

## Fire Commission VIRTUAL Meeting

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

The meeting via TELECONFERENCE, with approximately 65 virtual participants, was gaveled to order by Chairman Breen at 7:30 pm. A sign-up sheet was not available.

Chaplain Harry Hetz and Chaplain Loretta Shaw – 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. I am still collecting some requested information from a few so that M# can be assigned to those vehicles and boats that don't have one. This information was due a month ago. The Proposal Analysis Group (PAG) is in the final phases of development for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Volunteer Insurance Coverage and vehicle information will be included in that document.
2. All supervisors (career and volunteer) must ensure compliance with wearing face mask in all facilities owned or operated by the County, whether you are vaccinated or not, in accordance with the Executive Order. The only exceptions are if you are in an enclosed space by yourself or while eating / drinking and social distancing. Please follow all appropriate protocols. The quickest way to go back to some of the previous restrictions is to not follow direction.
3. On Sunday, October 31 the Department began enforcement of the Executive Order requiring COVID-19 Vaccination or weekly testing. Information on the process related to COVID-19 testing have been distributed. Members who are fully vaccinated are not required to be tested. Information on how to administer the Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Self-Test has been forwarded to members of the Department and is also on Target Solutions (TS) for those members with a TS account.
4. Any members who have not reported their current vaccination status please do so now. Those members with County emails should be going to the COVID-19 Vaccination Status Portal to enter their current vaccination status, regardless if you are vaccinated or not, and uploading your vaccination card if you have one. As of 2pm today there are 765 volunteers that have entered the portal and answered the status questions. There are approximately another 20 that we are resolving some issues with. There are many more that have not entered the portal. **Chiefs need to make sure that their core group of operational members are vaccinated or have been tested to avoid operational removal, so as not to impact operations.** The link to the volunteer portal is <https://covid19portalfv.princegeorgescountymd.gov/> . If you are unable to enter the portal or do not have a County email address, just send a scanned copy (PDF) or picture (jpg file) to [VolCovidVax@co.pg.md.us](mailto:VolCovidVax@co.pg.md.us) and VSC will enter the information for you. If you are requesting a reasonable accommodation for a medical or religious exemption you can enter that information into the portal as well. Additional information on requesting a reasonable accommodation can be found at <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/4084/Reasonable-Accommodation-for-COVID-19>.
5. The County is currently finalizing additional hazard pay related to the COVID-19 pandemic for qualified County employees. The Department will look to provide additional COVID-19 Incentives to those volunteer fire companies that have staffed their respective fire stations at least 70% of the time, the same as previous incentive payments. Incentive payments will be made in January 2022, along with the FY2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter VSE Incentive. The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter closes at the end of December.

6. Lt. Mandragos continues to push out notices for members to pick up their 2<sup>nd</sup> set of PPE purchased from Phase 3 funding. Members should wait until they are directed to pick up their PPE. A reminder notice has been sent out for members included in the first batch to come a pick up their PPE. In addition, we are asking the respective Chiefs to identify members to be considered for a 2<sup>nd</sup> set of PPE for Phase 4. A request for information has been sent to the Chiefs and must be returned by November 30. Late submissions will only be considered if funds are available.
7. The General Order Work Group and Stakeholder review of *General Order # 05-08 Emergency Medical Care for Active Violence Incidents* is complete. The Training & Leadership Academy (TLA) is developing a plan for Rescue Task Force training. More will follow as this develops.
8. Application for Introducing a Vehicle into the Fleet:
  - Co. 17 – Chief Green has approved the purchase of a Homesteader 6x12 Trailer to support recruitment activities. The trailer will be maintained and insured by the Volunteer Corporation.
  - Co. 36- Chief Green has approved the purchase of a new tanker to replace the current Tanker 836, a 1989 Mack (M71036). The new tanker will be fueled, maintained and insured by the County.
  - Co. 39 – Chief Green has approved the purchase of a new ambulance to replace the current Volunteer Corporation owned ambulance, a 2017 Ford / Horton (M# 31739). The new unit will be fueled, maintained and insured by the Volunteer Corporation.

Commissioner/ Chair Breen (Bobby) -

- Travel packages now require travelers proof of vaccination to be included
- Tool money requests are needed ASAP.
- Requested approval for Boulevard Heights (39) add a new ambulance to replace the current Volunteer Corporation owned ambulance, a 2017 Ford / Horton (M# 31739). The new unit will be fueled, maintained and insured by the Volunteer Corporation. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested approval for Bowie (39) to add a Homesteader 6x12 Trailer to support recruitment activities. The trailer will be maintained and insured by the Volunteer Corporation. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested approval for Baden (36) to add a rehabilitated tanker to replace the current Tanker 836, a 1989 Mack (M71036). The new vehicle will be fueled, maintained and insured by the County. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Baden (36) requests approval to move their 508 funding project to cover the rehabilitated tanker above. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Need to schedule a work session regarding 508 funds process. Commissioners should indicate their availability ASAP.
- Silver Hill has offered to host the 1<sup>st</sup> Fire Commission meeting in December. This will be discussed at the upcoming work session.

Commissioner/ Vice Chair Kuenzli (Randy) -

- Requested approval for FF1 equivalency for the following individuals: Robert Fauth (27), William Jacob Wilson (9), Somma Aiden (14), and Patrick Stoppiello (33) - **Motioned and Approved.**
- Cautions leadership to read transfer general order carefully.

Commissioner Bolden (Jonathan) – Nothing to report

Commissioner Holbert (Antwan) – Nothing to report

Commissioner Surles (Vanessa) – Nothing to report

Commissioner King (Buddy)

- Requested approval of Beltsville VFD (31) 2020 Annual LOSAP report as corrected - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested approval for LOSAP award for the following individuals: GERVIS, STEVEN (28) for 28 years, effective 11/1/2021, REMENICK, NANCY LEE (35) for age 70 award with 11 years, effective 8/1/2021, and SZACHNOWICZ, ALEKS (35) for 29 years and 9 months, effective 12/1/2021 – **All Motioned and Approved.**

Commissioner/ Secretary Wilson (Rick)

- Requested that the October 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 minutes be approved. - **Motioned and Approved.**
- Requested expenditure approval of \$2,895.50 for West Lanham Hills (48) to pay annual insurance premium - **Motioned and Approved.**

Commissioner/ Battalion Chief Chandler (Michelle) – Nothing to report

Commissioner Smalls (Fred) – Nothing to report

PGCVFRA President Whipple (Vic) –

- Be sure to upload your vaccination card ASAP. The email portal works if the web based service is down.
- Fire Commission nomination window is underway. Please poll your members for candidates and let the association know.

Q&A –

- Be aware of possible insurance scams. Be wary of suspicious contacts. Always fill out an accident report and provide to Risk Management.

Chaplain Underwood (Frank) - provided a benediction and Chairman Breen requested a motion to adjourn @ 8:33 pm.

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner/Secretary Wilson.

