

Fire Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

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

Chaplain Litchfield gave the opening prayer, Pledge of Allegiance and provided the membership with a list of members either sick or injured needing our thoughts or prayers. The Chaplain also noted that the Founders Day events for this year would be on September 27th at the Fire Services Building (FSB), all are invited to attend.

AFC Paul Gomez was recognized and provided a brief tentative schedule of funeral events for Chaplain Alvin Graham, PGFEMSD Chaplain from 2000-2010. An e-mail will be coming out with the finalized plans. FC Bashoor was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

Commissioner Bigony provided a short introduction to the new STORES system, changes to the catalog numbering system of items carried and changes to the cost center codes used by Central Services. This system is a work in progress and will take some time to finalize a workable ordering system that all stations can become familiar with and use. Commissioner Bigony and his son, JR are working diligently to provide us with a workable STORES ordering system and necessary updates.

Chairman Tucker provided a brief report to the body, outlining the new budget monies that will be available for use by stations for items such as uniforms, small tool requests and volunteer training. Each station will be allotted \$1000.00 in uniform monies that can be used for either duty uniforms or dress/Class-A uniforms. The duty uniform parts can be ordered through STORES as they are carried as a regular item. Dress uniforms should be ordered through the use of a speed letter. All stations will be allotted \$4500.00 for small tool and appliance purchases. The process remains the same, use a STORES ticket for items carried in STORES and a speed letter for other items not regularly carried in the catalog. Proper documentation must accompany all requests for use of these funds (condemnation documents from AMD, repair vendors or a document of specific need). The monies allocated for volunteer training will remain in the Commission's authority to expend as needed for specialized training programs such as National Staff and Command School, FDIC, FEMA programs, etc... The use of these monies should be requested through a speed letter outlining the specific need.

Chairman Tucker (Jay) also identified Saturday, August 23, 2014 as the date for the next Station Management Audit; this will begin promptly at 0800 hours at the FSB and will be a first come, first serve basis. Jay has made a request for disbursement of the 4th quarter Aamos funds; Jay reiterated that all stations should begin identifying specific needs for improvements to be considered under future Capital Improvement Program (CIP) programs and get those needs into the stations respective Fire Commissioner for consideration and inclusion into future programs. Jay acknowledged Commissioners Breen (District 4) and Stack (PGFEMSD) as the newly appointed Commissioners actively working on Commissioner Projects.

Vice Chairman King (Buddy) reported on LOSAP submittals for outstanding annual reports and individual awards:

Co. 25-2011 Annual report-motoned & approved

Co. 28-2013 Annual report-motoned & approved

Co. 56-2012 Annual report-motoned & approved

L. Fletcher-Co. 26-LOSAP Award, 25 years, effective 7/1/14-motoned and approved

C. Walker-Co. 34-LOSAP Award, 25 years; effective 7/1/14-motoned and approved

Buddy reported that there were still outstanding LOSAP Annual reports for stations 7, 8, 30, 32 and 24. Buddy proposed that the stations need to be held accountable for their actions or inactions with respect to LOSAP and Station Management Audit's; the Chairman agreed and suggested that during the next work group session the Commission will delve into this issue. Buddy then read a request from Co. 23 to expend \$6,000.00 of Station Management money for fire hose-motoned and approved.

Commissioner Stack (Kenny) had no report at this time. Kenny stated that his is committed to working towards a functioned unified Fire Commission. Commissioner Stack has be assigned to the Volunteer Services Command, Volunteer Deputy Fire Chief's office and will serve as our liaison in that office along with his other duties.

Commissioner Bodrick was absent tonight due to his work schedule.

Commissioner Kuenzli (Randy) read a request made by Co. 7, Riverdale to keep their existing ambulance in service along with their new ambulance and to have their existing unit maintained under county fuel and maintenance. A motion to table this request was made and approved until further information could be received from Riverdale. Riverdale also requested a ceiling tile purchase which was motoned and approved. Randy reported that the VRS class for July is full and due to the number of students registered (51) there will be two classes at Co. 43 & 9 respectively. All stations should check the Commission website for a registration list for each location; this should be posted in the next 48 hours. Randy reported and provided a list of members requesting membership approval. A motoned was made and approved for the following:

William "Curtis" King- Co.55

Nathan Zeck-Co.1

William McGovern-Co.14

Jeffrey Ware-Co.9

Shelby Smith-Co.35

Jeffrey Reetz-Co.39

Commissioner Taylor reported on the status of the LOSAP bill upgrade. The bill has moved from introduction phase and has been assigned to the PSFM Committee for review. It was reported that the bill is currently stalled at the PSFM level and individual members need to contact their respective Council members to stress the importance and need for approval and further forward motion of the bill. Chairman Tucker stressed the importance of the membership becoming involved in this process, Commissioner Taylor stated that is appears this bill will not make the current Council legislative session.

Commissioner Breen (Bobby) presented a request form Co. 37 to expend \$11,000.00 for a Fire Station security system, motioned and approved. Bobby then read off a list of stations he would be responsible for in District 4. Bobby stated that his county e-mail and cell phone were not working correctly but in the meantime he could be contacted through his personal e-mail or phone.

County Association President Pete Mellits (Pete) provided an update on Association activities currently underway with respect to a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) for the volunteers of Prince George's County. Pete stressed that an exploratory group is working towards identifying goals and initiatives to be included in the CBA. The next Association meeting will be held at Co. 27 on Wednesday, August 13th.

Brian Lau (Brian) provided to the body some concerns about municipalities not being included into discussions on issues about the budget, CIP projects and fire station upgrades and relocations. Brian fears that there is a lack of communication between the county, municipalities and the respective fire station representatives when these plans and projects are being developed.

Motion to adjourn was approved; next Commission meeting will be August 6, 2014.

Closing prayer was provided by Past President, Past Commissioner and Past Volunteer Services Command Deputy Chief, Frank Underwood.

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

