

Fire Commission Meeting

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Meeting began at 1930 hours gavelled by Chairman Tucker. A sign-in sheet was passed around.

Chaplain Report, Chaplain Litchfield (Warren) gave opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Warren gave an update on our sick and injured members and some funeral arrangements upcoming for members.

Office of the Fire Chief, Chief Bashoor (Chief Bashoor). The Chief touched on the trip to Brazil again for those that didn't attend the last meeting; stating that Brazil was a once in a lifetime event, and it is a 100% military staffed fire department. Representatives from Brazil will be traveling here and the Chief will be asking the Association leadership and Commission leadership will be asked to meet with them and give input on the Volunteer service. Brandywine VFD ribbon cutting July 29th -foresees no issues with the ceremony going as planned, but an e-mail will be coming out shortly with all the details and times. Chief also mentioned that there is to be a 2% reduction in the FD budget and 1.6 million in overtime which ultimately will mean a cut in staffing unless the IAFF can give some support. Chief Bashoor also reminded everyone that 9-11 Stair climb raffle tickets are being sold in the hallway.

Volunteer Services Command, DFC McClelland (Jim) Jim stated that fit testing is at 89% compliance-hopefully we can get over 90% next month. VFC has instituted a new policy with Ambulance billing monies: all of the requests will come in and every time it is moved to the next department or step VFC will e-mail you back to update you on where it is in the process; if you do not hear from us please follow-up with us and ask us if we received it. Jim also stated that DFC Smedley states that the reports for Ambulance billing will be out in July and he will get them to the stations when they come out.

Civilian Commissioner Rick Wilson (Rick) Rick attended the Chief's meeting at Co. 49 and learned a lot about the dispatch system. He thanked all for their support as he is trying to learn all of this.

Commissioner Kuenzli (Randy) Randy asked DFC McClelland about the AVL-DFC McClelland stated that it has not been turned on yet and there is no date set when it will be. Randy gave statistics for the May VRS class, 37 registrants: 10 n/s and 5 equivalency students with no failures and 2 with 100%. Randy had 3 volunteer for equivalencies, Nicholas Henry Co. 9, Gregory Pittman, Jr. Co. 14 and Dalton Brown, Co. 14 (all paperwork is in order)-**Motioned and Approved**. Randy then presented the following expenditure requests:
Station 13 \$4500.00 MSFA Convention (may not use all funds requested) – **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Bigony (Jon) Jon presented the following expenditure requests:
Station 39 \$2597.06 Washer/Dryer & Fridge (warranty, set-up & removal) - **Motioned and Approved**.

Jon then reported that he, Bryan Lau and Buddy King met with Pensions & Benefits to talk about the enhancements to the LOSAP benefits such as the burial benefit and increase to the monthly allowance. They addressed surviving spouse issues with deaths that have occurred since 2014, those families/spouses will receive the additional monthly benefit that was an enhancement and it will be no less than \$250/month. The burial benefit enhancement of an increase to \$10,000

will be going into effect next month for those that didn't receive it that were entitled to receive it in 2014. The last item that was talked about was how to bring in the increase to the base pay: as of July 1 for anyone receiving a retirement benefit will see an immediate increase of \$125/month. Jon stated that where there might be a delay is the incorporation of the additional time benefit money due to Pensions not having the time records, only the Fire Commission has those records and the stations give that information to us-so you will only get paid for the time that we have to the best of our knowledge. Jon hopes that we can get this done timely so we don't have a whole lot of retro-active payments going on. Jon reminds the companies to please make sure your company's LOSAP records are correct and that members are getting credit for time served whether they are still with your company or not.

Commissioner Taylor (Bill) Bill attended a school Career day to see the career and what it is all about. Bill attended a workshop last week with the Commission, attended the Cadet graduation at Flowers High School and met with Councilmen Patterson about the appointments of the Commission.

Commissioner Breen (Bobby) Bobby requested approval of the following expenditure requests (on behalf of Buddy King): he asked for Station 31 to see him after the meeting.

Station 41 \$2769.00 Purchase hose – **Motioned and Approved**

Bobby then requested approval of the following expenditure requests,

Station 27 \$9139.44 VSU money: Upgrade emergency lighting on pumper to LED – **Motioned and Approved**

Bobby requested approval of the May 20, 2015 meeting minutes – **Motioned and Approved**

Chairman Tucker (Jay) Jay requested approval of the following expenditure requests

Station 35 \$2599.99 Furniture for lounge- **Motioned and Approved**

Station 21 1 for 1 repl. Crown Vic for Crown Vic that was totaled in accident – **Motioned and Approved**

Jay stated that any company wanting to have an update on their projects in CIP, to see him after the meeting. Jay also touched on the enhancements to the 508 plan and stated that a letter outlining the documents needed to enter the 508 program and that we can start June 30th on the 508 audit so that maybe we can have it completed by the deadline (November). Jay stated that he really wants this audit to be done on time and would like to have it completed in September. Jay stated that the County Exec has sent a letter acknowledging Bobby, Buddy and himself as continuing for another year term and that Buddy and himself will serve as the leadership of the Commission and Bobby will be the Secretary. The recruitment car is being wrapped as we speak and has been in talks with Jimmy to have it unveiled in Ocean City Fire Week. Jay stated that he is still working on getting copies of the contracts so that we can monitor the contract's expiration dates so that nothing expires and leaves us without a vendor. Jay announced that the Commission has been named in the PAG but we were not given a voting spot-we have a meeting and will bring this up. Jay states that we are working on encumbering the funds of the supplies that have not been delivered to the stations as FY16 will be a tight year.

Recruiter, Brittany Smith (Brittany) states she does NOT have a full list of the Secretaries; she has previously asked for them and will ask for them again before the letter Chairman Tucker talked about regarding 508.

PGCVFRA, President, Chuck Walker (Chuck) Chuck states that several companies have not turned in their statistics. MSFA put out a letter stating that the classes will be free this year at MSFA. Sea of Blue memorial service will be on Sunday, June 21 @1700 hrs during MSFA in

the same hall it was last year. The first MSFA session is Monday, June 22 @ 0900 hrs. Chuck reminded everyone to sign up for their credentials for MSFA and stated you can do that online. The next PGCVFRA meeting will be at Co. 36, Wednesday, June 10th @ 1830hrs, please arrive and eat early.

LA-PGCVFRA, Kitty Garner (Kitty) Kitty stated that the next meeting is tomorrow at Co. 18, dessert only. Kitty stated that the scholarship fund is available and are taking 15 applicants for the fall semester-please see any of the ladies for applications.

Office of the Fire Chief, Chief Bashoor (Chief Bashoor) Chief Bashoor spoke about the recruiter car and offered that the car be driven in the parade at the MSFA Convention with the PGFD vehicles. Chairman Tucker (Jay) accepted then asked if there were any volunteers that would be willing to drive the recruiter car to Ocean City, MD and drive it home as his hopes is to have it unveiled at the Convention Center and parked there all week, then driven in the parade then back to FSB in Hyattsville, MD. Jay asked for volunteers but no one had volunteered as of the conclusion of the meeting.

Closing prayer was led by Chaplain Litchfield and a motion to adjourn was entertained and approved. The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at the Fire Services Building.

Minutes recorded by Bobby Breen, Commissioner and Secretary. Minutes typed by Brittany Smith, Recruiter and Assistant Secretary.

