



---

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**Regular Meeting – Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021**

**ATTENDEES:** Chairman Marc Komorsky  
Commissioner Richard Sassi (*absent*)  
Commissioner Stephen Piehler  
EMS Admin Michael Benenati  
Secretary Bria Le  
Commissioner George Burns (*absent*)  
Commissioner Anthony Pignataro  
Chief Tim O'Connor  
Treasurer Mark Pozniak (*via Zoom*)

At 6:05 pm Chairman Marc Komorsky called the Board of Fire Commissioners' Regular Meeting to order for Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**MINUTES:**

- 11/9/21 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Pignataro made a MOTION to approve the minutes from the 11/9/21 Regular Meeting and Komorsky SECONDED the motion. Commissioner Piehler said he wasn't at the last meeting so he abstained. Komorsky said the Board will wait until Commissioner Burns signs on to vote on the minutes. Tabled.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** (*none*)

**ROOM USE REQUEST:**

- Sta 2 Red Cross Blood Drives on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Short discussion held on whether the Board or the Chief had any concerns on holding the blood drives.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Piehler, the Board RESOLVED to approve the Red Cross's use of Station 2 for a blood drive on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Piehler – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye.

**Motion Carried.**

**REPORTS:** (*by officers present*)

- **Treasurer –**

**BOOKKEEPER:** Treasurer Mark Pozniak said they are still looking for a bookkeeper and they haven't had much luck so far. He said the next option would be to advertise for a part time bookkeeper and asked the Board for a pay rate or a range. Short discussion followed about hiring through Manpower and the difficulties of hiring in the current market.

Upon a MOTION made by Piehler and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to do a range of \$22 - \$24 an hour for a part time position. Piehler - Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pozniak said he had two items for Executive Session.

BoFC Regular Meeting 11/23/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via the video conferencing platform Zoom.



## LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



- **Chief –**

NOTABLE INCIDENTS: Fire Chief Tim O'Connor said that he sent the Board a list of the notable incidents that occurred over the past couple of weeks (attached).

TRAINING: Chief O'Connor said that Art (Holzmann) has been in the firehouse a lot for training and has now expressed interest in attending and EMT class. He reviewed some other training that has been happening.

47-72: Chief O'Connor said that 47-72 was down in NY for repairs and that all of the equipment was taken off of 47-11 and it will go to Premier next week for the repairs. Discussion held on the 47-11 repairs.

PERSONNEL: O'Connor said that the FPAT was held on Saturday with other career departments in Dutchess County. He said that eighty went out to prospective candidates but only 39 replied. Discussion followed regarding the FPAT and how transfers would work.

GRANTS: The Chief said that while they were at the FPAT, he asked Arlington FD and Fairview FD if they were interested in applying for a joint grant on training. He said they would look into it but weren't sure. O'Connor said he would like to look into it and put in for something. Short discussion followed regarding the type of training covered by the grant.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chief O'Connor brought up the Town Center response and discussed the work that went into the document.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Chief said he had two personnel items for Executive Session.

- **EMS Administrator –**

RECOGNITIONS: EMS Administrator Michael Benenati said that Anthony Champion, Fred Wern, and Brendan Whalen were recognized last Friday at the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women event that was held at the CIA (Culinary Institute of America) for their efforts during a response in February 2020. He publicly thanked Brendan Whalen, Fred Wern, and Anthony Champion for outstanding quality care in recognizing the patient was having a serious medical emergency. Further discussion followed about getting information to the public about the recognitions. Komorsky stated, on behalf of the Fire Commissioners, that it was a job well done.

POWERLOAD SYSTEMS: Benenati brought up the powerload systems for the Board to discuss and noted that Stryker would be having an across the Board price increase of 7% starting January 1<sup>st</sup>. He said that the District can still get it and make payments over three years, finance free. Further discussion followed regarding the systems and the deadline for ordering and delivery.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Piehler, the Board RESOLVED to purchase, before January 1<sup>st</sup>, two Stryker Powerload Stretchers for a total of \$45,402.24. Piehler - Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Short discussion followed regarding retrofitting the ambulances and the budget.

EMT CLASS: Benenati said that Art Holzmann is interested in an EMT class. Benenati said the Holzmann has been given the EMT agreement that states that the District pays for the cost of the program (\$700) plus books provided that he passes and stays a member for six months. He noted that the cost of the class is reimbursed by the state.

BoFC Regular Meeting 11/23/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via the video conferencing platform Zoom.



## LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



Upon a MOTION made by Piehler and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to send Art Holzmann to EMT school. Piehler - Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AGREEMENT: Benenati said that the Controlled Substances agreement needs to be signed annually for a cost of \$3400 and the current one expires on November 30<sup>th</sup>. He said he has not received it yet, but he will continually put pressure on to have it in hand. He said that challenge is that if it is not signed, then November 30<sup>th</sup> would be the last day the District could operate at an advanced life support level until it can be renewed. Short discussion followed regarding controlled substances from the hospital.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Piehler, the Board RESOLVED to approve the Mid-Hudson Controlled Substance Agreement for \$3400. Piehler - Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

- **Department** – *(no report)*

- **Vehicles** –

Lt. Anthony Champion updated the Board on the status of the vehicles under repair and noted that the meters were recently calibrated and a couple had to go out for repairs.

- **Union** – *(no report)*

Upon a request from Komorsky, EMS Administrator Michael Benenati thanked Lt. Champion and Brendan Whalen and repeated the public recognition from the American Heart Association to them because they had just come back in the meeting room from a call.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- **Building Repairs/Repair Requests** – Komorsky said that Rabco is going to Firehouse #3 sometime this week to fix the fascia. Short discussion followed regarding the work. Chief O'Connor said that several months ago he got prices for doing several repairs and he would like to get the work done. Discussion followed regarding the need to aggregate some projects versus the difficulty in getting vendors to bid the projects and the NYS rules for purchasing. Komorsky said that the Station 3 work is an emergency repair because the fascia is gone and other pieces are falling off so it needs to be fixed before the snow and ice causes more damage to be done. Further discussion followed regarding emergency repairs and getting the work done in order of priority. O'Connor said that Redemption Mechanical asked if the leak over the boilers was fixed because the water leak is causing damage to the outside casing of the brand new boilers and Komorsky asked to have Vanguard come in and make the repair. Benenati said the Redemption was looking at the thermostats upstairs and will submit a proposal to duct the heat for one of the bedrooms from the gym heat instead of the office one.
- **Recruitment & Retention** – Pignataro asked how the new volunteer came to the District. Short discussion followed regarding how potential volunteers hear about the District and getting people in the door.
- **Member Physicals** – Chief O'Connor said he got an email from TEK and he hasn't had a chance to follow up but will reach out to her.

BoFC Regular Meeting 11/23/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via the video conferencing platform Zoom.



## LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



### NEW BUSINESS:

- **December Meeting Schedule** – Secretary Le reminded the Board that 12/14 was the Commissioner Election so the next scheduled meeting wasn't until 12/28. Discussion followed regarding which dates would work for everyone. Le requested that the Board also set a date for the Organizational meeting in January. Komorsky said the Board would schedule meetings for 12/7 and 12/21 and cancel the one on 12/28. Le said the second Tuesday in January would be 1/22/22 and the meeting just had to be held before the 15<sup>th</sup>. Komorsky said that January 11<sup>th</sup> (2022) would be the Re-org meeting then the Board would go into a regular meeting afterwards.

### ABSTRACT: \$991,979.25

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Piehler, the Board RESOLVED to pay the bills, as per the abstract, for the month of November, for \$991,979.25. Piehler – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Komorsky stated for the public that there would be a combined five (5) minute period for questions per person starting tonight going forward. He asked if anyone had any comments.

Pignataro noted that there were a series of questions from Mr. Ron Schulz . He read the first one:

“for the record, how would have Comm. Piehler voted on the Safer grant??”

Komorsky said that Commissioner Piehler was not at that meeting so he did not vote on it. Pignataro read the next questions:

“does the LFD have a labor lawyer who advises and takes part in contract negotiations?.....who is he/she?.....was he/she present during all negotiations with the union on the new contract?”

Pignataro responded that yes, Mr. Michael Hekle from Jackson Lewis, a firm out of White Plains, and absolutely, yes. Pignataro then read the next question:

“who was the primary commissioner(s) negotiating with the union on the new contract?”

Pignataro said that all of the Commissioners provided input but the Chairman, Mr. Komorsky, channeled a lot of the questions and information to the rest of the Commissioners. Komorsky said that all of the Commissioner participated in the negotiations. Pignataro read the next question:

“just to be sure, , treasurer is estimating 30% of projected salaries for 'OT?....or \$1.44 MILLION?”

Komorsky said that the Treasurer, Mark Pozniak, answered that at the last meeting. Pignataro read the next question:

“the question is how would her have voted if he was there”

Pignataro said he is just reading what is there and Komorsky said that ended Mr. Schulz question period.

Komorsky closed the Public Comments section and thanked Mr. Schulz for his questions. He wished everyone on Zoom and in the building a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:29 pm, upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Piehler, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss two contractual items from the Treasurer Mark Pozniak and two personnel items from the Chief. Piehler - Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

BoFC Regular Meeting 11/23/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via the video conferencing platform Zoom.



**LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT**  
504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



---

**OPEN SESSION & ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:15 pm, the Board resumed Open Session.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Piehler, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Piehler – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bria Le – District Secretary

***Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 12/21/21***

BoFC Regular Meeting 11/23/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via the video conferencing platform Zoom.

# Notable Incidents

## 10/27/21 – 11/9/21

11/09/21 Tuesday

- Dispatched for a P4 lift assist @ 08:05
  - Crews arrived on scene @ 08:14
  - 08:23 CPR in progress – cardiac arrest
- AFA @ 09:36 – Freedom Plains Rd (private residence)
- AFA @ 09:51 – 258 Titusville Rd (Golds Gym)
- + 4 more overlapping calls before 14:20 including (1) rescue of person stuck in the mud under the powerlines on Organ Hill Rd.

11/11/21 Thursday

- 17:26 unknown type of fire @ 237 Sleight Plass Rd.
  - Large “controlled burn” that got out of control and spread to adjacent trees and bushes

11/12 & 13 /21 Friday & Saturday

- Stand-by EMS for the Football Conference games
  - No issues at any of the games
  - Will be talking to AHS about compensating us in some way for the costs of putting people there
    - They pay for DCSO
    - They would have to pay for commercial services
- While at the standby...
  - Disp for smoke coming from an outlet at a residence on Organ Hill Rd
    - Outlet removed and power to it was shut off
  - Disp for fire alarms sounding with a burning odor in a residence on Raspberry Pl.
    - Problem traced to new heaters being used for the 1<sup>st</sup> time

11/15/21 Monday

- 01:39 Rollover MVA on TSP N/B bet Rte 82 & Noxon Rn
  - M/A rescue from EFFD dispatched
    - Did not respond – cancelled by 47-9
  - One Pt txp too VBMC BLS
- 09:05 Rollover MVA on TSP N/B by James Baird Park
  - PD on scene confirming entrapment
    - M/A rescue from UVFD 67-51 dispatched
    - @ 09:12 67-51 had not responded and AFD 32-52 was requested by 47-9
    - UVFD responded just after the request for AFD was made

- AFD responded @ 09:14
  - Pt was extricated using equipment on 47-12 (equip moved from 47-52 when it went OOS). UVFD @ AFD were returned
- Pt txp to MHRH ALS
- + 4 additional overlapping calls including before 11:00 (1) M/A request to UVFD for a possible structure fire. 47-13 (@ Station 1) was dispatched but did not respond due to all personnel being on pervious calls.
  - Turned out to be a problem with oil burner
- 8 additional overlapping Fire & EMS calls in the afternoon (12:00 – 16:00)

11/17/21      Wednesday

- 3 simultaneous calls
  - 2 EMS and (1) MVA involving 3 cars (08:30 – 09:30)
- + 5 overlapping EMS calls in the afternoon

11/19/21      Friday

47-55 was repaired and @ Premier in Kingston by 14:30. Premier was unable to get it to us. We did not have any personnel who could go get it

11/20/21      Saturday

- 19:11 responded for a chimney fire on S. Cross Rd.
  - Fire was contained by homeowner and fully extinguished by LFD

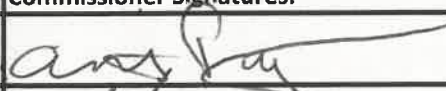


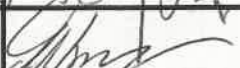
11/21/21      Sunday

- 01:36 head-on MVA on Rte 55 near Redl's
  - one occupant entrapped
    - M/A rescue (AFD 32-55) requested
  - 3 patients
    - M/A ambulance requested
    - MLSS responded from C/Pk
    - 2 pts txp ALS, 1 Pt txp BLS by MLSS
  - Rte 55 was shut down from 01:36 – 02:50
  - Large oil spill from both vehicles
    - 47-9 returned to Station 2 to get more speedi-dri

11/22/21      Monday

- 08:41 MVA on Noxon Rd., car into the overpass abutment
  - 2 Pts txp to MHRH BLS by 71 & 73

VENDOR	Amount Due	PO #	Due Date	11/23/2021
AFDSNY ✓	\$ ✓450.00	10842		2022 Membership Dues
Ameritas Life Insurance ✓	\$ ✓6,370.36	10841		Dec 2021 Dental Insurance
Bell Copiers ✓	\$ ✓946.00	10838		Sta 2 Radio Room copier maint. Agreement
Bottini Fuel ✓	\$ ✓1,351.88	10843		Diesel Fuel & Propane deliveries
Central Hudson ✓	\$ ✓882.86	10844		Sta 2 & 3 Electric charges Oct 2021
CPL Architecture & Engineering ✓	\$ ✓5,200.00	10845		Prepare Bid documents for Sta 2
Dell ✓	\$ ✓1,680.12	10530		Computer Monitors
Dutchess Overhead Doors ✓	\$ ✓754.00			Replace power & circuit boards
Eileen Cirigliano ✓	\$ ✓70.00	10861		Election Inspector
Fleet Pride ✓	\$ ✓40.00	10847		State Inspections 47-32 & 47-55
Fleet Pride ✓	\$ ✓156.32	5206		Motor oil for 47-11,13, & 55
HG Page ✓	\$ ✓130.47	5224		Salt, nozzles, hose, & bulbs
Hi-Tech Fire & Safety ✓	\$ ✓4,105.40	10839		Turnout gear
Jeanne Gensch ✓	\$ ✓70.00	10864		Election Inspector
Jeanne Jones ✓	\$ ✓70.00	10862		Election Inspector
Judyth Petschko ✓	\$ ✓70.00	10865		Election Inspector
KoscoHeritage ✓	\$ ✓747.44	10848		Fuel Oil deliveries for Stas 1 & 3
Laerdal Medical Corp ✓	\$ ✓3,508.77	10807		Mannikins & accessories
Lisa Sassi ✓	\$ ✓70.00	10866		Election Inspector
Magna5 ✓	\$ ✓445.62	10849		Phone service for Stas 2 & 3
Maureen Vogel ✓	\$ ✓70.00	10863		Election Inspector
Medical Warehouse ✓	\$ ✓318.99			Expendable medical supplies
Meridian Medical Technologies ✓	\$ ✓1,776.68	10637		Cyanokits
NYS & Local Retirement ✓	\$ ✓30,547.00	10860		Annual Retirement Invoice - ERS
NYS & Local Retirement ✓	\$ ✓921,931.00	10859		Annual Retirement Invoice - PFRS
Optimum ✓	\$ ✓496.43	10850		Cable & Internet Service
Poughkeepsie Journal ✓	\$ ✓60.20	10851		Publish Notice of Public Hearing
Precision Automotive ✓	\$ ✓510.70	10852		Battery Replacement on 47-89
Redemption Mechanical ✓	\$ ✓3,170.00	10858		Sta 1 Emergency Boiler Repairs
Shelterpoint ✓	\$ ✓1,002.54	10853		Vision Insurance Dec. 2021
Staples ✓	\$ ✓872.51	10855		Copy paper & household supplies
Stryker Sales Corp ✓	\$ ✓3,204.39	10725		Powerload upgrades & install
Stryker Sales Corp ✓	\$ ✓99.20	10813		Laryngoscope batteries
Town of LaGrange ✓	\$ ✓51.75	10854		Sta 2 quarterly water/sewer bill
Verizon Fios ✓	\$ ✓139.00	10857		Sta 2 Internet Service
Verizon Wireless ✓	\$ ✓609.62	10856		Cell phone service Oct. 2021

<b>TOTAL SUBMITTED</b>	<b>\$ 991,979.25</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Commissioner Signatures:</b>
<i>changes listed:</i>		11/23/21	
		11/23/21	
<b>TOTAL APPROVED</b>		11/23/21	
<b>KEY:</b>		11/23/21	
pre-paid		11/23/21	
Paid		11/23/21	