

Prince George's County Fire Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 15th, 2023

Tonight's meeting was held virtually with approximately 45 participants, was gaveled to order by Chair Bolden at 7:33 pm.

Chaplain– Opened the meeting with an invocation prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chaplain's Corps Provided the Champlain's report.

Volunteer Services Office –Assistant Chief White

- Provided an update on the spending for this fiscal year, 26 ST, 11 Uni, 36 supply
- Reminder that next week is a holiday so please get orders in this week so they can get processed before the holidays. ALL ORDERS need to go through the correct Fire Commissioner FIRST and do not CC the VSC.
- Spoke with County Finance today, Station Management payments are delayed in approving the payments, there is nearly \$400,000 total in funds getting approved.

Commissioner Hegwood (Lisa)- No report

Commissioner Snyder (Kyle)–

- Thanked volunteer recruiter Trish for assisting with the minutes for the last Commission meeting while he was absent.
- **Made a motioned for the approval of the October 18th, 2023, Commission Minutes as well as the November 1st, 2023 Commission Minutes. The motion was 2nd by Commissioner Holbert, with all in favor the motion passed.**
- Advised that the notes from the Commission's 508 Workgroup will also be sent to AFC White to upload to the website as well.

Commissioner Chandler (Michelle)– No report.

Commissioner Holbert (Antwan) – No report

Commissioner Bell (Gloria) – No report.

Commissioner Selmon- No report.

Commissioner Schaible- No report.

Commissioner/Vice Chair Surles (Vanessa)-

Made a motioned for the approval for LOSAP award for Gerald Spence Lisa Fonce and Alexander Slate, both of Co.25, 2nd by Commissioner Hegwood, with all in favor the motion passed.

LOSAP Reports 24,23,11 FY23 2nd Surles AIF

Chair Bolden-

- Station management funds deposited today

- 508 Fund will be deposited next week, but the 508 Committee will meet again to discuss the spending of the few hundred dollars unallocated payment. Chair advised he will add Commissioner Selmon
- Notification sent out to MIMESS and MFRI that Station 8 is no longer operational
- Attended career recruit school graduation
- Attended County Council meeting or their vote on training standards. With the new Standards Legislation being passed, there will be an additional workload on the Fire Commission. The Fire Commission is working with MFRI to put on additional training classes to get all the volunteers up to date. Chair advised that he is going to appoint Raja Rhodes to assist him with the managing of the new training standards.
- Brought up that every two years, the Commission needs to have a vote to nominate the Chair, Vice Chair Vaness Surles, Vice Chair appointments Vanessa Surles for Vice Chair Lisa nominated Kyle, Kyle declined. Secretary
- Commissioner Hegwood asked due to the significant impact on the training updates, that additional Commissioners be involved in the process, Commissioner Snyder agreed.
- **Made a motioned for the approval for the training equivalency for Alexander Cas, both of Co.9, and Deon Fuller of Co. 17, and 2nd by Commissioner Surles, with all in favor the motion passed.**

Recruiter Update:

The volunteer recruiter provided an update on the recruitment

Chairman of the Chief Council- Vice-Chair Ben Ross (Chief 14)

The Chief's Council will meet Thursday November 30th at 1900 hours at Company 9, at which time we will fill the vacant position of Chairman.

President of the Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association–President Lee Lutz

- The Board is beginning the process of going through the office at FSB and cleaning up the records. The Chair offered assistance from the Commission in scanning the records.
- Board of Directors Meeting will be held Dec 13th at Station 55 hosted by 55. Bring donated Bicycles for Toys for Tots.

Ladies Auxiliary:

- The Fire Prevention poster contest is ongoing
- Next meeting Dec 7th hosted by 9 at 9
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving

Questions from the floor:

-Brian Lau advised that the Fire Commission has oversight of the Fire/EMS Department and spoke on the under representation of the Volunteer and that the Fire Chief is looking to remove the Association and Ladies Auxiliary from the FSB since the Union does not have office space. Spoke on how the Fire Commission appointment terms and the PIA requests that he submitted to the County. Thanked the Chair for the elections that were held tonight, and hoped more elections would be held after the next round of appointments.

-Donny Wells advised he brought it up last month, but if responses to all the questions asked in the public could be emailed out.

-Peter Mellits asked about the reports he had asked for from FY22 to present regarding 508 funding, along with Station Management and Station programming funding. The Chair advised that the information was sent to the Association last year, a member of the Association confirmed the 508 was received. Mellits also brought up the training legislation and provided an update on that the initial votes on the legislation failed, and the process of the General Order that needs County Council approval. The Chair asked Chief White to elaborate on the process.

Chaplain providing a closing benediction.

Chairman Bolden adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner Kyle Snyder, Secretary.