

Fire Commission Meeting

November 18, 2015

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

Due to this meeting being hosted by Station 829, many of our upper level management were not in attendance as well as Chaplain Litchfield

Chaplain Report, Frank Underwood (Frank) was recognized to lead us in an opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Bodrick (Tyrone) requested approval of Dr. Jodie's findings of a medical physical appeal for Ndenko Benanzea-Fontem, Co.39 as favorable for membership – **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Kuenzli (Randy) announced new changes to the VRS registration procedure to take effect January 1, 2016 and provided revised schedule handouts for the members present. Randy requested equivalency approval for Kyle J. Kluckhuhn from Station 10 – **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Taylor (Bill) wished everyone a "Happy Thanksgiving" in advance and thanked the Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the meeting tonight. Bill announced that prior to tonight's Commission meeting, we had a LOSAP management meeting with the program developer.

Chairman Tucker (Jay) addressed the body to read aloud a personal letter addressed to the attending body about the efforts of the current sitting Commissioners to overcome administrative and systemic hurdles faced when trying to provide assistance to our member corporations and the mutual respect that is expected from all when trying to complete these tasks. Jay then announced the receipt of the 508 funds from the State to the County and then requested approval of the equal share distribution program. Each participant would receive a share worth \$35,931.00 for the year – **Motioned and Approved**

Jay then announced that the FY17 budget shows a 3.5% merit increase for non-sworn county employees with an overall 2% cut in the budget. Jay provided some comments on recent LOSAP appeals and stated that the Mobile Fit Testing program is still waiting for 2 laptop computers. Jay again stated that once received, the new training program will begin thereafter. Jay closed by providing an email address for an on-line training assistance program that is available to all when taking the new EMT program. Brittany will send out the information to all the stations for better reference.

Commissioner King (Buddy) requested approvals for the following LOSAP Company Reports:

Station 35 – 2015 as corrected – **Motioned and Approved**

Station 11 – 2015 as corrected – **Motioned and Approved**

Station 36 – 2015 as corrected – **Motioned and Approved**

Buddy requested approval of a LOSAP Award for Mark Worth – Station 23 – **Motioned and Approved**

Buddy requested approval of the LOSAP Training Report – **Motioned and Approved**

Office of the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief McClelland (Jim) was recognized and stated that the Chief would be back in town tomorrow and requested that all stations and personnel remain vigilant in their efforts of personal safety and station security, if you see something, say something. Jim announced that the Toys-for-Tots campaign and the Public Safety Assistance program is ramping up and interested members can contact FF Mike Shipp. Jim stated that the new CAD/RMS system will go live December 9, 2015 and announced that all PPE alterations need to process through Logistics. Jim closed by announcing the retirement of Deputy Chief Corey Smedley and stated that in the interim, all duties of the Administrative Services Command would be split between DFC Barksdale and himself.

Commissioner Breen (Bobby) requested approval of the meeting minutes from November 4, 2015 – **Motioned and Approved**

Bobby requested approval for a Station Management Expenditure from Station 29 for new power saws, the motion was approved and then after some further discussion between the Chairman, Commissioner Breen and representatives of Station 29, a new motion to rescind the previous motion was made due to the fact that Station 29 needs to use the tool money for that purchase – **Motioned and Approved**

PGCVFRA President Walker (Chuck) was recognized and announced that the Association is initiating a request for all member corporations to donate a bicycle in addition to the Toys-for-Tots campaign. The collection point will be Station 55 and the deadline date is tentatively set for the Association meeting on December 9th at Station 55. Chuck stated that 2nd Vice President Cunningham is willing to come to your location to pick up the bicycles and deliver them to the drop-off point, just give the office a call or contact Billy.

LAPGCVFRA Past President King (Jennifer) announced that the next meeting would be held at Laurel.

Volunteer Recruiter Smith (Brittany) announced that she brought some new member application packages with her tonight and will distribute them first come, first serve.

Branchville VFD, Treasurer Underwood (Frank) was recognized and commented favorably on the quick distribution of supplies by Logistics, stating that this is an improvement from the way it used to be.

Marlboro VFD, President Wyville (Jeff) was recognized and invited the Commission to hold their December 16, 2015 meeting at Station 20.

Assistant Fire Chief Woods (Harve) announced that Logistics is looking for someone to volunteer their time to assist with delivering supplies about one weekend a month.

Laurel VFD, Bryan Lau (Bryan) was recognized and provided his thoughts and comments on the 3.5% merit increase versus no LOSAP increase for 15 years stating that the Commission and the Association needs to go on record against the 3.5 merit increase.

Brentwood VFD, President King (Steven) was recognized and expressed his thanks to the Commissioners for their hard work then stated that he had been notified that Truck 55 would not

be repaired until after the 1st of the New Year. Steven stated that this is unacceptable and needs to be looked into. Steven stated that the truck has been OOS since October for ladder and spindle repairs at KME. Jay responded that the Commission would look into the matter.

Silver Hill VFD, President Diana (Joe) was recognized and stated that he thought the County was stalling on apparatus repairs so that the Volunteers would get the repairs completed and paid for from their funds.

Chairman Tucker (Jay) provided some comment on recent improvement in getting CIP work funded and purchase orders issued to vendors.

West Lanham Hills VFD, Chief Alter (John) expressed his opinions and questions whether the County could hold back funds from OCS for the vehicle repairs and questions where all the missing money is from the Ambulance Billing Program.

Commissioner Kuenzli (Randy) questioned the validity of the McKesson Billing reports stating that these reports were promised on a 30 day basis which is not happening and the funds recovery is very low as it is being reported. Randy suggested reconvening the Billing Task Force to look into this matter. Chairman Tucker asked Randy to spearhead the Task Force and announced that he is looking for members to assist with representation.

Silver Hill, Treasurer Alfieri (Mike) was recognized and stated that at a meeting with Council members Franklin and Toles, he questioned the possibility of Volunteers coming into the County health insurance program.

Chairman Tucker (Jay) recognized Ron Block from Southern Maryland Insurance and thanked him for his assistance with the Insurance work group.

Branchville VFD, Treasurer Underwood (Frank) was recognized and provided benediction, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting – Motioned and Approved

Minutes recorded and typed by Bobby Breen, Commissioner and Secretary

