

Fire Commission VIRTUAL Meeting

July 21st, 2021

The meeting via TELECONFERENCE, with approximately 44 virtual participants, was gaveled to order by Chairman Breen at 7:30 pm. A sign-up sheet was not available.

Chaplain Hamilton (Margaret Ann) – opened the meeting with a brief invocation prayer and the pledge. The Chief Chaplain's report will be provided separately. Chaplain Hetz provided an update on the Founder's Circle Tribute.

Office of the Fire Chief – DFC McClelland (Jim)

1. The Fire Commission and VSC continue to address issues related to the physical examinations at Concentra. A meeting was held on Monday, July 19, with Concentra to address some new issues and follow up on other matters. Please continue to report any recent issues to the Fire Commission and include the specific details like name, dates, etc. We ask each corporation to help reduce physical examination "no-shows" by monitoring applicant appointments and remind them of upcoming appointments. Missed appointments cost money and waste an appointment slot that could have been filled by another applicant.
2. A kick off meeting was held on Wednesday, July 14, with OIT to initiate work on developing software to track volunteer on-duty time and riding position on apparatus for the purposes of staffing and accountability, as well as, track other participation for the purpose of LOSAP reporting. We are waiting on a proposed timeline for this project and will provide updates as this progresses. The current LOSAP program is only used by one person and the software is obsolete and no longer supported by OIT, making it vulnerable for security risk.
3. As previously reported, a Proposal Analysis Group (PAG) has been established to develop a scope of work and evaluation criteria for requesting proposals for insurance coverage for the volunteer corporations. VSC will be reaching out to each corporation to confirm station and vehicle information that will be included in the Request for Proposal (RFP). When asked to confirm information, it is critical that you be responsive and accurate.
4. Following up on a previous report regarding seat belt monitoring devices being comprised and other safety issues, Apparatus Maintenance is in the process of updating the apparatus specification attachments to General Order # 02-27 Procedures for Replacements / Additions / Changes to the Fleet to incorporate new language related to seat belt monitoring systems and crash air bags. Any station that has a specification currently being reviewed or will be submitted soon for review will not be final approved until this revision is resolved.
5. The pgfdvol.org email addresses no longer exist. Members should have transitioned to the new co.pg.md.us email address. Any member who did not initially login into their new email account my no longer be able to get in because the temporary password expired. You will need to contact the OIT Help Desk to have then reset the temporary password. They can be contacted at (301) 883-5322 or oit-servicedesk@co.pg.md.us . Once it is reset, go in a change your password, DO NOT WAIT!
6. The logins to Target Solutions have also been updated to reflect your new County email address. Most updates have been successful with few issues. Most of the issues are related to people with the same names or names with suffixes. If you have any difficulty you can contact TISO by email at pgfdtiso@co.pg.md.us and they will work with you to resolve the matter.

7. A Smoke Alarm Task Force has been established to clear a backlog of smoke alarm requests. There are approximately 330 open smoke alarm requests. About 300 of those requests are in Co. 25, 28, 33, 37 and 46's first due. The goal is to complete the open requests within 30 days. We are utilizing light duty personnel when possible. However, the expectation is that career and volunteer crews from these stations and neighboring stations will assist by making strong pushes on evenings and weekends to help clear the current backlog. Lt. Goldfeder (846 – C Shift) is the project manager and FF Willie Thompson is the assistant project manager.
8. Remember – Smoke alarms save lives (civilian and firefighters) by alerting occupants early. We have had some recent examples where a working smoke alarm would have made a difference.
9. Chief Green will be out of town July 27 through July 31, with DFC McClelland covering.
10. Listed below are progress updates to General Orders:
 - General Orders that have completed the review process and awaiting the Fire Chief's approval:
 - GO # 01-28 Fire Commission – This general order replaces the Fire Commission MOU that expired on May 7, 2021. The Fire Chief had a very productive meeting with Commissioner Breen and President Whipple to review comments and concerns. Some edits have been made and Chief Green will schedule a meeting with Commissioner Breen and President Whipple for next week to review.
 - General Orders that are being forwarded to the General Order Work Group for their review and comment:
 - GO # 11-17 Conflict Resolution Policy – This is a new policy, replacing the existing Peer Mediation Policy. This draft General Order is currently being reviewed by the General Order Work Group, with comments due no later than July 22, 2021.
11. Vehicle Application: Co. 20 New engine to replace E202 (M00202) has been approved by Chief Green on 7/20/21. Vehicle to be fueled, maintained and insured by the County.

Commissioner Breen/Chairman (Bobby) -

- Requested approval to replace engine E202 for Marlboro (20) - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested approval to increase SERF/ERF funds for the following stations 6, 11, 14, 26, 29, 30, 32, and 33 from \$5K to \$7K annually. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Discussion regarding Special COVID LOSAP points award. A meeting will be conducted to produce detailed record keeping guidance.

Commissioner/ Vice Chair Kuenzli (Randy) -

- Requested FF1 equivalency approval for Sean Dolan (33) - **Motioned and Approved.**

Commissioner/ Secretary Wilson (Rick)

- Requested that the July 7th, 2021 minutes be approved. - **Motioned and Approved.**

Commissioner King (Buddy)

- Requested approval of an amended 2020 LOSAP annual report for Bowie (19). – **Motioned and Approved.**

Commissioner/ Battalion Chief Chandler (Michelle) - excused

Commissioner Bolden (Jonathan) – Phone issues precluded a report

Commissioner Surlis (Vanessa) – is having email issues. Please call her if you don't get a response to your email.

Commissioner Smalls (Fred) – Requested a meeting with the chairman to discuss duties and responsibilities.

Commissioner Holbert (Antwan) – No report tonight.

PGCVFRA President Whipple (Vic) –

- Voiced his concern about the delay in hiring a recruiter.
- Election of Association officers will be held at the next month's meeting at Bowie (39).

PGCVFRA 1st Vice President Jordan (Jeramie) – NSTR

PGCVFRA 2nd Vice President Lutz (Lee) – NSTR

Q&A –

- Former Commissioner Pete Mellits again raised the issue regarding the Fire Commission being noncompliant with its current bylaws.
- Brian Clements – Recruiting events @ Bowie Baysox on Sunday 7-25 and at county fair on September 8-12
- Ron Block – please contact him regarding annual insurance review ASAP if you have not already.

Chaplain Hetz (Harry) - provided a benediction and Chairman Breen requested a motion to adjourn @ 8:13 pm.

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner/Secretary Wilson.

