed,**
- **Made a motion to approve LOSAP awards to Gerald Ford 25 years of service, Co.49 Dawn Nakroshis, Co. 49 Scott Globerman, Co. 23 Dorothy Talbert-Burket, and an addendum for Co.20 added 1 year to Robert Beavers. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commission Hegwood. With all in favor the motion passed.**

Chair Bolden-

- Thanked Commissioner Hegwood for supporting Camp Embers, and asked if she would be open to serving as a liaison between the Commission and Association.
- Fire Chief did complete items from FY24 for CIP projects. Projects run a year behind. Also looking at software to better track the CIP process and a demo to be sent out to the Commissioners.
- Fire Commission meetings are being held once a month, there is a conflict in January 2025 that conflicts with the Association meeting due to the New Years holiday. Possibly a joint meeting, stay tuned for updates.
- Notifications will be going out next month for Station Management audit, which will be all virtual.
- The chair read into a record a Maryland Open Meetings Act complaint decision, please see the full report attached to these minutes.
- Information will go out in October 2024 for the 508 audits.
- Training Update- Thanked all stations in compliant, working with VSO on qualifications. Nothing received from Station 13. Volunteer cadet program with Board of Education under discussion to be rolled out in stations Co.9 and Co.27.
- There was a request by the training coordinator to attend an EMS conference on behalf of the Fire Commission.
- Commissioner Hegwood asked about the list from the FY24 CIP list, the Chair advised that he is working with the County to get the list out. Also asked about procedures and policies for 508 and CIP for this FY25 fiscal year. Also asked about the CIP software and the budget that it's coming out, the Fire/EMS Department is already acquiring the software and the Commission would piggyback on it. Also asked about the budgeting for

the software and if we could better track to avoid running out of funds at the end of the fiscal year.

- A question was asked about orders that were not fulfilled last fiscal year FY24 and if it will come out of the FY25 budget or FY24.
- A question was asked about 508 funds, there was an issue with paying apparatus with Wells Fargo and the apparatus was nearly repossessed by the bank. Asked if they could schedule payments to prevent this from happening again.
- A motion was brought up to approve equivalency packages for Co 14, 7,

Recruiter Update:

- 34 applications received, YTD 198. Total applications in process 231, 74 are in the onboarding part of the process when applicants finish VRS. No Fingerprinting 34 appointments booked of 70 slots. One no show for Concentra Co. 12. 9 total no-shows for physicals.
- Recruiters Meeting Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> at 7pm, blended and FSB.

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

No report this evening.

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

- There was an insurance meeting last night, however it was not as well attended as had hoped for.
- The Board of Directors will be meeting on Wednesday.
- Next meeting is August 14<sup>th</sup> hosted by Berwyn Heights, as of yet no location.

Ladies Auxiliary:

- Next meeting at the old Brandywine Station, dinner served by Clinton.

Questions from the floor:

-Melito asked about 508 funds from 2022 and how delayed the payment was, and he was looking for the \$50,000 that he had to overnight from his own account. The Chair replied that the money was not refunded as the money came from the Town of Brentwood. Mr. Melito advised that the funds came out of the Hall money, and the remaining 508 funds. VSC advised that there was a meeting with the Mayor of Brentwood that there was funding donated to the corporation for purchase of the pumper, and that was why funds were not provided from 508.

-Trez from 9 brought up the question on the Las Vegas Trip was brought up for the training. The Chair advised that there was a travel fund that was required proper documentation, and that it is underused and he is using it for a convention next week.

-Pete Mellits echoed the concern regarding Mr. Rose, not a Fire Commissioner, representing the Commission with meetings with other agencies. The Chair advised that Rose was appointed in one role, and the other role he was appointed by the Fire Chief. It was asked if a memo could be put out to define the role as it was not known he was an appointed represented by the Fire Chief.

Chaplain providing a closing benediction.

Chairman Bolden adjourned the meeting at 8:31 pm.

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