



# LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



## MINUTES BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS Regular Meeting – Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

ATTENDEES: Chairman Marc Komorsky (*absent*)      Commissioner George Burns  
Commissioner Richard Sassi      Commissioner Anthony Pignataro  
Commissioner Barry Ward      Chief Tim O'Connor  
Deputy Chief Anthony Champion      EMS Administrator Michael Benenati (*absent*)  
Treasurer Mark Pozniak      Secretary Bria Le

At 6:10 pm, Acting Chairman Rich Sassi called the Regular Meeting of the LaGrange Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners to order for Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### MINUTES: 4/11/23

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Burns and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

### CORRESPONDENCE:

- Resignation – Yarango-Curet. Sassi thanked Natalia for her service to the District and for giving plenty of notice so they can work with her on getting a replacement.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to accept the resignation for Natalia Yarango-Curet effective May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

### ROOM USE REQUESTS:

- Station 2 for blood drive on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by Assemblyman AJ Beephan.

Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve the assemblyman's request for the use of the room on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at Station 2 for the blood drive. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Brief discussion followed regarding the state of the room after the last blood drive.

### OLD BUSINESS/UNRESOLVED ITEMS:

- **Station 3 Outside Fire** – Fire Chief Tim O'Connor reviewed the electrical work that needed to be done and said they are now complete with prices for the unit. He said they will go through insurance and brief discussion followed.
- **EMS Cost Recovery** – Sassi said they are moving along with the EMS Cost Recovery program. He said he received and reviewed the initial reports but some have patient data so they haven't been shared with the Board. He reported on his follow-up discussions with Proclaim and noted that the recovery being seen now is only a portion of what they will see because of the lookback from last year. Lengthy discussion followed about the reports from Proclaim, the privacy practices, and updated training for the staff.

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- **Station 2 Brick Pointing** – Commissioner Barry Ward said they are still trying to find someone to do the work. He said it adds to the list of things to be done relative to that topic.
- **Station 1 & 3 Roof Replacements** – Ward said that the process continues.
- **Station 3 Storage Room & Station 1 Building Update** – Ward said there is no change on any building statuses.
- **Station 3 Boiler** – Deputy Chief Anthony Champion said that Redemption Mechanical was looking to start at the end of this month or beginning of next.
- **ESO Reporting status update** – Chief O'Connor noted that they have been working on an assets and checklist module for the better part of a year, but at the seminar in Texas he learned that ESO is abandoning the module the District is using and replacing it with a separate series of module. He said that it was a better platform and will work much easier with stuff they currently do, but that some of the work done in the past year will be lost and need to be redone. He said that at the end of the day it will be much better. Brief discussion followed regarding the new module. Chief O'Connor said he can give the Board access to the reports and they can go in and see them. Lengthy discussion followed regarding the monthly statistics report and getting a third party to create reports.
- **Mechanic's Helper Position** – DC Champion that the position has been posted on the website and on Instagram. He said he is trying to verify the appropriateness of the projected salary with some people that are in the field. Brief discussion followed regarding posting the position on Linked In.
- **Physicals Status Update** – Sassi said that he will discuss physicals with the Union when their meeting is rescheduled. Discussion held about physicals at Tek.
- **Grant Update** – Chief O'Connor noted that the MIG grant was submitted and he has some training items under the MIG. He said there is a Rope Ops class at Dutchess County Dept. of Emergency Response training center that is being run by OFPC and will be at the end of June. He said it was part of the MIG grant from last year with Arlington. Discussion followed in regards to sending the probies to the class. O'Connor said that the COVID grant is still in process. Brief discussion followed regarding additional help for uploading the grant documentation.
- **Door Security** – Ward said that the Board approved the monies for the door security and camera system at the last meeting. Brief discussion followed about getting status updates. Tabled for Executive Session due to a security issue.
- **Station 2 Meeting Room Videoconferencing System** – DC Champion said that EMS Administrator Michael Benenati had a meeting with Hudson Valley Audio and noted that the topic sits with them at this time.
- **Diesel Tank Accessories** – Deputy Chief Champion said that Optimum hasn't gotten back to him about a secondary overflow prevention and that they will need about three additional bollards based on OSHA recommendations.
- **Radio Tower Lease** – DC Champion said that they send out a letter requesting an updated copy of the lease but haven't gotten a reply back yet.
- **Station 3 Water Testing** – Sassi said that the well was taken care of and asked about the status of the salt. He said the tester came in so he will go out and test the hardness to make sure it is working properly. Brief discussion held about maintaining the salt at Station 3.

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- **Station 2 Storage Room Shelving** – Champion said they received a quote from Devens for \$2689. He said he looked into additional options as suggested at the last meeting. He reported the costs for metal shelving from Uline upwards of \$1554, Home Depot of \$1047, and Grainger of \$1832.63. He said the benefit of the wood shelving is that the staff will be able to push things right to the wall and not worrying about items falling down into the heat registers or stuff getting lost behind the shelving.  
Upon a MOTION made by Ward and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to approve the proposal from K&J Devens for the Station 2 shelving in the amount of \$2689. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**
- **Volunteer Firefighter & Ambulance Worker Tax Exemption** – Secretary Bria Le said that the public hearing on the Volunteer Firefighter & Ambulance Worker Tax Exemption is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 6 pm. Brief discussion followed regarding the resolution. Tabled until after Executive Session.
- **Sta 2 Meeting Room Tables & Chairs** – DC Champion said that since they are moving forward with the shelving from Devens they will only need a chair dolly, not a chair and table combo dolly. He reviewed the pricing for chairs, tables, and a dolly from Grainger, Home Depot, and Uline. Discussion followed about the price difference in the chairs. Ward said that if the Deputy Chief is under his \$5000 (spending) limit and it is the best price, then he should go do it.
- **Building Repairs/Repair Requests** – Ward confirmed that there have been no issues with the roof and that the yellow striping has been done. He said they are now good for the final payment.

Sassi requested to add HIPAA compliance to the agenda under Old Business/Unresolved Items. Brief discussion followed regarding who will follow up on the item.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- **Out of County Training Requests** – Chief O'Connor gave the Board a quick follow up on the requests from Westchester that were discussed at the last meeting.  
O'Connor said he received two training requests from the new Public Relations Officer Mike Henry – a Basic Public Information Officer class on 6/20 at the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Service and a Fire Prevention Educator course at West Point on 8/28. Brief discussion followed regarding the Public Relations Officer. O'Connor brought up a meter calibration course in September but said it is filled. He reviewed the benefits of having a second person certified in calibrating the meters and wanted to be able to register for a course when it becomes available.  
Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve to send a firefighter to the PIO class out of county. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**  
Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve sending a firefighter to the Fire Prevention Educator course. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**
- **New Tahoes Packet Pricing** – Deputy Chief Champion reviewed the quotes received for lighting, cabinetry, and radios. He recommended they go with EVS for the lighting, the cabinetry in the back, and the center console. Brief discussion followed regarding the quotes. DC Champion said the lighting done by EVS is done off of state bid. Ward asked if they should parse out the cabinets separately and Treasurer Mark Pozniak said that he thinks it is reasonable to say that these items would be acquired

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from different vendors so they should be looked at as separate awards. Brief discussion followed regarding the radios from Motorola **being on state bid.**

Upon a MOTION made by Ward and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve \$51,360 for the radios from Motorola. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Upon a MOTION made by Ward and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve \$31,187.63 for both staff vehicles for lighting as per state bid through EVS. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Upon a MOTION made by Ward and SECONDED by Burns, the BOARD RESOLVED to approve cabinetry for both staff vehicles through First Response for \$16,885.74. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Brief discussion followed about compiling the information for a permissive referendum for the two vehicles.

- **Volunteer Application** – Tabled pending Company 1 approval.

### REPORTS: (by officers present)

- **Treasurer –**

AUDIT:

Pozniak said that the auditors are largely done with their field work and will now be going back to the office. He said it would still most likely be a couple of months to finish up.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pozniak said he had one audit and two personnel issue for Executive Session.

- **Chief –**

NOTABLE INCIDENTS: Chief O'Connor reported that 47-55 was struck when blocking an accident on (Rt.) 82. Discussion followed regarding the incident.

PERSONNEL: The Chief said the probies are still doing well in Montour and noted their graduation is June 3rd. Brief discussion held about attending the Montour graduation and visiting the Westchester Academy. O'Connor reported that the Captain's exam was posted on Friday and discussion followed regarding civil service exams.

ASSIGNMENT: Chief O'Connor said the Chief of Dover came out and asked if LaGrange would mind being put on one of their assignments on the eastern side of their district. O'Connor said they were looking to add a tanker as they are currently using a department out of Connecticut but it is taking them a long time to get to the southeastern corner of Dover.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chief O'Connor said he had three items from EMS Administrator Michael Benenati personnel items for Executive Session and three administrative and two personnel items from himself.

- **EMS Administrator –** (no report)

- **Deputy Chief –**

SERVICE: Deputy Chief Champion said that Ingersoll Rand recently came in and serviced all three compressors. He noted the issues with the Station 2 compressor and said it has been shut off and

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taken offline. He said he is trying to get a recommendation from Ingersoll Rand for a comparable replacement that is half the size. He said he wasn't sure if it would be an emergency purchase or not and brief discussion followed regarding the need to replace the compressor immediately. Ward said he thought it was an emergency purchase and Burns agreed.

MECHANICAL: The Deputy Chief reviewed the current vehicle repairs and the upcoming preventative maintenance that is scheduled. Brief discussion followed regarding the repairs to (47- )73.

- **Department** – *(no report)*
- **Union** – *(no report)*

**ABSTRACT:** \$143,345.83

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to pay the bills in the amount of \$143,345.83 as per the abstract. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

At 8:06 pm, Sassi opened the meeting to public comments. There were no public comments.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 8:09 pm, upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss two personnel items from Burns, one personnel item from Pignataro, 13 carryover items from last meeting from Ward, three personnel items from Pozniak, two personnel items from Sassi, and three admin and three personnel items from the Chief. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

**OPEN SESSION & ADJOURNMENT:**

At 11:23 pm the Board resumed Open Session.

Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Ward, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bria Le – District Secretary

***Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 6/13/23***

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LFD ABSTRACT			5/9/2023
V #	VENDOR	AMOUNT DUE	DESCRIPTION
360	Bottini Fuel ✓	✓ 829.50	NT Clear diesel 300.0 g @2.7650
	Brendan Whalen ✓	✓ 69.80	FDIC conference - transport to/from airport
	Cardinal Health ✓	✓ 55.68	EMS Medication
	Central Hudson ✓	✓ 908.87	Electric charges Station 1
	Dell ✓	✓ 207.75	VLA Office 365 monthly subs.
	Dell ✓	✓ 277.00	VLA enterprise teams rooms
	EU-TE Design LLC ✓	✓ 5,068.00	Sta 2 Ready Room flooring
	Everdixie ✓	✓ 124.14	EMS Medications
	Everdixie ✓	✓ 535.80	EMS Medications
	Freihofer Ice & Water ✓	✓ 162.00	Spring water delivered Stas 1 & 2
	Frontier ✓	✓ 145.17	Telephone service STA 1 04/25-05-24
	HAUN Welding ✓	✓ 102.78	Nitrous Oxide delivery
	John Giaino & Son ✓	✓ 765.11	Electrical work Sta 2 new circuit for data rack office.
	LB Landscaping ✓	✓ 480.00	spring cleaning and lawn mowing STA 3
	Medical Warehouse ✓	✓ 257.52	Expendable medical supplies
	Medical Warehouse ✓	✓ 1,095.44	Expendable medical supplies
	Medical Warehouse ✓	✓ 335.82	Expendable medical supplies
	Medical Warehouse ✓	✓ 212.64	Expendable medical supplies
	Medical Warehouse ✓	✓ 97.35	Expendable medical supplies
	MES ✓	✓ 246.00	New hire belts & ties
	MES ✓	✓ 448.28	O'Dell uniform items
	MES ✓	✓ 780.89	DC Uniform items
	Precision Automotive ✓	✓ 376.74	2013 GMC Yukon oil change, AC filter. Headlights repl.
	Precision Automotive ✓	✓ 509.29	2007 chevy sub. 2500 Replace and repairs
	Premier Fire Apparatus ✓	✓ 952.83	47-32 oil leak and check engine light repairs
	Redemption Mechanical ✓	✓ 4,500.00	STA @ new office remove heating zone and drain
	Royal Carting Svc. ✓	✓ 469.48	Garbage removal Sta's 1, 2, & 3
	Shelter Point Life Ins. ✓	✓ 137.37	June vision premium
	State of NY Health Ins. (NYSHIP) ✓	✓ 114,907.18	June insurance premium
	Stryker Medical ✓	✓ 152.70	EMS equipment
	Stryker Medical ✓	✓ 318.62	EMS equipment
	Stryker Medical ✓	✓ 59.74	EMS equipment
	Superior Telephone ✓	✓ 1,041.92	Relocate extension DC & MTO extensions
	Tompkins Card member card ✓	✓ 4,222.55	Montly charges
	VCI Emergency Vehicle ✓	✓ 275.26	Repair unit 47-72
	VESO ✓	✓ 349.61	Life insurance June 2023
	Wright Express Fleet SVC ✓	✓ 1,361.13	Unleaded gas and diesel fuel purchase April 2023
	TOTAL UNPAID BILLS	\$ 142,839.96	
	Paychex	251.04	Payroll WE 04/23
	Paychex	254.83	Payroll WE 04/30
	TOTAL PAID BILLS	\$ 505.87	
	TOTAL BILLS TO APPROVE	\$ 143,345.83	
	Changes		
	Commissioner's Signatures		Commissioner's Signatures
	<i>[Signature]</i> 5-8-23		
	<i>[Signature]</i> 5/9/23		
	<i>[Signature]</i> 5/9/23	\$ 143,345.83	