

Fire Commission VIRTUAL Meeting

August 18th, 2021

The meeting via TELECONFERENCE, with approximately 52 virtual participants, was gaveled 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 and the pledge. The Chief Chaplain's report will be provided separately.

Office of the Fire Chief – DFC McClelland (Jim)

1. The Department has been collecting information related to buildings and vehicles for the purposes of developing a Request for Proposal for Volunteer Insurance Coverage. This information was due back to VSC no later than Monday, August 16. We still need information from Co. 32/47. The next phase of this process will be to get an M# assigned to those vehicles, boats and trailers without a number, regardless of who maintains them. Instructions will follow by the end of the week.
2. At the last PGCVFRA Meeting, a question was raised about differing information about whether the recent revisions to the Engine Apparatus Specifications would apply to apparatus that is already under contract or in production. The new specifications will apply to any new engine that has not been fully approved or the specifications not yet approved. This currently impacts the new engines from Co. 5, 17 and 20 and any new vehicle applications. We encourage those fire companies that have units under contract or in production, to comply with the changes if they are able to.
3. We are back to wearing face mask in all facilities owned or operated by the County whether you are vaccinated or not. The expectation is that supervisors (career and volunteer) are enforcing the requirement. Our statistics for the number of personnel in quarantine and those who tested positive for COVID-19 are rising. Please follow all appropriate protocols. The quickest way to go back to some of the previous restrictions is to not follow direction.
4. MIEMSS has provided a limited number of 2021 EMS pocket protocol books. We will be proportionally dividing the 225 books amongst the stations based on the 1000+ operational members on the fit test list. We will start getting these in the hands of the respective Chiefs later this week. The 2021 EMS protocols can also be download at:
http://www.miemss.org/home/Portals/0/Docs/Guidelines_Protocols/MD-Medical-Protocols-2021-Mobile-20210601.pdf?ver=2021-06-17-145727-113.
5. Currently there are no general orders in the review process.
6. Vehicle Applications:
 - Co. 17 – Replacement Engine for E817B (M# 00115). The vehicle will be fueled, maintained and insured by the County. This application has been approved by Chief Green.
 - Co. 36 – Requests to place a UTV in service. The vehicle will be fueled, maintained and insured by the Volunteer Corporation. The application has been approved by Chief Green.

Commissioner Breen/Chairman (Bobby) –

- A local restaurant is liquidating and offering to donate commercial kitchen equipment to local fire stations. Contact Christina (703-678-3023) for more information.
- Requested approval for Beltsville (31) to use of 508 funds, currently on hand, to purchase a utility vehicle. - **Motioned and Approved**

- Requested expenditure approval of \$2170 (not-to-exceed) from Fire Commission training funds for the Peer Support Team to send 4 volunteers to Peer Support Training in Ocean City, MD. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested expenditure approval of \$2527.65 for Baden (36) to purchase annual support contract for their copier. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested approval for Boulevard Heights (17) to replace engine E817B. The vehicle will be fueled, maintained and insured by the County. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested approval for Baden (36) to place a UTV in service. The vehicle will be fueled, maintained and insured by the Volunteer Corporation. - **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner/ Vice Chair Kuenzli (Randy) - (Read by Secretary Wilson)

- Requested FF1 equivalency approval for the following three individuals: Justin Levy (14), Duane Phelan (14), and Anthony Vaccaro (33) - **Motioned and Approved**.
- Requested expenditure approval of \$3528 for Bladensburg (9) to purchase mattresses for the bunkhouse - **Motioned and Approved**.

Commissioner/ Secretary Wilson (Rick)

- Requested that the August 4th, 2021 minutes be approved. - **Motioned and Approved**.
- Requested an expenditure approval of \$3,480 for West Lanham Hills (28) to replace ceiling tiles, drywall and a kitchen fan in their refurbishment project. - **Motioned and Approved**

Commissioner King (Buddy)

- Requested approval for LOSAP award for Thomas B Warren (27), effective 9/1/21, for 39 Years – **Motioned and Approved**.
- Requested research approval for the following three individuals: John Clayton (38) for 19 years, Bernard Horn (38) for 3 years, and David Sumner (9) for 13 years and 3 months – **Motioned and Approved**.
- Requested an expenditure approval of \$7059 for Laurel (10) to replace emergency lights on E101. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested an expenditure approval of \$3038.28 for Berwyn Heights (14) to replace two refrigerators - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested Training Funds expenditure for Berwyn Heights (14) to purchase supplies, tools and materials to build rescue training scenarios to support stations 6, 14, and 47 – **Motion Tabled**

Commissioner/ Battalion Chief Chandler (Michelle) - NSTR

Commissioner Bolden (Jonathan) – NSTR

Commissioner Surles (Vanessa) – NSTR

Commissioner Smalls (Fred) – NSTR

Commissioner Holbert (Antwan) – NSTR

PGCVFRA President Whipple (Vic) – Elections last week returned all Association leaders. Convention next month. Watch for a flyer. Please don't weaponize social media. If you have a complaint about the Association please come to a meeting or call us and ask before you take to social media to complain.

PGCVFRA 1st Vice President Jordan (Jeramie) – NSTR

PGCVFRA 2nd Vice President Lutz (Lee) – Association leaders continue to meet with county leaders whenever and wherever possible. Recent conversation with Mr. Barry Stanton regarding the Hyattsville Station.

Q&A – No questions or comments

Chaplain Hamilton (Margaret Ann) - provided a benediction and Chairman Breen requested a motion to adjourn @ 8:10 pm.

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner/Secretary Wilson.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'April 20' followed by a stylized signature.