



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES March 15, 2021

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – Chairman
Comm. Bruce Griffing, II – (absent)
Comm. Peter Valdez – Vice Chairman
Comm. Peter Longi
Comm. Richard Dore

Chief: William Steenbergh
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp – (absent)
Director of EMS: David Violante
District Secretary: Renee O'Neill
Treasurer: James Passikoff

Chairman Chiumento opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting at 7:00 p.m., took a roll call of the attendees and everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

I. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*

II. **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD** - *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*

III. **ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Comm. Valdez to approve Abstract 21-3B. Paid bills, 1 total number of checks and it's for \$154.99. Unpaid bills \$112,759.53. Total number of checks is 40 and the total amount is \$112,914.52, for a total number of checks, 41. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. March 1, 2021 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the minutes of March 1st.
Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

V. **MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS** - *No reports given unless otherwise noted.*

A. Service Awards – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Dore

1. Received Engine Co. #1, Red Oaks Mill Fire Company, Rochdale Fire Company and Croft Corners Fire Company's 2020 Fire Department Service Certification Form, 2020 LOSAP Points Report and 2020 Service Awards Program Firefighter Records.

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to accept. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

2. E-mail dated March 5, 2021 from Glens Falls National Bank regarding "Investment Update".

3. Received from Glens Falls National Bank – "Statement of Value & Activity" February 2021.

B. District Inspections – Comm. Longi & Comm. Griffing

C. District Officers / Chief Liaison – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore

D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Griffing

E. Public Relations – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore

F. Equipment Maintenance – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Griffing

G. Buildings and Grounds – Comm. Longi & Comm. Dore

H. Capital Equipment – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore

I. Union Negotiations & Contract – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Griffing

J. Career Staff Liaison – Comm. Dore & Comm. Chiumento

K. Volunteer Recruitment – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Griffing

L. District Safety & Health – Comm. Griffing & Comm. Dore

M. Strategic Plan – Comm. Longi & Comm. Valdez

N. Finance Committee – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Griffing

1. Comm. Chiumento reported that the committee reviewed the proposals received for the RFP that went out for the Independent Audit for 2020 – 2024. Decision was based on many factors.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to approve PKF O'Connor Davies as our Independent Auditor for years ending 2020 – 2024. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

O. IT Operations Committee – Comm. Griffing & Comm. Longi

P. Croft Lease – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Longi

Q. Rochdale Lease – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Longi

VI. **CORRESPONDENCE** – *None unless otherwise noted*

VII. **ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD** – *None unless otherwise noted*

- A. E-mail dated March 1, 2021 from the Boy Scouts requesting use of the meeting room at Red Oaks Mill on Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm until June 23, 2021.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to approve. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

- B. Letter dated March 1, 2021 from Joseph Zaluski of Red Oaks Mill Fire Company resigning as an active volunteer.

A motion was made by Comm. Dore to approve his resignation. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

VIII. **DONATIONS** – *None unless otherwise noted*

IX. **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS** - *No reports and/or discussions unless otherwise noted*

- A. Comm. Valdez requested a letter of recognition be sent to and put in Captain Joe Tarquinio’s file for his outstanding teamwork, cooperation, managing training and constant communication with the Board.
- B. Consideration of the “Addendum to the Lease Agreement between Croft Corners Fire Company and Arlington Fire District”.

A motion was made by Comm. Valdez to accept the “Addendum to the Lease Agreement between Croft Corners Fire Company and Arlington Fire District”. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

X. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

- A. Chief – William Steenbergh
1. Wanted to recognize and thank the staff that responded to the 2nd alarm fire this morning working through the extremely difficult conditions; cold and very windy; all occupants escaped safely.

2. Vote to accept \$5,000 grant from PERMA for a new gear dryer.

A motion was made by Comm. Dore to accept the \$5,000 grant for the gear dryer. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

3. Surplus 32-69; 2005 Suburban, 150K miles, blown transmission. Would cost more than its worth to fix. VIN ending 247073.

A motion was made by Comm. Dore to surplus it. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

4. Would like to form an Apparatus Committee to start looking at replacing 32-13 and bring back a recommendation to the Board at a future date.

Comm. Valdez and Comm. Dore will be part of the committee.

5. Tommy from the Shop and himself went to Long Island to see the progress with the ladder truck. Repairs are underway and anticipates it being back in a few weeks to a month.

6. The Finance Committee met to discuss the fund balance of \$2.196 million starting 1/1/21 and provide recommendations to the Board on allocations and movement of funds.

- A. Move \$800K to the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund.

- B. Move \$500K to the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Fund.

- C. Allocate up to \$150K for the Croft Corners construction project as part of the Lease Agreement.

- D. Allocate the remainder - carries forward in 2021 for contingencies.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to allocate \$800K to the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund from the fund balance. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to allocate \$500K from the fund balance to the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Fund. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

B. Assistant Chief – Eric Philipp – (absent)

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. Received a letter March 14th from Matthew McDonald of Red Oaks Mill Fire Company, resigning as a member because he is moving out of the area.

A motion was made by Comm. Dore to accept Matthew McDonald's resignation. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

D. Treasurer James Passikoff

1. Chief and himself met and reviewed the year end financial report with the Finance Committee and will send out in a day or so. Monthly reports for January & February almost complete; will send to Bill in a day or so to review and approve, then will send out to everyone else.

XI. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

The following member(s) have been approved by Chief Steenbergh to attend the following school request(s) in advance of the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting and are located inside or outside of Dutchess County; is either contractually required or required to maintain certification; and have a registration cost of no more than \$100. For Commissioners notification purposes only:

No school requests were submitted for notification purposes only.

The following school requests require consideration by the Board of Fire Commissioners:

- A. "Fire and Emergency Instructor I", May 21 – 23, 2021 & June 11 – June 13, 2021 at NYS Fire Academy
1. Luke Lyons – (\$25 registration, \$222 travel, requesting use of District vehicle)
 2. Christopher Weiner – (\$25 registration, \$222 travel, requesting use of District vehicle)

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the training for Luke Lyons and Christopher Weiner at the Fire Academy at the dates specified. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

B. “IAAI Expert Witness Courtroom Testimony”, June 2 – 4, 2021 at DCSO.

1. Justin Carlon – (\$500 registration, not requesting use of District vehicle, *95% covered by Fire Investigation Grant*)
2. Todd Belsky – (\$500 registration, not requesting use of District vehicle, *95% covered by Fire Investigation Grant*)

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the training for Expert Witness Courtroom Testimony program June 2 – 4 for Justin Carlon and Todd Belsky. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

C. George Finn: “Youth Firesetting Prevention/Intervention”, March 30 – 31, 2021 at NYS Fire Academy. (\$25 registration, \$71 other, requesting use of District vehicle, *no overtime backfill, 95% covered by Fire Investigation Grant*)

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve George Finn for the Youth Firesetting Prevention/Intervention program at the Fire Academy. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

XII. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Chief Steenbergh – One (1) item for the purpose of the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

With no further open business to discuss, a motion was made by Comm. Longi to adjourn to Executive Session. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:23 p.m.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. and returned to Open Session.

There were no open items for discussion and/or approval as a result of Executive Session.

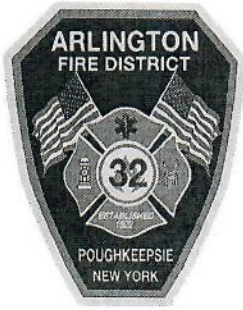
With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Comm. Dore to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O'Neill
District Secretary



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING PUBLIC ATTENDANCE SHEET

NOTE: This sheet will be attached to the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting minutes as part of the official record. If you agree to have your name as part of the official record and published on our website, please legibly print your name below. Thank you.

DATE OF MEETING: 3-15-21
