



# 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"*

## BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES August 4, 2025

### ATTENDEES:

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

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

Vice Chairman Chiumento opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting at 6:00 p.m., took a roll call of the attendees and everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

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 25–8A. This consists of \$0 in paid bills with a total of 0 checks and \$484,881.41 in unpaid bills with a total of 22 checks for a grand total of \$484,881.41, totaling 22 checks. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. July 21, 2025 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve the July 21, 2025 Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting minutes. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

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

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

- A. Received Commissioner Ralph Chiumento's Certificate of Commissioner Training dated July 23, 2025.

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

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Lauren Schmitt	In Memory of Bob Bulson	\$100.00

Comm. Valdez made a motion to accept the donation of \$100.00 and allocate it to the General Fund. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

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

- A. Comm. Valdez – reported that today is National U.S Coast Guard Day and recognized all those in the U.S. Coast Guard for all the services they provide.

10. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

- A. Chief Adam Kangas

1. Uniform Bid results – we rejected the first set of uniform bids that came in because it was difficult to decipher who won or who obtained the lowest price because of the amount of different items for our uniforms. Our Attorney worked with us to redo the bid process. We sent out another bid for uniforms and Battalion Chief Dunderdale, who heads the uniforms and gear, made a determination and recommends the following be awarded:

- A. MES – uniform pants, uniform shorts, uniform shirts, job shirts, belts, winter hats, BDU shirts and BDU pants
- B. New England Uniforms – jackets and coveralls

Chief Kangas is requesting the Board to accept the recommendation and award those specific items to those two companies.

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to accept the two separate bids for the two separate sets of items. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

2. Headquarters is currently being painted on the outside. Thanked the staff for assisting in preparing the building and removing the plant life. Also thanked the staff for painting the bays at Station 3.
3. The acquisition of Rochdale was approved by the NYS Attorney General. Rochdale to donate at no cost, with the exception of legal fees and incidentals. August 14<sup>th</sup> is the scheduled closing date. Chairman Dore and himself will be attending the closing.

Comm. Chiumento read the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

**APPROVING CONTRACT OF SALE AMENDMENT AND CLOSING ON ACQUISITION OF ROCHDALE FIRE COMPANY PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Arlington Fire District ("Board") had previously authorized entering into a contract of sale with the Rochdale Fire Company to acquire the Rochdale Fire Company firehouse (Station 4) located at 1075 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603 ("Property") for the sum of \$300,000, which sum was to be

fully funded from the District's capital improvement reserve fund for the purpose of acquiring the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Rochdale Fire Company subsequently agreed to amend said contract of sale to acquire the Property for no consideration; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Attorney General has approved a petition permitting the Rochdale Fire Company to sell the Property to the Board to be used for public purposes of the Arlington Fire District for no consideration;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Arlington Fire District hereby approves the amendment to the Contract of Sale to acquire the Property from the Rochdale Fire Company for no consideration; and further authorizes the Chairman to execute said amendment to the Contract of Sale and all other documents required to secure the closing on the acquisition of such Property.

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve that Resolution. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

Comm. Van Itallie asked when we will stop paying rent. Vice Chairman Chiumento stated that the last month will be prorated.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

4. Two (2) new firefighters will be attending Utica Fire Academy starting on the 18<sup>th</sup> and should be back in house around Thanksgiving time frame.
5. Currently canvassing off the new Firefighters list to start preparations for after the New Year with manpower and hiring. They need to be at minimum an EMT to be considered or hired. District Secretary O'Neill and Personnel Administrator Hastie are vetting the candidates. It's a process and doesn't want to rush with the background checks, etc.
6. Fire Equipment Mechanic is being worked on and developing candidates for that position based on the Resolution from the last meeting.

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp – No report.

C. Director of EMS David Violante – No report.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – No report.

11. **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.

For Commissioners notification purposes only:

- A. Sarah Nicolaescu: “Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations”, August 19 – November 6, 2025 at Dover Fire. (on waiting list)

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

- A. “Advanced Swift Water Rescue Training”, October 24 – 26, 2025 in Oriskany, NY. (No costs for registration or lodging, one District vehicle will be provided)
1. Christopher Weiner – 24 hours District time, 48 hours own time
  2. Branden Benedetto – 24 hours District time, 48 hours own time
  3. Cristopher Diaz – 24 hours District time, 48 hours own time
  4. Steven Rancourt – 24 hours District time, 48 hours own time

Comm. Valdez made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

12. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There were no items for Executive Session.

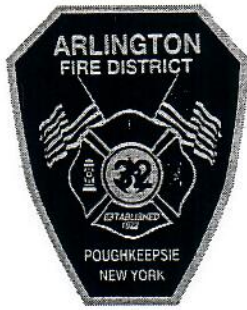
With no further business to conduct, Comm. Valdez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 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: 8-4-25
