



# Arlington Fire District

11 Burnett Boulevard  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
www.afd.org

Business: (845) 486-6300  
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**For Emergencies**  
***DIAL 911***

*“Safeguarding Our Community”*

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## **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES June 27, 2022**

### ATTENDEES:

Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – Chairman  
Comm. Peter Valdez – Vice Chairman  
Comm. Peter Longi  
Comm. Richard Dore  
Comm. Phil Van Itallie

Chief: William Steenbergh  
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp  
Director of EMS: David Violante – (absent)  
District Secretary: Renee O’Neill – (absent)  
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. Van Itallie to approve Abstract 22–6B. This consists of \$766,770.52 in paid bills with a total of 5 checks and \$107,796.93 in unpaid bills with a total of 36 checks for a grand total of \$874,567.45, totaling 41 checks. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. June 6, 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

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

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

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

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

1. E-mail dated June 3, 2022 from GFNB regarding “Investment Update”.
2. Received from GFNB the May 2022 “Statement of Value and Activity”.
3. E-mail dated June 17, 2022 from GFNB regarding “Investment Update”.

B. District Inspections – Comm. Longi & Comm. Van Itallie

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

D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Van Itallie

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

F. Equipment Maintenance – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Van Itallie

G. Buildings and Grounds – Comm. Dore & Comm. Van Itallie

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

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

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

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

1. Application ready for Board approval: Romain Eugene, Company 3, FF.

Discussion.

A motion was made by Comm. Valdez to approve Romain Eugene, Company 3, FF. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 1 (Comm. Van Itallie opposed)

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

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

N. Finance Committee – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Van Itallie

O. IT Operations Committee – Comm. Van Itallie & Comm. Longi

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

Q. Rochdale Lease – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Van Itallie

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

A. Thank you card received from Michelle Pells and family regarding the Board granting her husband's death as a Line of Duty Death.

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

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

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

X. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

A. Chief William Steenberg

1. Tabled from June 6, 2022 meeting: Updated Code of Ethics

Brief discussion.

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie to accept the Code of Ethics as distributed. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

2. Reminder the next BOFC meeting is Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.
3. Received \$255K back from the Paramedic Overtime Grant which covers January 1<sup>st</sup> through the end of May for training.
4. Officers Training Grant funds outstanding from FEMA – estimated to be about \$100K.
5. Pursuing overtime reimbursement through the Presidential Disaster Declaration for COVID. NYS Homeland Security approved our application and we forwarded the application to FEMA for the first part of the year for March 2020 – March 2021. Estimated to be \$266K.
6. Recognized Director of EMS Violante for receiving two awards from the Dutchess County EMS Council, the “Harriet Webber EMS Leadership Award”. Then the seven Counties are nominated and David was awarded that from the Region. Automatically entered in the Statewide Leadership Award.
7. Six Probationary Firefighters in the academy. Two in Utica are graduating this Friday, the others attending Westchester graduate two weeks later.
8. Jeff Pells’ name will be added to the memorial within the next couple of weeks. Working with the Union to schedule a small memorial service.

9. Two members from Croft attending Firefighter training in Ulster County. Under current policy, not allowed to operate a District vehicle. Requesting the Board to pay mileage to one of them so they can car pool.

A motion was made by Comm. Valdez to approve mileage reimbursement for the volunteers to attend school in Ulster County. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

10. RE: response to Roosevelt FD to the Salt Point Turnpike incident at Junior's Lounge – tremendous work by all the agencies involved and exactly why we have a Technical Rescue Team.

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp

1. Junior's incident – volunteers manned the ladder truck at Croft for six hours.

C. Director of EMS David Violante – (absent)

D. Treasurer James Passikoff

1. Chairman Chimento acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's May 31, 2022 Financial Report for the District.
2. Got a quote from Salisbury Bank for CD's and the rates are terrible. Can't do long term and also needs to be FDIC insured.

#### XI. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

The Board of Fire Commissioners authorized the Chief to approve in advance, school requests that are located inside or outside of Dutchess County and is either contractually required or required to maintain a certification or does not exceed \$100.00.

There were no school requests submitted for Board notification only.

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

- A. Thomas Andryshak: "Emergency Boat Operator", June 22 – 24, 2022 in Oriskany, NY. (No cost)
- B. Thomas Andryshak: "Rope Rescue Operations", July 26 – 29, 2022 in Oriskany, NY. (No cost)
- C. Thomas Andryshak: "Rope Rescue Technician I", August 11 – 14, 2022 in Oriskany, NY. (No cost)

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve all three. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

**XII. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Chief Steenbergh – two (2) items 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. Dore to adjourn to Executive Session. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

No time was provided when the Board adjourned to Executive Session.

**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:11 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. Longi to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 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: 6/27/22
