



**Prince Georges County Fire Commission Meeting
Wednesday, June 15, 2005
Laurel VFD, Station 10**

1930: Meeting called to order by Chairman Strine.

Prayer and pledge by Chief Chaplain Litchfield.

Chairman Strine:

- Thanked the officers and members of the Laurel VFD for hosting the Fire Commission meeting.
- Discussed the budget increase we received from the County Council for FY06:
 - Funding to lower the age to collect LOSAP from 60 to 55.
 - \$117,000.00 for running gear.
 - \$224,000.00 in the Operating budget.
 - In addition to the \$200,000.00 we already received the County Council added an additional \$400,000.00 to the Apparatus Maintenance budget, which brings the total increase to \$600,000.00 for Apparatus Maintenance.
 - \$400,000.00 for station maintenance.

The total increase received by the County Council is around \$1,390,000.00. It is strongly recommended that if you have a chance to see or be in contact with anyone from the County Council that you take a minute and thank them for the increase.

- We are still getting some positive feedback concerning the Insurance issue. We hope to have something back on this issue by the next Association meeting.
- Discussed the Amos, 508 audits. Still waiting to receive information from several stations that need to be turned into the state this Friday.
- The county has purchased the 70 new ambulances and they should start arriving in around 4 to 5 months. The county has also decided that if the volunteer stations choose to keep their own ambulance when the new county ambulances come in, the county will no longer fund the maintenance of the volunteer owned units with the exception of fuel and oil.
- The county has also purchased 4.5 million dollars of new breathing apparatus.
- The second set of running gear is in Fairfax County, as soon as they can get it transported here they will start issuing it.
- The county would like representation from the Association, Chiefs Council and the Fire Commission to participate on a 14-member committee to go over requirements for apparatus. One of the main topics to be worked on is to make some recommendations to allow companies to purchase used apparatus.

- ❑ Discussed a letter sent to the Fire Commission from Prince Georges County Second Alarmers Inc. requesting some funding from the Commission to support a Rehab unit.
- ❑ Reminded everyone about the elections for the Fire Commission next month.

Commissioner Granados:

- ❑ Explained about what has to happen before the LOSAP age reduction and the increase in the Death Benefit can take effect. The County Council has put the money in the Fire Commission budget but now the law needs to be changed before it can take effect.
- ❑ **Motion by Commissioner Granados second by Commissioner Fuller to approve the following individuals for LOSAP:**
 - **James A Gasch of the Bladensburg VFD, Co. 9 for 29 years service.**
 - **David W Davenport of the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad, Co. 49 for 49 years service.**

Motion approved.

- ❑ The Bowie VFD is holding a going away affair for Dave Leavy on July 10th at Company 43. More information will be coming out soon.

Commissioner Underwood:

- ❑ The roof on company 41 has been completed.
- ❑ The asbestos has been removed from the boiler at company 49 and they will be getting a new boiler as well as company 34.
- ❑ Still working to get company 35's ramp done.

Commissioner Mangum:

- ❑ **Motion by Commissioner Mangum second by Commissioner Fuller to approve equivalency for Matthew Greer, company 14 for FF1. Motion approved.**

Commissioner Fuller:

- ❑ Since the last Fire Commission meeting, attended the quarterly Training committee meeting. The EMT protocols class the ends this month. If anyone hasn't had the class they need to get the class to keep from being operationally suspended.
- ❑ There is currently an accelerated career class in session that should graduate somewhere around August. Another class will be starting around the second week of October.
- ❑ Received a request from the Morningside VFD, station 27, permission to extend the CB82 time requirement in getting EMT for one of their members who could not complete EMT within the time frame due to work conditions. **Motion by Commissioner Fuller second by Secretary Mutchler to approve the request. Discussion on the motion. Motion failed.**

Chairman Strine:

- ❑ The county is going to have someone at companies 14 and 49 the first week in July to measure for the new EMS gear. As soon as we get the exact date everyone will be notified.
- ❑ Each Commissioner has in their box a Travel Voucher to be filled out for Ocean City. Please fill them out as soon as you get back so we can charge them to this years budget.

Secretary Mutchler:

- ❑ **Motion by Secretary Mutchler second by Commissioner Woods to approve the minutes of the June 1st meeting as submitted. Motion approved.**
- ❑ Commented concerning disapproval of the decision not to fund volunteer owned ambulances once the new county purchased ambulances are received. The Fire Commission should have been involved in the process and helped make the decision that involves funds that come from the 52 budget. The Fire Commission should come together as a group and come up with an official position on the issue and make the position heard.
- ❑ Discussion concerning the operational budget for station 55. Jim Trexler has already been told that as of July 1st the operational budgets of companies 2, 3 and 4 will be merged into one budget. The operational budget should be treated like the station management budget, each station should maintain their own budget but they should be reduced like the station management budgets. **Motion by Secretary Mutchler second by Commissioner Woods to maintain 3 separate operational budgets at station 55 for the 3 individual companies but fund them at half the rate as what the other stations will be funded at.** Discussion on the motion. The motion is tabled and Chairman Strine will set up a meeting with Lt. Col. Granzow, Jim Trexler and members of the 3 companies for Monday, June 27 at station 55 at 1900 to work something out.

Commissioner Woods:

- ❑ The doors at station 43 have been fixed.
- ❑ Nothing has been done about the parking lot at station 13 yet.

Administrative Assistant Demeritt:

- ❑ Discussed the request from the College Park VFD, station 12 to replace their O2 cylinders. The request is still being worked on, a letter will be sent to them explaining what is going on.

Commissioner Norris:

- ❑ Received a request from the Forestville VFD, station 23 to spend \$6,000.00 of station management funds for the Ocean City convention. **Motion by Commissioner Norris second by Commissioner Fuller to approve the request. Motion approved.**
- ❑ Received a request from the District Heights VFD, station 26 to spend up to \$6,000.00 of station management funds for the Ocean City convention and whatever tools they need, to bring the their station management fund balance

within the minimal allowable carryover. **Motion by Commissioner Norris second by Commissioner Fuller to approve the request. Motion approved.**

- ❑ Advised everyone that he intends to run for re-election for District 6 Commissioner.

Report from Chaplain Litchfield.

Chairman Emeritus Robison:

- ❑ Thanked the Commission for their participation in the Robison tribute.
- ❑ Explained why the Fire Commission was involved in the 508 audits.

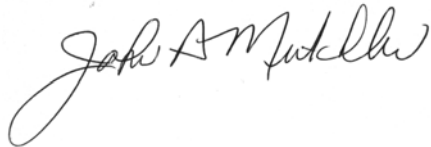
President Alferi:

- ❑ Expanded on the 508 audits.
- ❑ Discussed the apparatus committee referenced in Chairman Strines report.
- ❑ Discussed the upcoming 508 funds.
- ❑ Discussed the request for funding for the rehab unit.
- ❑ Discussed fundraiser for the Political Action committee.
- ❑ Update on Ocean City party.
- ❑ Discussed Frank Underwoods run for Second Vice President of the MSFA.
- ❑ Update on recruitment activities.

Questions and comments entertained from around the room.

They're being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 21:10.

Respectfully,



John A. Mutchler
Secretary