



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES December 1, 2025

ATTENDEES:

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

Chairman Dore 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 25–12A. This consists of \$3,245,685.94 in paid bills with a total of 3 checks and \$636,598.11 in unpaid bills with a total of 41 checks for a grand total of \$3,882,284.05, totaling 44 checks. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve Abstract 25–12A–Croft Corners. This consists of \$0 in paid bills with a total of 0 checks and \$5,070.87 in unpaid bills with a total of 1 check for a grand total of \$5,070.87, totaling 1 check. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

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

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. November 3, 2025 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

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

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

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

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

1. Received from Arrow Bank:

A. October 2025 LOSAP statement.

B. Investment Presentation – 11/01/2019 – 10/31/2025

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

1. Comm. Van Itallie reported that a second meeting has been held, and we are moving along.

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 the October 28, 2025 meeting minutes of the Association of Fire Districts of Dutchess County.

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.*

- A. Determine the date, time and location for the 2026 Organizational Meeting. Must be within the first 15 days of January and legal notice to the media must be published by December 15th. (First Monday is January 5, 2026)

Comm. Chiumento made a motion that we have our re-organizational meeting on January 5, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Headquarters. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

10. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

- A. Chief Adam Kangas

1. Request permissive referendums for the following:

- A. \$35K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for HQ Building Upgrades.

Comm. Chiumento made a motion that we go to a permissive referendum for \$35K out of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for HQ Building Upgrades. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

- B. \$225K out of the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for two (2) staff vehicles (Chevrolet Tahoe's on State bid, includes accessories and upfitting).

Comm. Chiumento made a motion that we go to permissive referendum for \$225K out of the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for two (2) staff vehicles (Chevrolet Tahoe's) off of State bid. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

Brief discussion – Chief Kangas reported that the old staff vehicles need to be assessed and will be surplus. Also discussed surplus the old 32-15 & old 32-16. Chief is looking at all options and will maximize the return on them.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

- C. \$260K out of the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for a used Ladder Truck purchase from Phoenixville FD in PA.

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve up to \$260K out of the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for a used Ladder Truck purchase from Phoenixville FD. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

D. Surplus old 32-15 & old 32-16

Comm. Chiumento made a motion to surplus the old 32-15 and the old 32-16. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

2. Appoint David Grundon as Master Mechanic replacing the retired Master Mechanic.

Comm. Jackson made a motion to appoint Dave Grundon, Master Mechanic, retro back to November 21st. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

3. Approval for 32-45 to be in Town of Poughkeepsie Holiday Parade on Dec 6th starting at 4:00 p.m. Staffed by volunteers. Mike Renza will be the Officer in Charge.

Comm. Chiumento made a motion to approve 32-45 or another piece of equipment as determined by the Chief to be in the Town of Poughkeepsie Holiday Parade on December 6th starting at 4:00 p.m. to be staffed by Volunteers. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

4. Operation Santa Sled – request received to deliver gifts December 13th at Noon to the child of Sgt. Nigel Barnett, the NYS Trooper who was killed in a motorcycle accident earlier this year. Requesting approval to participate in that parade. Manned by Volunteers with 32-45 and send the on-duty engine at Croft and remain in service. The family lives on Essex Road which is in our District.

Comm. Chiumento made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

5. Local 2393 requesting the use of the following equipment for upcoming community Christmas events. Manned by off duty career staff who are volunteering.
 - A. Saturday, December 20th – Use a spare engine to deliver Santa to the HQ and Station 4 Community (2pm to 7pm).
 - B. Sunday, December 21st – Use a spare engine to deliver Santa to the Station 3 Community (2pm to 7pm).

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve the two requests from Local 2393. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

6. Probationary Firefighter Thomas Barkley graduated from the Utica Fire Academy last Wednesday. Working with the Training Bureau now. Chief congratulated PFF Barkley.

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp

1. Requesting use of 32-45 (or something else) and 32-57 (both in service) to deliver Santa to the Station 5 area from 9:00 am to 2 pm on December 14th.

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. Attended the Vital Signs Conference in Syracuse and thanked the Board for allowing him to attend.
2. Over the last two years, worked on a research project for the implementation of BLS EMT's to use more advanced airway on adults in cardiac arrests. The State changed the protocol for adults and pediatric airway in cardiac arrest, and the final policy came out during the conference. Presented findings at the State and team was presented with a first research EMS award. Next step is National level.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – (absent)

1. Chairman Dore acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's October 31, 2025 Financial Report for the District.

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.

There were no school requests submitted for BOFC notification purposes.

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

- A. Manny Villa-Ortiz: “Fire Investigator”, June 1 – 26, 2026 at the NYS Academy of Fire Science. (\$25 registration, \$600 course, requesting use of District vehicle, 96 hours District time, 88 hours own time)

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

Brief discussion.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

- B. James Merritt: “Fire Investigator”, August 31 – September 25, 2026 at the NYS Academy of Fire Science. (\$25 registration, \$600 course, requesting use of District vehicle, 72 hours District time, 96 hours own time)

Chairman Dore reported that Anthony Dragonetti is also requesting to attend the “Fire Investigator” class from August 31st – September 25th.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

12. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Comm. Chiumento – 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, Comm. Chiumento made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 6:31 p.m.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. and returned to Open Session.

There were no open items as a result of Executive Session.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O'Neill
District Secretary

NOT YET APPROVED



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: 12-1-25
