



LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



MINUTES BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS Special Meeting – Tuesday, December 7th, 2021

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

At 6:09 pm Chairman Marc Komorsky called the Board of Fire Commissioners' Special Meeting to order for Tuesday, December 7th, 2021, then led the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the meeting.

Secretary Le said she was having trouble hearing the Board through the microphones. The Board took a few minutes to troubleshoot the audio system.

MINUTES: 11/9/21 Regular Meeting

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Commissioner Burns, the Board RESOLVED to approve the minutes from the 11/9/21 Regular Meeting. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank You Card – Hexel

ROOM USE REQUESTS: (*none*)

REPORTS: (by officers present)

• **Treasurer –**

REPORT: Treasurer Mark Pozniak said that he was giving the Board another unofficial report because of his time constraints in resolving issues with tracking accounts for the Paychex transition. He said that it wasn't anything to worry about, that the issue was with him having the time to do it, not anything with Paychex or the payroll processing system.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pozniak said he had two Executive Session items – one regarding dental and vision plans for non-union employees and one about the administrative benefits document.

Komorsky said that the Board audited the bank statements from 8/31/21 for the Tompkins Mahopac Bank General Fund Checking account, General Fund Money Market, Apparatus Reserve, Land & Building Reserve account, Personnel Services account, and Trust & Agency Checking account and everything was in good order. He said they audited the statements from 9/30/21 for the General Fund Checking account, General Fund Money Market, Apparatus Reserve, Land & Building Reserve, and the General Fund Personnel Services account and everything was in good order as well. Next he said the same for the 10/31/21 statements for the General Fund Checking account, General Fund Money

BoFC Special Meeting 12/7/21

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Market, Personnel Services account, Apparatus Reserve account, Land & Building Reserve account, and the Trust & Agency checking account and he said everything was in good order.

- **Chief –**

TRAINING: Fire Chief Tim O'Connor said Lieutenant Martell is at Montour doing his Fire Instructor II training, which is the last piece he needs for his MTO status. Chief O'Connor said there is a Company Officer Leadership Training circuit that might be holding a class in Dutchess County in the spring that would be a good class for management and leadership training.

VEHICLES: The Chief said that the staff is looking into getting a plow on (47-)89 and the first quote from Hudson River Truck and Trailer was \$9038.48. He discussed the concerns with 47-97 lasting through the season and being able to use the plow on a replacement truck once one is available and ordered. Komorsky said that he thinks the town's highway superintendent is selling a couple of plow trucks. Discussion followed regarding how well the highway department takes care of their vehicles. Komorsky said he would call the highway department to ask.

ACCIDENTS: Chief O'Connor reported that there has been no new accidents. He said that 47-11 will be picked up tomorrow by Premier to do the repairs from the earlier incident.

PERSONNEL: The Chief reported that Cameron Tuller is now a full member of Group 2. Next he said the officer exam results are out and that interviews will need to be held soon for lieutenants as well as for firefighters. He said he hopes to have a list sometime next week and that there may be an academy held in February or early March in Westchester so he would like to move quickly. Discussion followed regarding transfer inquiries and the need for an interested transfer to go through and get approval from Dutchess County Civil Service. Sassi asked if any of the candidates were medics and the Chief said that a couple were but the County needs to hold another FPAT in the spring for the Firefighter/Medic list. Discussion followed about the FPAT and when the next one would be held.

SAFETY: Chief O'Connor said that they are reinstituting the Safety Committee as part of the workers' compensation Mandatory Workplace and Safety Loss Prevention program recommendations. He reviewed the work done by the last Safety Committee and noted that it hasn't been active for several years, but he would like to do the things required by workers' comp. and also build on some of the things the previous committee had been doing.

GRANT: The Chief said that he and Benenati had a phone conference with FEMA about expenses related to Tropical Storm Ida. He said the District has been approved for reimbursement but he doesn't have an amount yet because the related expenses are being calculated. He reviewed the expenses that are eligible for reimbursement then a short discussion followed regarding the grant.

POLICIES: Chief O'Connor said he is currently working on a driving policy as well as a new accident and illness reporting policy and a new way to do the accident investigations. He said he is trying to match these to what the workers' compensation program requires.

TOWN DEVELOPMENT: Chief O'Connor reported that he went to the Town Planning Board meeting last week and will continue to attend them so the District's concerns are recognized by the Town. Further discussion followed regarding the need to consider the impacts to the District of all of the development in the town.

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

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- **EMS Administrator –**

COVID: EMS Administrator Michael Benenati gave a brief update and said the NYS Department of Health is starting to ramp things up in relation to COVID and said the next meeting with the Bureau is scheduled for next Thursday to get more information. Short discussion followed about addressing the items as they come down from the State.

OFFICE FURNITURE: Benenati said the staff heard reports that Hudson Valley Office Furniture is going out of business and having a large sale. He said that he asked for authorization to go get items that are needed since they are on sale and would be harder to get once the store is gone from the area. Short discussion followed regarding the need for a desk or two and a couple of chairs. Komorsky said he feels if there is an opportunity to get the items at a discount then they should get them.

Upon a MOTION Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board resolved to spend up to \$10,000 on closeout furniture to purchase chairs, and desks, and sidearms. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

EXECUTIVE: Benenati said he had one personnel item for Executive Session.

- **Chief – (cont.)**

GRANTS: Chief O'Connor said there is one more grant he is going to go after for extrication equipment on 47-11. Short discussion followed regarding the micro-grant and the equipment involved.

- **Department – (no report)**

- **Union –**

Union President Kyle Rancourt said he would like to start talking about Station 1 because more people are going to be out there in the near future. He said there is a little bit of time but he doesn't want to wait to start planning. He said they could put some people together to get input and ideas to start working on the space. Short discussion followed regarding the need to figure out a long-term solution for the space. Rancourt said he would reach out to some people and get back to the Board with some dates to meet after the first of the year.

Rancourt said he had one personnel item for Executive Session.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Repairs and Repair Requests** – Komorsky said that he spoke to RABCO earlier in the day and that the metal siding has arrived so the work should get started in the next day or two. Chief O'Connor said that Redemption Mechanical is working on the boiler at Station 1 and that the engineer has provided the specs for the generator so that should be put out to bid so the work can be done in the spring. O'Connor said that Redemption is going to Station 3 tomorrow to work on the oil/water separator. He expressed his support for getting the work done at Station 1 that Rancourt mentioned. Short discussion followed regarding the work needed at Station 1. O'Connor brought up the doors that need to be repaired or replaced at Station 2. Discussion followed regarding getting the doors replaced.

Upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to spend up to \$15,000 to repair and replace the doors that need to be done at Firehouse 2. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

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Short discussion followed regarding NYS bidding requirements and aggregating purchases that can be reasonably predicted within the year by vendor type.

- **Recruitment & Retention –**

Short discussion held on the volunteers that have been coming in to do training.

- **Physicals –**

Komorsky asked if TEK ever reached back out to the Chief. O'Connor said he received a list of questions from them and responded so he is just waiting to hear back. Short discussion followed regarding the vendor being small and possibly short staffed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Agreement to use DCDER Training Center** – Secretary Le said that the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response sent their agreement to use the training center.

Upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Pignataro the Board RESOLVED to approve signing the permission letter to use the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response training center and additional training facilities. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

- **NYS Volunteer Cancer Benefit Coverage - 2022** – Short discussion held regarding who is covered by the plan.

Upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve the enhanced plan (see attached) for a total of \$1691.50. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

ABSTRACT: \$142,948.62

Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to pay the bills as per the abstract of \$142,948.62 for the months of November and December. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *(none)*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:35 pm, upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss five personnel and two contractual items from Komorsky, two personnel items from O'Connor, one personnel item from Benenati, one personnel item from Rancourt, and one dental/vision item and one administrative benefit document item from Pozniak. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

OPEN SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE:

At 9:48 pm, the Board resumed Open Session.

Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve the Full Time Administrative Staff Pay & Benefits with the changes made. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

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ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:51 pm, upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Bria Le – District Secretary

Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 1/11/22

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New York State Volunteer Firefighter Cancer Benefit Program

Proposal for Coverage

Effective Date: 01/01/2022

Anniversary Date: January 1

Fire Entity Name: LaGrange Fire District

Insurer: Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company

Current Plan Selection: Enhanced Plan

The NYS Volunteer Cancer Benefit Program offers two plans. One plan offers coverage for specific severe and less severe cancers listed in GML 205-CC. The second plan offers coverage for all types of severe and less severe forms of cancer.

There are two coverage components for both plans required by GML 205 - CC:

1. Lump Sum Cancer Benefit and Death Benefit
2. Long-Term Disability

Estimated annual premiums are based on the Eligible Firefighter roster data provided by the fire entity or municipality.

Option1: Basic Plan

Component 1 Lump Sum Cancer Benefit and Death Benefit	
Annual Rate per firefighter:	\$100.75
Maximum Benefit per diagnosis:	\$6,250 (less severe forms of cancer)
	\$25,000 (severe forms of cancer)
Death Benefit per firefighter:	\$50,000

Component 2 Long-Term Disability	
Annual Rate per firefighter:	\$31.85
Monthly Benefit per firefighter:	\$1,500

Option1:Estimated Annual Premium for Firefighters:	\$1326.00
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Option2: Enhanced Plan

Component 1 Lump Sum Cancer Benefit and Death Benefit	
Annual Rate per firefighter:	\$132.10
Maximum Benefit per diagnosis:	\$6,250 (less severe forms of cancer)
	\$25,000 (severe forms of cancer)
Death Benefit per firefighter:	\$50,000

Component 2 Long-Term Disability	
Annual Rate per firefighter:	\$37.05
Monthly Benefit per firefighter:	\$1,500

Option2:Estimated Annual Premium for Firefighters:	\$1691.50
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Effective Date: 01/01/2022

Anniversary Date: January 1

Fire Entity Name: LaGrange Fire District

Insurer: Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company

Current Plan Selection: Enhanced Plan

Plan Selection

☐ Basic Plan - offers coverage for specific severe and less severe cancers listed in GML 205-CC

☐ Enhanced Plan - offers coverage for all types of severe and less severe forms of cancer

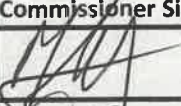



Signature

Date

Print Name

Title

Please indicate the plan selection for the 01/01/2022-01/01/2023 plan year and return this completed form to FFCP@aisadmin.com

VENDOR	Amount Due	PO #	Due Date	12/7/2021
Arlington Fire District →	\$ ✓ 538.96	10727		ACLS class 9/10/21
Arlington Fire District →	\$ ✓ 2,838.61	10869		Reimbursement for bldg materials
Bottini Fuel ✓	\$ ✓ 1,196.91	10882		Diesel fuel delivery
Cryo Weld ✓	\$ ✓ 39.71	10883		Oxygen delivery
David Violante ✓	\$ ✓ 625.00	10886		CIC Services
Everdixie ✓	\$ ✓ 301.17	10868		EMS supplies
Freihofer →	\$ ✓ 90.00			Water delivery
Freihofer →	\$ ✓ 67.50			Water delivery
Frontier Communications ✓	\$ ✓ 114.46	10871		Sta 1 phone service
Jackson Lewis ✓	\$ ✓ 17,256.00	10884		Professional Services
Kosco Heritage ✓	\$ ✓ 318.19	10872		Sta 1 fuel oil delivery
Mass Mutual ✓	\$ ✓ 442.25	10879		Life Insurance annual premiums
Medical Warehouse ✓	\$ ✓ 2,756.41			Medical supplies
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 612.58			Equipment repair & maintenance
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 1,751.12			Uniform items
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 225.00			Uniform items
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 186.72			Uniform items
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 841.04	5202		Equipment repairs
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 356.64	5200		4 & 2 cycle fuel
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 356.64	5203		4 & 2 cycle fuel
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 489.50	5223		Meter testing gas
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 750.80			Uniform items
Municipal Emergency Svs	\$ ✓ 58.00			Badges
NYCOMCO ✓	\$ ✓ 1,606.00	5186		Battery, antenna, & case
NYSIF ✓	\$ ✓ 12,528.45	10873		WC premium adjustment from audit
Safety Instruments ✓	\$ ✓ 510.00	10870		Meter testing
Security Mutual ✓	\$ ✓ 1,196.50	10875		Life Insurance annual premiums
State of NY (NYSHIP) ✓	\$ ✓ 90,568.82	10885		Employee health insurance Jan 2022
The Workplace ✓	\$ ✓ 1,898.00	10880		Member physicals Nov. 2021
Tompkins ✓	\$ ✓ 1,153.91	10878		Credit card purchases Nov 2021
Utica National Ins. ✓	\$ ✓ 25.00	10876		Ins. Premium due to change endorsement
VESO Life ✓	\$ ✓ 321.89			Volunteer life insurance
WEX Bank	\$ 926.84	10881		Gasoline purchases
TOTAL SUBMITTED \$ 142,948.62				Date: Commissioner Signatures:
changes listed:			12/7/21	
			12/7/21	
			12/7/21	
TOTAL APPROVED				12/7/21 
KEY:				
pre-paid				
Paid				