

MINUTES OF THE  
FIRE COMMISSION  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MARYLAND

DATE: May 20, 2009

LOCATION: FSB

In Attendance

John Alter  
Mike Alfieri  
Bryan Lau  
Harve Woods  
Vince Harrison  
Mike Mattison  
Janet DeMerritt  
Frank Underwood

Absent

Bob McGhee

Chaplain Litchfield gave the opening prayer and led the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Alter gave opening remarks and introduced LT Col Blue who introduced Kova Blake, Administrative Compliance Representative. Ms. Blake gave a presentation describing the General Order review process. Questions for Ms Blake can be sent to [kdblake@pg.co.md.us](mailto:kdblake@pg.co.md.us)

The Chairman reported on recent meetings relating to the budget for the Volunteer service. Reductions are significant but are not as bad as originally anticipated.

Issues for next year:

Gear. Departments need to manage the gear issue. Next year will be a challenge again. There will not be funding for gear for the number of new members entering the system.

The Costs of physicals will be a financial burden.

Fuel will continue to be significant expense.

In preparation for next years budget process the Chairman requested that companies provide information about expenses incurred to keep apparatus in service or other expenses incurred to continue operations.

A CIP meeting will be held tomorrow for FY 2010. The Chairman reviewed projects that need to be completed.

#### Vice Chairman Harrison

Reported on the meetings held relating to the budget process.

As respects physicals, there is no money for physicals. Some companies have agreed to pay for their own physicals, however there is a question about the charges that Concentra makes for physicals.

Jay Tucker said that most new members have health insurance and health insurance will pay the cost of physicals less a \$10 copay. There was discussion about whether the County would accept a physical conducted by a personal physician.

There was additional discussion about the use of physicals. Chairman Emeritus Robison stated that the physical criteria is established by the Fire Commission....have a good day.

The Vice Chair reported that representation on the Apparatus Review Committee has increased to better represent volunteer participation.

There was discussion about the costs incurred for vehicle maintenance. Vehicles are not being repaired timely so that vehicle maintenance can balance their budget. However, since the Commission is charged a flat fee, the vehicles need to be repaired timely.

Robert Grant spoke about problems with maintenance on a Laurel Vehicle. The Chairman requested that the facts be sent to him in writing. Robert Grant will send a statement.

The Vice Chair then discussed the need to control apparatus movement to control the fuel costs.

**Motion** by Vice Chairman Harrison to add a 2009 Pierce Pumper to fuel, maintenance and insurance. Second by Harve Woods. Passed.

#### Commissioner Underwood

**Motion** by Commissioner Underwood to approve the request from Greenbelt for \$6,000 for expenses related to Ocean City. Second by VC Harrison. Passed.

Commissioner Woods

No business.

Commissioner DeMerritt

Discussed physicals for members.

Thanked member companies for participation in the Andrews Air Show.

Commissioner McGhee

Absent

Commissioner Mattison

Motion by Mike Mattison to approve equivalency for James Bigony, Co 39, FFI. Seconded by Commissioner Alfieri. Passed.

Motion by Mike Mattison to approve equivalency for Alan Jarmon, Jr., Co 43, FFI. Second by Mike Alfieri. Passed.

Motion by Mike Mattison to approve equivalency for Armando Arroyo, Co 9 FFI. Second by Alfieri. Passed.

Mike also discussed the VRS class and the resounding success with 60 new members presenting for the VRS class.

There was discussion about changing the current procedures to allow new applicants to go thru the application process. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman have had discussions about all of the applicant processes and will continue to pursue improvement or changes that will put more volunteers in the system.

Commission Alfieri

Reported that the roof at Co 57 is moving ahead, ramp replacements are in progress and Commissioner Alfieri provided an update on other projects.

Bryan Lau

**Motion** to approve Edward Lee Leisher – Deceased with 31 years credited service for purposes of qualifying for the Burial Benefit. Second by Commissioner Woods. Passed.

**Motion** to approve Mogwin Bard, Co 55 for LOSAP Award with 35 Years service. Second by VC Harrison. Passed.

**Motion** to approve Haskell Bing, Co 38, with 25 Years Service effective 7/1/07 and an additional benefit effective 7/1/08. Second by Commissioner Mattison. Passed.

**Motion** to approve correction to the Company Report for Company 48 to change the Service Credit of James A. Crouch from 23 years to 25 years, with documentation from the Company. Second by Commissioner Woods. Passed.

**Motion** to approve James Crouch, Co 48, LOSAP Award with 25 years service. Second by Commissioner DeMerritt. Passed.

**Motion** to increase the LOSAP award for Larry Wilkinson, member of Co 40, by 2 years. Amount reported in 2005 was approved by Mike Granados but not recorded. Second by Commissioner DeMerritt. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2007 Company LOSAP report for Co 1 as corrected. Second by Commissioner Harrison. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2008 Company LOSAP report for Co 7 as corrected. Second by Commissioner Harrison. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2008 Company LOSAP report for Co 8 as corrected. Second by Commissioner Alfieri. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2008 Company LOSAP report for Co 12 as corrected. Second by Commissioner Underwood. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2008 Company LOSAP report for Co 25 as corrected. Second by Commissioner Mattison. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2008 Company LOSAP report for Co 38 as corrected. Second by Commissioner Harrison. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2008 Company LOSAP report for Co 40 as corrected. Second by Commissioner DeMerritt. Passed.

**Motion** to approve the 2008 Company LOSAP report for Co 56 as corrected. Second by Commissioner Harrison. Passed.

The Chairman took comments from the individuals in attendance.

Johnathan Bigony asked the status of the Station Management contract for 2010. Chairman Alter reported that the draft has been presented to the County and that a meeting was to be held tomorrow to discuss the station management contract, but that the meeting had to be rescheduled.

The next meeting of the Fire Commission will be held at the FSB.

Bryan Lau made a motion to adjourn at 9:54 PM, Second Mike Alfieri. Passed.

Respectfully Submitted By

Bryan Lau  
Secretary