

## Fire Commission Meeting

Wednesday, January 7, 2015

Meeting began at 1930 hours gaveled by Vice Chairman King. A sign-in sheet was passed around.

Chaplain Litchfield (Warren) gave an opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, then provided a report on the sick and injured. Warren noted that Chairman Tucker's wife, Debbie, lost her sister during the recent holidays to an untimely passing. Warren mentioned that the January Fire Fighter Prayer Breakfast will be held at the Laurel VFD, Station 10.

Fire Chief Bashoor (Chief) was recognized and provided his report mentioning that the final inspection for Rescue Squad 806 is scheduled for next week and if all goes well the unit will be delivered to the County shortly thereafter. The Chief stated that the existing RS806 unit will be going into the reserve fleet once the new unit goes in-service. The Engine for Station 45, the Tower for Station 21 and 12 Ambulances have been ordered and some of the cars have been delivered and are awaiting graphics and necessary preparation for in-service use. Lastly, the Chief mentioned that he has recently become a regular editorial contributor to Firehouse magazine and that his first article has been published in the January 2015 edition.

Volunteer Services Command, Deputy Chief McClelland (Jim) reported on the current status of the CB 82 training audit requested by Chief Bashoor and stated that 12 stations have not submitted their documentation and that Monday, January 12, 2015 is the cut-off date for submittals. Jim mentioned that effective December 31, 2014 several members of the Department were placed on Operational Suspension until they complete a current Fittest. Jim stated that upon completion of the Fittest the members will be returned to operational capacity once his office or Chief Barksdale's office is notified. Jim went on to report on the "Bowie Marketplace" exercises that will be forth-coming and that the Senator Amos fund payment to the stations is scheduled to be made on January 30<sup>th</sup>. These funds will be electronically disbursed in a one-time payment to the established 508 account for each station in the program.

Emergency Services Command, Deputy Chief Barksdale (Chief Barksdale) reported on the new FirstWatch program/app stating that it was funded by a UASI grant and will be used to provide real-time information on dispatching calls for service. This software helps to identify problems in the notification, response and on-scene phases of an incident. A memorandum on this program will be coming out shortly to the field personnel.

Commissioner Stack (Kenny) requested approvals for the following expenditure requests:  
Station 42 - \$3,000.00 – new lighting for their Engine – **Motioned and Approved**  
Station 32 - \$2,890.57 – tax preparation fee – **Motioned and Approved**  
Station 47 - \$2,890.57 – tax preparation fee – **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Bigony (Jon) cautioned everyone about station expenditure, stating that some stations have reached or are very close to their expenditure cap for the year.

Commissioner Bodrick (Tyrone) presented a medical appeal for approval:

Benjamin Goldfarb – Station 12 – recommended approval – **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Kuenzli (Randy) stated that registration for the January VRS class is on-going and that the December 2014 class may process and obtain their PPE however due to equipment breakdown, the new members will not be able to get their Pat Tag right now. The Pat Tag machine is in the process of being repaired so volunteers will have to return to the Commission office to get that printed at a later date. Randy stated that he hopes to have available the 2014 year-end report on VRS by next meeting. Randy then explained the purpose of the Training grant money listed in the budget stating that the intent was to utilize this money to bring training programs and necessary training equipment into the County and not to fund training trips outside the County. This money is not designed to send individuals to FDIC or IAFC conferences and programs. Lastly, Randy requested an approval for Station 13 to place in-service the following: 2010 Ford Crown Victoria, replacing a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria, “Insurance only” – **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Taylor (Bill) commented on the community work effort taking place at the Morningside VFD, Station 27 stating this program appears to be working very successfully, allowing Morningside to get some necessary repairs and maintenance completed and thus, building a stronger relationship in the community. Bill stated that recently he did a duty tour ride-along at Station 29, Silver Hill VFD.

Commissioner Breen (Bobby) requested approval of the corrected meeting minutes for the December 17, 2014 meeting – **Motioned and Approved**

Bobby requested an expenditure approval for Greenbelt VFD – 1000’ of 4” hose - \$5,390.00 – **Motioned and Approved**

Bobby requested approvals for the following LOSAP Research:

William King – to reflect 39 years of Service – **Motioned and Approved**

Edward Meier – Station 35 - to reflect 23 years of service – **Motioned and Approved**

Bobby requested approval for the LOSAP training report submitted – **Motioned and Approved**

Vice Chairman King (Buddy) requested approval for the following 2014 Company Report: 2014 – Station 14 corrected – **Motioned and Approved**

Buddy then requested that a representative from the following Stations come see him when the meeting adjourns – Stations 7, 13, 35, 8 and 12

Volunteer Recruiter Smith (Brittany) stated that she had no report at this time.

PGCVFRA President Walker (Chuck) mentioned that the annual MSFA Convention in Ocean City is a week later this year and everyone should anticipate paying higher room rates due to that falling in “peak season” rates. Chuck then stated that the Association will be keeping an eye on 2 or 3 Bills from the PG Delegation this year while in Annapolis, but that as of right now there seems to be no cause for concern.

LA-PGCVFRA President Hetz (Lois) mentioned that the LA has 50/50 raffle tickets available and the cost is \$5.00/ticket. Lois also stated that the LA will be accepting scholarship applications soon.

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Branchville VFD, Station 11, Frank Underwood (Frank) asked if stations could use the \$1,000.00 uniform money towards alterations needed on excess uniforms in stock at the stations. The Commission believes this would be ok as long as the stations utilized a County vendor for the uniform alterations. Frank also stated that the LOSAP database is up and running and will provide stations with all necessary reports.

Laurel VFD, Station 10, Bryan Lau (Bryan) asked a series of questions about the on-line application process, Senator Amoss fund for municipalities, necessary documentation on operational/non-operational members for the February audit and stations eligibility to vote in Commission elections. Bryan was advised to put his questions in writing and submit them to Commission and we would research and answer them.

President Demerit, Station 56/57 (Janet) asked about the availability of the latest Fire Department workgroup assignment sheet specifically where she could get a copy. Commissioner Breen advised he recently sent Bryan Lau a copy and would be glad to provide her with one after the meeting. Janet stated that the copy sent to Bryan did not appear to be an up-to-date copy. Commissioner Breen stated he would look into it.

Commissioner Kuenzli (Randy) asked the status of Station 55's heat problem. The Commission will look into this issue and try to get it resolved.

Closing prayer was led by Chaplain Harry Hetz and a motion to adjourn was entertained and approved. The next Commission meeting will be January 21, 2015 at the Fire Services Building.

*Minutes recorded and typed by Commissioner Bobby Breen, Secretary & District 4*

*Bobby Breen*  
1/22/15