



## Prince George's County Fire Commission Meeting October 4, 2006 Cranford – Graves Fire Services Building

1930 Meeting called to order by Chairman Strine

Prayer, Pledge and report by Chief Chaplain Litchfield. Reported he will not be at the Association meeting next week as he has to go in for further cataract surgery.

### **Chairman Strine:**

- Received good news for LOSAP recipients – you will receive 3% retro pay back to February '06, 3% retro back to August '06 will be added to your November check and the COLA will be commensurate with career staffing.
- Next meeting will be at Co. 37 and the county will have a trailer there from 12 noon on to demonstrate the new station alerting system.
- Station Management contracts are at the CAO office awaiting signature by Dr. Brown. Checks should be available in the next 10-14 days.
- Will be sending a joint letter from the Commission and the county regarding fy08 CIP funding – aka wish list
- The distribution plan for 508 funds was mistakenly reported as having to be turned in by October 1 it should be October 30.
- Reported that the Association Board of Directors unanimously supported the Commission position regarding the distribution of 508 funds to Co. 55.
- Read letter from Bunker Hill Fire and Rescue Association regarding 508 and letter from Commission to Bunker Hill regarding Commissions vote and Associations support.
- Discussed issue regarding distribution to Companies 56 and 57 (Underwater Rescue). His concern is that they are not two 'stations' and thus should not receive two shares of funding. Stated they ran less than 60 calls last year.
  - Commissioner Demeritt stated that Co. 57 ran 62 calls and Co. 56 ran 38 calls and there were additional calls that could not be accounted for because they were entered into the CAD as memos rather than calls for service. She contends that there are two stations regardless of whether they be on land or water and that just because it is a specialty unit doesn't mean it doesn't deserve the same level of funding as other stations. They do have a need for an enclosed boat particularly for winter operations.
  - Commissioner Mann stated she believes that we should do whatever we can to support volunteers and as they are 100% volunteer she would like to see them get two full shares.

- Commissioner McGhee stated that they do provide an excellent service and should be proud of the service they provide but he feels that one share is plenty.
- Commissioner Lau holds that the position has been that there would be 1 share per station therefore they should get two shares.
- Commissioner Woods agrees with Commissioner Lau however he can see through the politics. They have an honest need for the same allocation as other stations and if the issue arises down the road where there is no longer a station 57 we can address it at that time. Also stated that there are limits as to what can be done with 508 funds.
- Commissioner Sutton agrees with Commissioners Woods and Lau that they should get two shares and address the concern about station 57 when it arises.
- Commissioner Norris asked who owned the quanset hut behind station 36. Commissioner Demerritt advised that it would revert to Co. 36 if Underwater Rescue ever dissolved. He asked why all discussion to this point has revolved around Co. 57 it is as if Co. 56 doesn't exist.
- Commissioner Sutton asked about equipment at each station.
- Commissioner Underwood felt that two full shares was an awful amount of money and thought that  $\frac{3}{4}$  share per station would be sufficient.
- Discussion from the floor ensued.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Mann, seconded by Commissioner Lau that Stations 56 and 57 each get one share. **APPROVED BY HAND BALLOT**

#### **Commissioner Mann:**

- No report

#### **Commissioner Underwood:**

- **Motion** to allow Station 10 to use \$6,000.00 of Station Management fund for their banquet and \$8,000.00 for a new copier, seconded by Commissioner Sutton. **APPROVED**
- **Motion** to allow Station 34 to use \$13,600.00 of Station Management fund for new lockers and installation, seconded by Commissioner Woods. **APPROVED**

#### **Commissioner McGhee:**

- No report.

### **Commissioner Lau:**

- **Motion** to approve the following LOSAP awards:
  - Frederick Brower, Carl N. Cimino, and Theodore Clarke of Co. 12. Seconded by Commissioner Sutton **APPROVED**
  - Russell D. Sprouse of Co. 32. Seconded by Commissioner Woods. **APPROVED**
  - Vince Washington of Co. 42. Seconded by Commissioner Woods. **APPROVED**
- To date there have been 2102 members reported with 1228 qualifying this year. There are 213 receiving benefits of those 87 qualified this year and 49 were spouses.
- The longest Length of Service is 64 years and this member qualified this year also.
- Trying to work with Pension and Benefits regarding retroactive Death Benefits.
- **Motion** to pay for insurance for Station 10 for the last 6 months of last year and the full current year regardless of who their insurance carrier is. Seconded by Commissioner Woods. **APPROVED**

### **Commissioner Woods:**

- Nothing from the companies in his district.
- Thanked everyone for the cards, phone calls and attendance at the memorial service for his family member.

### **Commissioner Sutton:**

- Apologized for the lack of full minutes from the last meeting and advised they would be prepared by the next meeting.
  - Commissioner McGhee mentioned a correction to the minutes that would be looked into.

### **Commissioner Demerritt:**

- **Motion** to approve the following equivalencies, seconded by Commissioner Lau.
  - William Bailes – Co. 10 for ability to run as Assistant Chief
  - Capt. Robert D. Grant – Co. 28 for ability to run as Deputy/Assistant Chief
  - **APPROVED**
- When submitting officer certification verify all credentials and send in documentation, particularly for CPR and EMT. Most people are not updating their Commission file with regards to these certifications.

**Commissioner Norris:**

- No report.

**President Collins – PGCVFRA:**

- F/F injured from Kentland sadly will not be able to continue his service due to doctors orders. The Association will be taking a collection to help him and his family with costs associated with his injury.
- Committee assignments will be out tomorrow.
- Reminded everyone of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial at Emmitsburg this weekend.
- Commissioner Lau advised President Collins that if the F/F is qualified for disability under worker's compensation, then he may qualify for LOSAP benefits.

**Jim Trexler – Logistics:**

- N-99 respirators are currently out of stock.
- Charge Credit statements should be ready by next meeting
- Still waiting on the completion of the Shore-line survey

**Danny Benedetti – Apparatus Maintenance:**

- Everything is working.

Jim Deskins advised that Accokeek would like to host the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Commission.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned following benediction by Chief Chaplain Litchfield at 2121 hours.

Respectfully,



David W. Sutton,  
Secretary