

Fire Commission VIRTUAL Meeting

March 17th, 2021

The meeting via TELECONFERENCE, with approximately 35 virtual participants, was gavelled to order by Chairman Breen at 7:30 pm. A sign-up sheet was not available.

Chaplain Hetz (Harry) - opened the meeting with a brief invocation prayer, the pledge, and his report.

Office of the Fire Chief DFC McClelland (Jim) (Provided via email)

1. Effective April 1 Warren (Tony) Hughes will become the Acting Deputy Fire Chief for the Emergency Services Command. Effective May 10, Dwayne Bonnette will become the Acting Deputy Fire Chief for the Support Services Command. He is currently the Deputy Chief in Richmond, Virginia and was previously from Alexandria Virginia Fire Department.
2. The Volunteer Recruiter job posting will close on Friday, March 19, 2021. The plan will be to start interviews as soon as possible.
3. The Fire Commission MOU Review Committee has completed its review of the document. The document has been sent to the Stakeholders for review, with comments and questions due by the close of business on Friday, April 2.
4. At this point we are only accepting SERFs for OCS Stores items. The cut off for OCS Stores items to May 31.
5. The VSC and the Fire Commission met with Concentra to address some of the complaints / concerns that have been raised regarding volunteer applicant physicals.
 - The Department was allotted 3 slots per day for a total of 15 slots per week. As of Monday, March 15, that has increased to 4 slots per day for a total of 20 slots per week. In addition Concentra will close the schedule for the upcoming week at 5pm on Friday, if there are any open slots, they will call an applicant who is scheduled in the upcoming weeks to see if they want to reschedule to an earlier slot, so we don't waste any slots.
 - If you called today to schedule a new applicant physical the first available slot would be 1 month out. It can get much longer if the applicant is very specific about their availability (i.e, only available on Wednesdays at 12 noon).
 - We average 20 to 30 physical requests per week and average 4 "no-shows" per week. It costs the Department \$250 per "no show" and wastes the slot.
 - Concentra has started calling scheduled applicants the night before their appointment to remind them of their appointment, some still don't show up.
 - All applicants that are considered medium to high risk, must be seen by a cardiologist per State requirements. The current contract cardiologist with Concentra does not hold slots for applicants. Sometimes Concentra does not know an applicant is medium to high risk until they have done their physical.
 - Applicants that need to provide additional medical records to Concentra to address a concern, must do so within 14 days. Sometimes this takes months for the applicant to comply.
 - Concentra is understaffed by 1 person that can do the treadmill stress test and it has been difficult to fill.
 - Concentra is not aware of any current delays in final sign off on physicals by the doctor.
 - We will continue to monitor how physicals are going. If you have a concern based on a current issue, please report it to the Fire Commission or VSC. Please provide specific and accurate information.

6. All stations are reminded that we will **NOT** fingerprint anyone who has not submitted their application. No exceptions.
7. The documentation for the Volunteer Staffing Enhancement (VSE) Incentive for the FY2021 3rd Quarter is due by the close of business, Friday, April 9.
8. Listed below are progress updates to General Orders:
 - General Orders that have completed the review process and have been forwarded to Chief Green for review and approval:
 - GO # 08-16 Reporting on the Job Injuries
 - GO # 04-14 Probationary Firefighter Study Course
 - General Orders that have completed the review process and are being prepared for review and signature by Chief Green:
 - GO # 04-11 Return to Emergency Operations Skills Program
 - General Orders currently being reviewed by the General Order Work group:
 - GO # 06-11 Acting Volunteer Command Officers – comments due 3/16/21
 - GO # 06-37 Emergency Incident Gross Decontamination – comments due 3/19/21

Commissioner/ Vice Chair Kuenzli (Randy)

- Requested approval of FF1 equivalency for the following individuals.
 - from Company 33: William Simister ID# 27240, Austin Burke ID# 27316, Robert Puryear ID# 27267, Anthony Donofrio ID# 27283, Brian Acerno ID# 27145
 - from Company 27: Beth Whitman ID# 27034
 - from Company 9: Jacob Simpson ID# 27237
 - all of the above were - **Motioned and Approved.**
- The recent CPR class at Bowie had to be because it did not have at least 5 students.

Commissioner/ Secretary Wilson (Rick)

- Requested that the March 3rd, 2021 minutes be approved. - **Motioned and Approved.**
- Requested expenditure approval for \$7271.50 from Hyattsville (1) for supplemental vehicle insurance - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested expenditure approval for \$2839.75 from West Lanham Hills (48) for 3rd quarter vehicle insurance - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested expenditure approval for \$5781.22 from West Lanham Hills (28) to replace a Thermal Imager - **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner King (Buddy)

- Requested approval of the following company annual LOSAP reports; Company 10 2020 report as corrected, Company 11 2019 amendment to approved report, Company 11 2020 report as corrected, Company 27 2020 report as corrected, Company 49 2020 report version B – **All Motioned and Approved**
- Requested approval of the following LOSAP awards; Garner, Gloria (24) Age 70, effective 7/1/19 for 19 Years, Takacs, Richard (49) effective 3/1/21 for 29 Years, Kulle, Matthew (35) effective 3/1/19 for 38 Years, and Moats, John (55) effective 7/1/19 for 25 Years. – **All Motioned and Approved**

- Requested history research approval for; Sellers, Dale (20) for 32 years, Hill Jr, Robert (13) for 19 years, Lanman, John (20) for 17 years, Johnson, Anthony (39) for 22 years and Rowe, Dawn (30) for 16 years – **All Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Mellits (Pete) –

- Participated with the Morningside VFD Department meeting on 3-4-21 virtually.
- Attended the County Association March meeting on 3-10-21 virtually.
- Attended the Friday - weekly MSFA Legislative morning coordination call on 3-12-21 virtually.
- Attended the EDIAFC March Board meeting on 3-14-21, virtually.
- Attended a Fire Commission work session call on 3-15-21.
- Continued assisting companies with EARs, SERFs and Speed Letters for specific equipment and tools.
- Request expenditure approval for Bowie VFD (19) to spend \$4,794.00 for 6 dayroom recliners - **Motioned and Approved**
- Request expenditure approval for Kentland VFD (33) to spend \$3,124.25 for a treadmill - **Motioned and Approved**
- Request expenditure approval for Kentland VFD (46) to spend \$3,124.25 for a treadmill - **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner Breen/Chairman (Bobby)

- Request expenditure approval for Marlboro (20) to spend \$3850 for a company copier - **Motioned and Approved**
- Request expenditure approval for Marlboro (20) to spend \$2961.43 for body work for their support vehicle - **Motioned and Approved**
- Request approval for Silver Hill (29) to spend \$6950 for items/equipment to support forcible entry training scenarios - **Motioned and Approved**
- Request expenditure approval for Silver Hill (29) to spend \$7152.52 for fire hose. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Request approval to (re)admit Rescue Squad RS840 to the fleet. The apparatus will be a replacement and have a new VIN. - **Motioned and Approved**
- The county administration has asked the Fire Commission to delay nominations for the commission until mid-April. This will allow the county council to continue processing existing nominations. Nominations in April will be via electronic balloting of the corporate presidents as we did last time.

Commissioner Captain Chandler (Michelle) – Excused

Commissioner McSwain (Kenny) – Excused

PGCVFRA President Whipple (Vic) –

- Provided the status of recent meetings and upcoming events.

Q&A

Chaplain Hamilton (Margaret Ann) - provided a lovely benediction and Chairman Breen requested a motion to adjourn @ 8:26 pm.

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner/Secretary Wilson.

