



**Prince Georges County Fire Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, August 7, 2002  
Cranford/Graves Fire Services Building**

Meeting called to order at 1930 hrs by Chairman Robison.

Prayer and pledge by Chaplain Litchfield.

Due to a scheduling conflict with the Clerk of the Circuit Court the Commissioners were sworn in prior to the start of the meeting.

Commissioner Norris:

**Motion by Commissioner Norris second by Vice Chairman Strine that the Commission approves Morningside VFD to add a newly acquired step van on County maintenance for use as a Haz-Mat support unit. This unit will replace their former unit, which no longer exists. Motion approved.**

Commissioner Fuller:

- ⇒ There is still no training contract for VRS so once again we must approve a VRS class with the contract we have with MFRI.
  - ⇒ **Motion by Commissioner Fuller second by Commissioner Norris we approve a VRS class through the MFRI contract for September 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>. Motion approved.**
- ⇒ The training committee will meet again tomorrow, Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. The announcement for the Academy Instructors should be coming out soon.
- ⇒ I have been appointed to the Maryland State Firemans Association Training Committee so I will be working with both the State and County training committees.
- ⇒ There is progress being made on LOSAP.

Secretary Mutchler:

- ⇒ **Motion made by Secretary Mutchler second by Commissioner Smith to accept the minutes of the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion approved.**
- ⇒ **Motion by Secretary Mutchler second by Vice Chairman Stine to approve Mt. Rainier VFD, station 3 to spend \$2,500.00 of station management money for building appraisal. Motion approved.**
- ⇒ Proposed changes to Volunteer Services Directive 01-01 have been completed.  
**Motion made by Secretary Mutchler second by Commissioner Fuller to submit the following changes to the Fire Chief,**

Page 3 add:

- I. Applicants applying to be Auxiliary members may omit the FBI and State finger print cards. Applicants for Auxiliaries will not be subject to background investigations or physicals. Applications for Auxiliary members will be for the purpose of obtaining a Prince Georges County Fire/EMS Department PAT tag in

order to operate at emergency incidences for the purpose of supplying rehab and canteen services to those operating at the incident.

Page 4:

Delete: Four (4) or more current points on driver's license.

After where it reads: Any adverse information on the background investigation, as determined by the Fire Chief, which may reflect unfavorably on the Prince Georges County Fire/EMS Department.

Add: Any applicant with four (4) or more points on their drivers license **will be precluded** from driving any vehicle owned and/or insured by the Prince Georges County Government.

Page 6, L/2:

Where it reads:

**Only** the Volunteer Chief or President is authorized to schedule an appeal. The Volunteer Chief or President shall call the appropriate Lieutenant Colonel to schedule an appeal hearing.

Change to read:

**Only** the Volunteer Chief or President is authorized to schedule an appeal. The Volunteer Chief or President shall call the Fire Commission office to schedule an appeal hearing.

Page 7, 4:

Where it reads:

The appropriate Lieutenant Colonel shall preside at the appeal hearing and notify the Fire Chief of the outcome of the appeal hearing in a timely manner. The volunteer corporation and volunteer applicant will be notified, in writing, of the results of the appeal hearing.

Change to read:

The Vice Chairman of the Fire Commission shall preside at the appeal hearing and notify the Fire Chief of the outcome of the appeal hearing in a timely manner. The volunteer corporation and volunteer applicant will be notified, in writing, of the results of the appeal hearing.

**Motion approved.**

⇒ **Motion made by Secretary Mutchler second by Commissioner Granados to schedule an executive session of the Fire Commission between now and the September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Will set date and advise everyone.**  
**Motion approved.**

Bob Russell made presentation to new Commissioner Smith.

Vice Chairman Strine:

- ⇒ Follow up on question from last meeting. Express Care is setting aside 8AM and 10:30AM Monday thru Friday for volunteer physicals. It is currently taking up to a month to get a volunteer scheduled for a physical.
- ⇒ Oxon Hill VFD has submitted numerous speed letters requesting the Fire Commission purchase tools for Quint 21 totaling approximately \$7,000.00.
- ⇒ **Motion by Vice Chairman Strine second by Commissioner Smith that the requests by Oxon Hill VFD for the purchase of tools for Quint 21 are denied. Motion approved.**
- ⇒ Received 2<sup>nd</sup> request from Ritchie VFD, station 37 to purchase SCBA units for their 3<sup>rd</sup> pumper. Vice Chairman Strine will stamp it and send it on.

Commissioner Smith:

- ⇒ Thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on the Fire Commission.

Commissioner Granados:

- ⇒ **Motion by Commissioner Granados second by Commissioner Smith to approve LOSAP for the following individuals;**
  - ⇒ **Paul Barton, Company 2 for 26 years, 1 month.**
  - ⇒ **Albert Burley Company 49 for 26 years.**
- ⇒ **Motion approved.**

Commissioner Wood:

- ⇒ **Motion by Commissioner Wood second by Commissioner Smith to approve active firefighter equivalency to;**
  - ⇒ **Gary Katz Jr., Station 9**
- ⇒ **Motion approved.**

Chairman Robison:

- ⇒ The Vice-Chairman and myself met with the Fire Chief concerning the Station Management funds. Discussed with him the change concerning removing \$7,500 from station operational budgets and putting the money into station management accounts. We are still awaiting an answer on the contract.
- ⇒ Also discussed the problems with volunteer certifications and why there was so much flack being received by persons on his staff.
- ⇒ Discussed the recent manpower re-deployments.
- ⇒ It will be the policy of this Commission until the station management contracts are final and the stations get their money, anyone who needs to can use their own money for purchases and then replace that money when they get their station management checks.
- ⇒ The station management audit will be this Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 0800 with company 1.
- ⇒ Received notice that the first budget meeting will be held on Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.
- ⇒ Discussed the upcoming station inspections.
- ⇒ Discussed the State Low Interest Loan Fund, applications can be obtained through the MSFA web page at [www.loanfund.msfa.org](http://www.loanfund.msfa.org).

- ⇒ Discussed possible changes made to the volunteer application process. The position of the Fire Commission is, unless the Fire Commission is approached and approves any changes there are no changes.

Commissioner Woods:

- ⇒ Thanked everyone for the show of support while Laura was in the hospital.
- ⇒ Question on the outcome of the request from station 39's request for vinyl siding. Logistics is taking care of it.
- ⇒ Discussed another problem with a volunteer completing the physical and then being told he failed due to an asthma problem.

Election of officers for the 2002-2003 Fire Commission:

Nominations opened for the office of Chairman:

**Nomination made and second for Joe Robison.**

**There being no further nominations the motion was made and second that the nominations be closed. Motion approved.**

Nominations opened for the office of Vice Chairman:

**Nomination made and second for Donald Strine.**

**There being no further nominations the motion was made and second that the nominations be closed. Motion approved.**

Nominations opened for the office of Secretary:

**Nomination made and second for John Mutchler.**

**There being no further nominations the motion was made and second that the nominations be closed. Motion approved.**

Question by Commissioner Granados as to what is happening with station 6. According to Bob Russell the career staff at station 5 were instructed to retrieve all remaining EMS supplies and nothing else. Discussion followed much speculation on what is going on.

President Smith:

- ⇒ Discussed the removal of the career staff from stations 2, 11 and 37 and what is being done. Tim Maloney is preparing an injunction.

Jim Trexler:

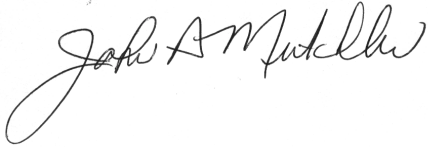
- ⇒ There will be a pre construction meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> for station 28's roof.
- ⇒ Received a revised proposal on station 43's roof.
- ⇒ Finally got an approval for WGS agreement, riding Montgomery County contract for deregulated electricity.
- ⇒ Having a meeting for a page 1 study on the land being proposed for building a fire station across the street from station 40.
- ⇒ Discussed outstanding invoice from American Red Cross. As of this time cannot find any information but still attempting to find out the status of it.

Questions and comments from around the room.

Report from Chaplain Litchfield.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 21:25.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John A. Mutchler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

John A. Mutchler  
Secretary