



MINUTES BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS Regular Meeting - January 23rd, 2024 - 6:00pm

ATTENDEES: Commissioner Marc Komorsky Commissioner Richard Sassi Commissioner Robert Taft District Secretary Bria Le Commissioner Barry Ward Commissioner Anthony Pignataro (via Teams) Deputy Chief Anthony Champion

At 6:09 PM, Chairman Marc Komorsky called the Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting to order for Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for Mike Hackett, a former firefighter, officer, chief and commissioner. He then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES: - 12/13/23 Regular Meeting & 12/15/23 Special Meeting, 1/9/24 Organizational & Regular Meeting, and 1/19/24 Special Meeting.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Ward, the Board RESOLVED to approve the 12/13/23 Regular Meeting minutes. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Abstain, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried**.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve the 12/15/23 Special Meeting minutes. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried**.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to approve the 1/9/24 Organizational & Regular Meeting minutes. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to approve the 1/19/24 Special Meeting minutes. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: -

- Checks from NYS DOH for EMT and Paramedic recertifications, \$1300.00 & \$1300.00.
- Check from Utica National for refund due to endorsement credits for \$171.00.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to deposit all the funds into the General Fund. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

- Dutchess County Board of Elections 2024 Poll Site Notice. They were planning to deliver the machines for the Primary on March 28th or 29th for an April 2 election and pick them up the day after. They will deliver the machines on June 20th or 21st for the June 25th election and will pick them up the day after the election. For the General Election, they will drop off October 31st or November 1st for the Tuesday, November 5th election. They will pick up Wednesday, November 6th. They have only requested use of Station 2.
- Correspondence from Lt. Herring-Trott





ROOM USE REQUESTS:

Request to use Station 3 by Lieutenant Kyle Rancourt on 4/13/24 from 9 AM to 2 PM.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Taft, the Board RESOLVED to allow Lieutenant Kyle Rancourt use of Station 3 on April 13, 2024, from 9 AM to 2 PM. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

OLD BUSINESS/UNRESOLVED ITEMS:

- <u>2023 Tahoe Customization Bid Openings</u> Secretary Le stated there were two bid packages received from the five vendors who requested specs. The first one received is from Emergency Vehicles Specialist out of Poughkeepsie, New York. The cost is \$30,584.40 per vehicle for a total of \$61,168.80 for both vehicles. The second one received was from Com Links. The estimate submitted by them included Whelan lights instead of the ones in the specs. Their cost estimate was \$54,324.48 total which breaks down to \$27,162.24 per vehicle. Commissioner Ward asked if the customization was just for the cabinets and lighting. Deputy Chief Champion said yes, the striping was already done. Commissioner Pignataro asked if the Deputy Chief or someone was going to go through both bids to make sure that they meet the specifications required. Commissioner Ward stated their standard practice is that the chief will review them and then at the next meeting they will vote on it. Deputy Chief Champion stated they will review it.
- <u>Station 1 Building Update</u> Commissioner Ward stated the drawings are in progress and they will hopefully have them next month. He did speak to Mr. Bolner before the meeting. Chairman Komorsky asked if they were supposed to have these already and Commissioner Ward stated they were shooting for February.
- <u>Station 3 Storage Room</u> Commissioner Ward stated there is no update at this time.
- <u>Station 2 Brick Pointing</u> Commissioner Ward stated there was no update at this time. He did state that at Station 2 there are a few minor leaks that they encountered during the snow conditions. They will have somebody there this week to look at that. It is unknown if it is the roof or the parapet at this point. If they should notice any other issues the Deputy Chief or Secretary should call Mr. Bolner right away.
- <u>Physicals status update</u> Commissioner Sassi stated he has nothing new to report on this right now. He is hoping to meet next week with Commissioner Ward and the Union.
- <u>ESO Reporting status update</u> Deputy Chief Champion stated he reached out to Skip Mootz from Roosevelt via e-mail. The Deputy Chief looked into the analytics and insight files on ESO and they do have some reporting capabilities. He is trying to see what reports they had in Firehouse that they can now get from ESO. Commissioner Ward stated he might be able to help some with that as well.
- <u>Grant update</u> Deputy Chief Champion stated that regarding the Covid Grant, he submitted the appropriate data to the representatives, so it is now under review. He should hear back by the end of the week. This is regarding management cost recovery associated with the Covid grant. The RPA 4723 has been submitted on a recommendation of Lagrange's Treasurer and a FEMA representative for withdrawal because he has not submitted anything for reimbursement within their jurisdiction. He has e-mailed FEMA and requested updates because he is waiting for additional information on the mutual aid response to Orange County. He has to reach out to Orange County as well to see if they have done anything. Chairman Komorsky asked if this was time sensitive and Deputy Chief Champion stated that the RPA does close out next week. There are extensions that he just received notifications for if that needs to be done. He has to figure out if it comes

BoFC Regular Meeting 1/23/24

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from Dutchess County or Orange County and FEMA should help with that. By the end of the week the Deputy Chief will have submitted another reimbursement request for funding for the individuals associated with that. He is waiting for a meeting with Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response and the County office about the MIG Grant. They want to discuss where the funding would go in regard to ballistic wear. He will make sure the commissioners are kept up to date on everything.

- <u>Station 2 Meeting Room Videoconferencing system</u> Deputy Chief Champion stated he spoke with Jeff, who has been helping with this project. As of the last meeting they did receive a quote for the A/V aspects of grade and finishing the project in this room. He spoke with Hughes, and they should have something by weeks end.
- <u>Diesel Tank Accessories</u> Deputy Chief Champion stated there was no updated status from New York State DEP PBS Division. He has not reached out about the bollards at Station 2. The quarterly inspections paperwork is being generated.
- <u>HIPAA Compliance</u> Deputy Chief Champion stated this is a work in progress. They are set to gather information outside of these meetings to discuss and bring information back.
- <u>Building Repairs/Repair Requests</u> Deputy Chief Champion stated that Redemption Mechanical is in the building tonight. There has been a problem with the circulator and the bearings in the heat unit in the stairwell and the one unit above the tanker in this building. Deputy Chief Champion believes all the parts have come in for that. There is also a relay that burnt up for that heating system and the electrician said there was also a relay that burnt up for the heat in the meeting room. Chairman Komorsky asked if that was because they were old and Deputy Chief Champion stated they could call the electrician in and ask him. Mr. Turner came in and explained that the parts just wear out over time. He did say there may have been a strain put on the circulator, which put a strain on the entire panel. That is being replaced tonight. When he designed the system, he did give a spot for spare zoning in case a relay did go. They did use that this time and they will be replacing that so they will continue to have a spare for next time there is an issue.

Commissioner Sassi stated that last year they started talking about community EMS standbys. He knows the carnival usually puts in their request right about now, so he wanted to start a discussion as to whether they were going to continue doing what they have been doing or making changes. Some of the topics that came up and were discussed were regarding not participating or adding a cost for certain events. Right now, they do the Community Carnival which used to be the Firemen's Carnival, but it is now run by the Knights of Columbus. They do the Fall Festival and certain town events like the Festival of Lights, some football games and there have been some private requests that they have entertained. They used to have volunteers' participation but now it seems to be fully paid staff. He stated they do not need to have this conversation tonight, but he does want it to be something they are aware that needs discussion. Chairman Komorsky stated this could be put on the next agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Training
 - **Out of County training** Deputy Chief Champion stated he had a request from a few members of the Apparatus Committee who would like to be permitted to go to the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs Long Island/Metro Fire Expo. This is a venue with a lot of rigs, and they are actively engaged in researching a new rescue truck, and new gear. There is a \$25 per person registration fee and they are asking for four people to be allowed to attend. Deputy Chief Champion put together some time costs, and for Saturday it would be eight hours at overtime rates for four
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people for approximately \$2000 total. It would just be for the Expo floor and not for the conference. If they choose to go on a Sunday, it would be six hours and that is approximately \$1500. Deputy Chief Champion stated he feels Saturday would be the better day because it gives them more time to get to all the vendors. Commissioner Taft asked for a little more information as to what is at the show and Deputy Chief Champion explained it.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Ward and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to allow up to four members to attend the New York State Association of fire Chiefs Long Island/Metro Fire Expo at a cost of approximately \$2000 for Saturday attendance. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi– Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.**

In County Training - Deputy Chief Champion stated that there will be a Train the Trainer program regarding active shooters for in county Awareness Training. They are looking to get training to all 36 departments, so they are holding a training program. He has one interested member, Lieutenant Rancourt, and would like permission to send at least three individuals to this Train the Trainer event. The overtime costs will be approximately \$200 for three people to attend.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Ward and SECONDED by Commissioner Taft, the Board RESOLVED to allow three firefighters to attend the County awareness Train the Trainer program for active shooters. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi– Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.**

Chairman Komorsky stated they did have some old gear for active shooter such as plates and vests. He asked if it had been disposed of. Deputy Chief Champion stated they are still using what they originally purchased. Chairman Komorsky asked if getting newer gear was part of one of the grants. Deputy Chief Champion stated it is part of the MIG Grant that they applied for last year. Commissioner Ward stated they did have that gear in their equipment line last year.

Deputy Chief Champion stated that graduation is this Friday for the two candidates at the Westchester Academy. He will be heading down for the 10 AM ceremony if anyone wants to join him. They will be starting work Monday morning at 7 AM. Chairman Komorsky asked Deputy Chief Champion to congratulate them from the Board of Fire Commissioners. He stated they moved the interview process back until two o'clock so that the Deputy Chief could be present. Commissioner Sassi stated he would like to join the Deputy Chief on Friday.

• New Member Approval – Chairman Komorsky stated there is a new member pending approval, Richard Sassi.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Ward and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro the Board RESOLVED to approve the membership of firefighter Sassi. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Abstain, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

REPORTS: (by officers present)

- **Treasurer Pozniak** no report in the Treasurer's absence.
- Deputy Chief Anthony Champion
 - **EMS** Deputy Chief Champion stated they did purchase a new stretcher because one of the older ones is out of service for maintenance. Training did start on that today and will continue tomorrow. The lieutenant will make sure the other two groups get the full training on it as well.

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They will most likely go in service on 47-72. He is still following up with the hospitals on updating the Ryan White Officer contact information. They have updated the State on adding himself as a narcotics agent in conjunction with Scott Merritt. Two narcotics boxes were replaced today with no issues. The current medical director, Dr. Murphy, is looking to step down from being Lagrange's Medical Director but has recommended Dr. Joe Felice. He is involved just as heavily as Dr. Murphy is. He is located at Vassar. He has done audits here and is very personable and gotten along quite well with staff. The State is making recommendations for compensation for this position moving forward. Previously Lagrange has not compensated Dr. Murphy directly. The Deputy Chief is looking into what recommendations the State is making. There is a national Medical Director Organization that has outlines for compensation. They may need to go into contract with the new Medical Director. Chairman Komorsky asked what the range is from the State and Deputy Chief Champion stated the State is recommending \$5000 and they are also making a recommendation of multiple medical directors in case one is unavailable. One of the recommendations Dr. Murphy made is possibly getting the Medical Director the fleet card for gas as part of their compensation. That will need to be discussed with the attorney. Chairman Komorsky asked if they had two medical directors would that be \$5000 each and Deputy Chief Champion stated he believed so. He has just started looking into this, so he is unsure at this point. It could be a fleet card in lieu of monetary payment that could be sufficient. Commissioner Ward stated they could negotiate with the medical directors. He is not personally in favor of a fleet card. Commissioner Sassi stated if they do compensation and a contract, in addition to the normal items, they could include a certain number of call audits as well. Deputy Chief Champion said yes, he thought he saw that within the National Medical Director's recommendations and what the State is putting out. Commissioner Ward would like to see a written contract with terms and conditions spelled out. He stated a credit card has minimal ways of managing it. Attorney Hekle asked what the terms for the outgoing Medical Director were. Deputy Chief Champion has not been able to locate any contract yet. He will continue to look for something. Commissioner Ward is not sure anything was ever signed. Chairman Komorsky asked when the current medical director was leaving. Deputy Chief Champion stated she said she will work with them and understands that there is a timeframe to get a new Medical Director on board. His assumption is that she would not want to continue through to next year.

Accidents/ Safety Committee Updates – Deputy Chief Champion stated that as the Chairman alluded to, the bollards around the diesel tanks did prevent the plow truck from going into them. There was a backing incident with 47-97 into one of the bollards. There is some bumper damage. They did enough damage that the tailgate would not open. The mechanic was able to modify the bumper so the tailgate opens. They have investigated replacing that, and an OEM bumper and plastic stripping comes out to approximately \$1000 whereas a heavier duty bumper comes out to approximately \$750. He will be able to install it. It does have additional LED lighting to help illuminate behind the vehicle when backing up. He was talking to a member of the Safety Committee. He will have a full report to get to the Board as soon as it is completed. They did look at training the newer personnel on the plow truck with emphasis on using the mirrors and shying away from the backup cameras. There will also be a review and implementation of training materials for all personnel. Chairman Komorsky stated that oftentimes, in bad weather and when the backup cameras get wet, and you can not see clearly through them anyway. Mirrors are always a better option. Commissioner Pignataro asked if there was any damage to the bollards and Deputy Chief Champion said no.

BoFC Regular Meeting 1/23/24





Deputy Chief Champion stated at the last meeting he discussed door security and looking at the cores of the locks being changed out. The initial calculation would fall into the purchasing policy for requiring two quotes. He is hoping to have that second price by the next meeting.

Deputy Chief Champion brought up the topic of award presentations. Chris Lane will be presented with the plaque that was purchased. The Deputy Chief is looking to see if the Board would like to have a separate meeting to award this. He did not know if the Board wanted to tie this in with the appointment of any additional officers. Senator Rolison and Senator Ryan are looking to coordinate something with regards to summer lifesaving at Overlook Park between the three responding agencies, Lagrange, City of Poughkeepsie, and Arlington.

Deputy Chief Champion also wanted to bring up a commemorative aspect for former Commissioner, Chief, and Officer Mike Hackett for discussion. He wanted to see if the companies want to do anything. Possibly a plaque, a tree, or whatever the Board thought was appropriate. Commissioner Sassi stated they should definitely do something. Chairman Komorsky agreed. He asked what the Deputy Chief would like to see. Deputy Chief Champion stated at least a plaque. He is open to ideas. Everything just finalized with him on Monday, so the Deputy Chief has not had a lot of time to think about it yet. Commissioner Ward stated that Harry Johansson passed away recently as well, and he was also a past member and chief as well. He thought they might want to consider a more ongoing process. Chairman Komorsky stated he was in favor of that as well. He also thanked Deputy Chief Champion for everything that he did for the funeral and services. The Deputy Chief stated he would pass the sentiments along to everyone else that helped as well.

Deputy Chief Champion stated that he had a conversation with the neighboring department chief, and they were discussing an alternate revenue sources in regard to special operations training and equipment. Previously they have gone in jointly on grants to get this funding. They discussed the possibility of the County participating in this. One discussion brought up was a letter that was produced from Lagrange to the County Executive, but that was tied to a specific issue. He is looking to see where the support of the Board is. Chairman Komorsky stated he is all in favor of this. He just wants to be mindful of receiving a grant that they do not have control over. Commissioner Ward stated that in the past all of those training requests came from Arlington. He stated that going forward they need to consider that as resources dwindle and they continue to do mutual aid, if there is an expense incurred, that maybe it could get picked up by the County or participating agencies. It could be in the form of an insurance policy or a surcharge to the County. He is unsure how it could be done but they do need to make sure everything is covered. He also stated that the letter that was sent had to do with a single request regarding staffing.

- **Executive Session** Deputy Chief Champion has four items for Executive Session.
- **Department** Chairman Komorsky the stated he spoke to Bob McCord, and he said to say hello and keep up the good work.
- Union There was no report.

BoFC Regular Meeting 1/23/24





ABSTRACT: \$190,418.59

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Ward and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to pay the bills for the Month of January as per the abstract for \$190,418.59. Ward – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At 6:55PM, Chairman Komorsky opened the meeting to public comments. There was no one.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:56 PM, upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss one personnel item and one contractual item from Chairman Komorsky, four personnel and contractual items from Deputy Chief Champion, one contractual and three personnel items from Commissioner Ward, and one personnel item from Commissioner Sassi. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft– Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.**

OPEN SESSION:

At 8:37 PM the Board resumed Open Session.

PREPARE 2/13/24 MEETING AGENDA: Secretary Le will prepare this.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:38 PM, upon a Motion made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Taft, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by Julie Beyer on behalf of Bria Le – District Secretary *Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 2/27/24*

VENDOR	Amount Due	PO #	1/23/2024
AFFORDABLE INTERIOR SYSTEMS C/O HVOF	\$ 3,113.90	12783	Panels to build sleeping quarters station 1
AMERICAN RED CROSS	\$ 99.00	5477	PALS class
AMERITAS LIFE INS	\$ 636.64	13048	Dental insurance
BOTTINI FUEL	\$ 1,192.82	13039	Diesel fuel for station 2
CENTRAL HUDSON	\$ 2,145.92	13028	Station 2 electric, gas and area light
CENTRAL HUDSON		13049	Station 3 electric & light area
CRYO WELD	\$ 111.07	13003	Compressed Oxygen
DOYLE SECURITY		13044	Stations 1,2,3 radio system maint & monitoring fire alarm
FLEET PRIDE	\$ 77.65		Parts & repairs for 47-72
	•		Notice to bidders for customization for 2023 Chevy Tahoes & BoFC meeting
GANNETT	\$ 113.44	12986	notice
HO PENN	\$ 1,206.00	-	Fuel samples for stations 1,2,3
HAUN WELDING SUPPLY	- A second s	12914	Nitrous oxide & cyl maint & regualification
JULIE BEYER		2023-BL	Meeting transcription from 1/9/24
KOSCOHERITAGEE	\$ 1,108.49	_	Fuel delivery Station 1
	\$ 1,414.95	AA.	Pump Septic Emergency for Station 2
M&O SANITATION MASSMUTUAL		13050	Whole life insurance-career staff
	\$ 1,263.50		Medical supplies
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE		2024AC	Medical supplies
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE		2024AC	Medical supplies
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE		2024AC	Medical supplies
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE			Medical supplies
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE	\$ 480.00		Medical supplies
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE	\$ 150.24		Power receptacle connectors and battery charger 47-71
MONDIAL	\$ 2,811.03		
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SVCS (MES)	\$ 266.54		Forged Halligan Bar for 47-55
NW PEST CONTROL	-	13027	Quarterly pest control services Stations 1,2,3
NYSHIP NYS EMPLOYEES HEALTH INS	\$ 132,057.97		NYS Employees Health Ins prem for Feb 2024
OPTIMUM 6019		13026	Station 1 cable & internet service
OPTIMUM 0011		13025	Station 3 cable & internet service
OPTIMUM 4010	· ·	13024	Station 2 Cable
OPTIMUM 02-9		13033	Station 2 Internet
PROCLAIM	\$ 8,366.79	+	Medicaid claims for December
SALEMSYS	\$ 25,225.00		Annual Equipment & software maint agreement
SARJO INDUSTRIES		12775	Misc parts for mechanic
STRYKER	\$ 3,434.00	10	Service Agreement 1/16/23-1/15/2026 3 payments
TELREPCO (TOUCHBOOK REPAIR)	\$ 230.00	5463	Toughbook hardware repair
THE WORKPLACE-MIKE HENRY RETURN	\$ 80.00	13013	Return to work clearance physical
VERIZON	\$ 151.24	13045	FIOS internet service station 2
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 925.27	13035	Apparatus & smartphone cell phone service 12/23-1/24
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 41.77	13046	Lifepak modem lines
	\$ 190,418.59		Commissioner Eigentungs
TOTAL SUBMITTED	\$ 190,418.59		Commissioner Signatures:
changes listed:	Man	pilasta	MAA
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	1-	1/23/2	HIGH
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