



**Prince Georges County Fire Commission Meeting
Wednesday, February 5, 2003
Cranford/Graves Fire Services Building**

1930: Prayer and pledge by Chaplain Litchfield.

Commissioner Norris:

- No report.

Commissioner Fuller:

- The MFRI contract needs to have an addendum made to it because the current contract only stipulates Field Programs and some of the courses approved by the Fire Commission have been Special Programs.
Motion by Commissioner Fuller second by Vice Chairman Strine that the MFRI contract be amended to include Special Programs approved by the Fire Commission.
- As mentioned at the last meeting, the LOSAP program is back up and running. If anyone has any problems call Commissioner Fuller for assistance.

Secretary Mutchler:

- Due to extenuating circumstances, the minutes of the January 15th minutes are not available yet. Everyone will receive a copy via e-mail as soon as they are done.
- Discussed a problem with a new applicant from station 3 that failed the physical at Express Care.
Motion by Secretary Mutchler second by Commissioner Granados that the Commission approves the applicant to return to Express Care to redo the test she failed. Motion approved.

Commissioner Granados:

- All LOSAP paper work from last year has been completed and submitted.
- Questioned the decision from Lt. Col. McGown concerning the county Fire Department position of not accepting the American Red Cross first responder course. There are currently 57 volunteers facing being operationally suspended if they do not take the 6-hour bridge class to change over to the MEIMS first responder certification.
- Was contacted by a representative of Payne Weber in New York. They have been working with the NVFC on trying to come up with National programs for Length of Service Awards programs. They were seeking information on how Prince Georges Counties LOSAP program worked.

Vice Chairman Strine:

- Reminded all companies that they must bring with them to the February 22nd audit or must have already turned into the Fire Commission a Bank signature

card or something on station letterhead giving the names of the people that are authorized to sign checks from station management accounts. Also, each station is required to have turned in to Commissioner Wood the schedule D form that is attached to the contract for each member. If either of these documents is not turned in on or prior to the February 22nd audit, they will not get their next station management check.

Commissioner Smith:

- No report.

Commissioner Wood:

- Officer certifications have been received from stations 11, 14, 17,26, 31, 41 and 49.
- Member certifications have been received from stations 7, 34, 35 and 38.
- **Motion by Commissioner Wood second by Commissioner Fuller to accept equivalency for active firefighter for Ronald Coleman from station 28. Motion approved.**

Chairman Robison:

- **Motion by Chairman Robison second by Commissioner Smith to approve station 11 to spend \$5,975.00 from station management money to purchase new radios. Motion approved.**
- Discussed station 11 ambulance repair problems. Station 11 requests that the Fire Commission approve the purchase, up to \$7,500.00 to purchase a new engine for the ambulance and station 11 will pay to have it installed.
Motion by Commissioner Granados second by Commissioner Woods to approve the entire cost and instructing Apparatus Maintenance to replace the engine in station 11's ambulance. Motion approved.

Commissioner Woods:

- Request from West Lanham Hills VFD to spend \$14,537.00 from both station 28 & 48 station management money for insurance payment.
Motion by Commissioner Norris second by Vice Chairman Strine to approve the request. Motion approved.
- Discussed request to get information on breathing apparatus. Breathing apparatus that was at station 6 is still on the engine, which is at station 20. It is believed that the breathing apparatus that was on Truck 6 is on Squad 13. The Fire Training Academy has 32 sets of breathing apparatus. There is a new directive out to all Training Instructors that no one will be required to bring their own breathing apparatus to the Training Academy for any training class. Breathing apparatus at the Academy will be used for all classes at the Academy.
- Suggested to the Chairman that he put together a committee consisting of Fire Commissioners and members of the Association to approach the appropriate PFGD office and take a look at the breathing apparatus situation county wide. Commissioner's Granados and Wood will assist Commissioner Woods with the breathing apparatus investigation.

- Discussed a problem with members from station 18 taking the physical at Express Care. Submitted a letter from an applicant complaining about the abuse given to her at Express Care.

Chairman Robison:

- A meeting has been set up with the County Executive for Tuesday, March 4, 2003 at 2:30 PM in conference room #1 on the 5th floor of the County Administration Building.
- There will be a special meeting of the Fire Commission on Monday, February 10, 2003 at 7:30 PM in the Fire Commission office to go over what we are going to discuss with the County Executive.
- We have a letter from Chief Blackwell requesting that the Fire Commission come up with a proposal/suggestion of what we plan on doing about the budget by February 21st.
- The new Chairman of the Chief's council is Chuck Fusco from station 14.
- The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Association President were called to a meeting at Lt. Col. Wells office. Station management and 508 checks were ready. Also discussed with Lt. Col. Wells the status on the Physical contracts that have been being worked on for the last 2 years. Col. Wells will check on it. Also discussed Apparatus Maintenance and the possibility of having money put into station management money for each station to do their own minor apparatus maintenance.
- All station management checks have been distributed except station 34's.
- The President of station 34 has resigned to accept a position of a New York City firefighter. The Vice President will be the acting President.
- Discussed a meeting with the Chief Labor Negotiator for Prince Georges County along with Vice Chairman Strine and President Tucker concerning the upcoming union contract. Vice Chairman Strine and President Tucker also gave their impressions of the meeting.
- Reminded everyone of the station management audit on Saturday, February 22, 2003.
- Update on the files that were deleted from Nancy's computer by a vendor. The vendor has restored some of the files, they are still missing around 2500.
- Legislators in Annapolis are working on a bill to have volunteers called up to active duty to still be eligible for LOSAP credit while on active duty.

Jim Trexler:

- Request to Commissioners to check stores requests to make sure the cost centers numbers and delivery point numbers are correct to keep the requests from being delayed and possibly being charged to the wrong station.
- Some unexpected expenditures that may be coming up:
- Trench drains at station 48.
- Put a heater in bay at station 33.
- Replace a sea container at station 34.
- Having a problem with stations with social halls requesting extra pick-ups for the station dumpsters.

- Would like stations that are going to buy their own AED's to coordinate the purchase with Lt. Roland Burg so everyone will have the same model. We have a contract for them so they can get a significant discount.
- A heating and air conditioning unit at station 46 will probably need to be replaced.
- Apron at station 35 is having problems with their ramp. Needs to be looked at by an engineer. May cost in excess of \$30,000.00.
- It looks like the county is working on going to a stockless inventory. They are in the process of putting a bid out for house keeping supplies.
- Submitted a list of items that are being deleted from inventory for the Commission to look at to see if they have a problem with them being deleted.

President Tucker:

- Discussed program on purchasing bricks for the Maryland Fallen Firefighters Memorial being built in Annapolis.
- VRS will start on February 11 at station 20. Individuals must pre-register by calling Donna in the Association office.
- Still have checks for stations 1, 33, 34 and 40.
- There will be a hearing in front of the County delegation on Thursday, February 6th to address the Charitable Gaming issue. We will not need everyone to attend until we go in front of the House and the Senate. Everyone will have a least a week's notice of when they are needed in Annapolis.
- There was a special meeting held at station 37 to come up with a plan to present to the County Executive on how we think the Fire Service should be ran. The Fire Commission will put together a document on how we are funded and how we need to be funded. The Association will put together a document on the administrative issues and the Chief's council will put together a document on operational issues. Another special meeting will be held on February 17th at 7:00 at station 18 to put together and prepare all of the information needed for the document to be given to the Executive.
- Next Association meeting will be at the Phelps Center in Laurel.
- Discussed a system on tracking applications.

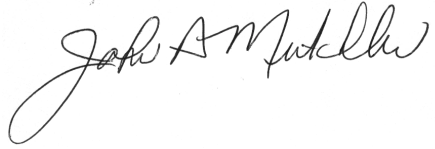
The next meeting of the Fire Commission will be at station 11.

Questions and comments from around the room.

Report from Chaplain Litchfield.

They're being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 21:20.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Mutchler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

John A. Mutchler
Secretary