



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES June 2, 2025

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Richard Dore – Chairman
Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – Vice Chairman – (absent)
Comm. Peter Valdez
Comm. Phil Van Itallie
Comm. Sean Jackson

Chief: Adam Kangas
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp
Director of EMS: David Violante
District Secretary: Renee O'Neill
Treasurer: James Passikoff

Chairman Dore opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting at 6:02 p.m., took a roll call of the attendees and everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

At this time, Chairman Dore asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence for past Assistant Chief Bob Wagler, who passed away this morning.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted.*
2. **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD** – *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted.*
3. **ABSTRACT APPROVAL**
Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve Abstract 25–6A. This consists of \$0 in paid bills with a total of 0 checks and \$56,036.04 in unpaid bills with a total of 25 checks for a grand total of \$56,036.04, totaling 25 checks. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. May 19, 2025 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve the May 19, 2025 Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting minutes. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 1 (Comm. Dore abstained)

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

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

1. Received the April 2025 LOSAP Statement from Arrow Bank.

2. Authorization required to pay Firefly \$4,800 out of the LOSAP Trust for actuarial and administrative fees.

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve to pay \$4,800 to Firefly from the LOSAP Trust. Seconded by Comm. Jackson

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

B. District Inspections – Comm. Dore & Comm. Jackson

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

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

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

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

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

H. Capital Equipment – Comm. Van Itallie & Comm. Jackson

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

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

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

1. Comm. Jackson reported that there are two (2) members ready for Orientation which is scheduled for June 17th.

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

M. Strategic Plan – Comm. Van Itallie & Comm. Valdez

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

O. IT Operations Committee – Comm. Dore & Comm. Jackson

P. Croft Lease – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Van Itallie

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

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

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

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

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

10. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

A. Chief Adam Kangas

1. Memorial Day – Thanked the members, specifically Group 1, for showing up and supporting the Town and County’s services. Well attended.
2. RedAlert – the data management system we utilize, will need to be updated to include a catalog of AFD asset inventory and equipment. Battalion Chiefs met and recommends a college intern that has an interest in the fire & EMS service to assist in cataloging the inventory along with getting experience riding with the crews. Currently in the vetting process. Ava Grencer is interested. It would be a non-paid position and likes the idea of someone gaining experience of what the District does, and it could add to their resume for those interested in working in this field. Plans on exploring this more.
3. Local 2393, specifically Captain Sylvester, lobbied and working with Assemblywoman Didi Barrett to obtain a turnout gear grant through her. Would help a lot if it goes through.
4. Seagraves – one (1) engine should be here within week and will go to Hudson Valley Fire Equipment dealership for a couple of weeks. Second engine will go the following week, then will go to our Shop who will finish up. Anticipates one (1) month to a month and a half to be out in the field. The trip to Wisconsin went well.
5. Rochdale – no update. Their attorney has been away. Our attorney anticipates an update in the next week or two.
6. Budgeted for and is requesting permissive referendums, (subject to thirty (30) days), for each of the following:
 - A. \$68K out of the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for turnout gear replacement.
 - B. \$30K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for painting of the exterior of Headquarters. It has been neglected for over 30+ years. Received quotes.
 - C. \$28K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for heating and air conditioning updates and upgrades. \$6K was saved from the remodel of the Business Office, which caused less mechanicals.

- D. \$30K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for HQ upstairs remodel project to put everything back together from the mold remediation.
- E. Board previously approved a structure to house the Tech Rescue box truck, but it was stopped back in 2024 until we figured out finances. Requesting up to but not to exceed \$40K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund to build a steel structure to house the box truck at Station 3.

Comm. Jackson made a motion to have a permissive referendum approved for \$30K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for HQ upstairs remodel project. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve \$68K out of the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for turnout gear replacement. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Comm Jackson made a motion to approve \$28K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for heating and air conditioning updates and upgrades. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve \$30K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for painting of Headquarters. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve \$40K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund to build a steel structure behind Station 3 to house the box truck for special operations. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

All the above are subject to a thirty (30) day permissive referendum. (Attached to these minutes)

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp

- 1. Past Assistant Chief Bob Wagler passed away and would like to request the use of a piece of fire apparatus deemed available by the Mechanic for the funeral procession when the date is determined.

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve the use of a piece of fire apparatus for the funeral procession. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. The Awards Ceremony is scheduled for this Wednesday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. at The Heartwood located at 162 College Avenue. Will be a big event because we are catching up from previous years. Awards Committee worked hard to put this together.
2. After fourteen (14) years, Dr. Gary Neifeld, our Medical Director is retiring but is willing to stay with us until a replacement is found. He will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – No report.

11. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

There were no school requests submitted for notification purposes or for Board consideration.

12. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There were no items for Executive Session.

With no further business to conduct, Comm. Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 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: 6-2-25
