



# 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 April 6, 2026

### 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 – (absent)  
Acting Secretary: Jennifer Loucks  
Treasurer: James Passikoff

Chairman Dore opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners’ meeting at 6:00 p.m., took a roll call of the attendees

In the absence of the District Secretary, Comm. Dore made a motion to approve Jennifer Loucks pro-temporary as per our Attorney to fill in for the Secretary. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

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 26–4A. This consists of \$8,539.00 in paid bills with a total of 3 checks and \$135,534.05 in unpaid bills with a total of 40 checks for a grand total of \$144,073.05, totaling 43 checks. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve Abstract 26–4A–Croft. This consists of \$0 in paid bills with a total of 0 checks and \$6,278.34 in unpaid bills with a total of 1 check for a grand total of \$6,278.34, totaling 1 check. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

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

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. **February 20, 2026 Board of Fire Commissioners’ Special Meeting**

Chairman Dore stated it will have to be tabled again due to Commissioners not there. (Comm. Jackson and Comm. Van Itallie were absent)

B. **March 2, 2026 Board of Fire Commissioners’ Meeting**

Chairman Dore stated it will have to be tabled again due to Commissioners not there. (Comm. Dore and Comm. Van Itallie were absent)

C. **March 16, 2026 Board of Fire Commissioners’ Meeting**

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

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

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

1. Received from Arrow Bank – February 2026 Account Statement.

2. Received Red Oaks Mill Fire Company’s 2025 LOSAP Posting Certification.

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

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

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

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

J. Career Staff Liaison – Comm. Chimento & 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. Jackson
- O. IT Operations Committee – Comm. Dore & Comm. Van Itallie
- P. Croft Lease – Comm. Valdez & 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.*

- A. Comm. Dore
  - 1. Memorandum of Agreement

Comm. Dore read the following:

IT IS HEREBY AGREED BY AND BETWEEN the ARLINGTON FIRE DISTRICT (the "District") and the ARLINGTON PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION IAFF LOCAL #2393 ("Association") as follows:

1. The Grievance filed on or about February 3, 2026 regarding alleged violations of the parties' collective bargaining agreement for unilaterally changing a long-standing past practice and improper retroactive enforcement of leave usage, is hereby withdrawn with prejudice.
2. Unit members Battalion Chief George Finn and Master Mechanic Thomas J. Burke, Jr. who entered Memorandum of Agreements which allow them to utilize their leave accruals until their effective date of retirement shall be charged forty-two (42) hours of leave accruals each week of absence. This shall take effect as of January 7, 2026. No adjustments shall be made to their leave accruals for absences taken prior to January 7, 2026. This shall be the practice for unit members on terminal leave agreements.
3. Any day shift unit member classified as Day Staff as per Article 15 of the CBA who works an eight (8) hour tour or the flex time equivalent and is absent for a full week shall be charged forty (40) hours of leave accruals when absent for a full week rather than the forty-two (42) hours that they are scheduled to work. The additional two (2) hours for which they are not being charged leave accruals is intended as on-call compensation for responding to questions or concerns raised by the Fire Chief or their designee. It is understood that when on on-call status, the unit member is expected to respond to any questions or concerns in a timely fashion. If the unit member is called into work an additional shift, the unit member shall be compensated in accordance with the parties' collective bargaining agreement:

4. This Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

B. Comm. Valdez

1. One (1) item for Executive Session – Matters which will imperil public safety if disclosed.

10. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

A. Chief Adam Kangas

1. Rochdale update – himself and Chief Tompkins consulted with an architecture firm, and it is expensive, so they are looking elsewhere. The mechanicals need attention, specifically the oil tank will need to be replaced by Fall. It's leaking but we have a temporary fix. Redemption Mechanical is doing an assessment on the mechanicals and will be providing prices. FF Rancourt offered his expertise in tree removal and services to remove some dead trees that overhang the parking lot.
2. Dutchess County Security MIG grant application – are interested in applying. Wants to put in for video surveillance systems in the fire stations. Met with a vendor but hasn't received pricing yet. Also wants to put in for lighting - retro fit the stations with LED lighting which is cost effective and more efficient. Chief Tompkins also mentioned the generator at Station 4 needs to be replaced.
3. Requesting to surplus the following vehicles:

32-69 2005 Suburban (sta.5 spare) VIN: 3GNGK26U55G247071 - Mileage 63124

32-97 2008 Ford F-450 (Fuel truck) VIN: 1FDXF47R18EE43051- Mileage 107560

32-59 1999 Ford F350 VIN: 1FDWF36F1XEE52876 - Mileage 91287

32-89 2005 Suburban VIN: 3GNGK26U75G201368 - Mileage 60773

Comm. Jackson made a motion to surplus those vehicles. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

4. Surplus office, EMS, firefighting, and mechanical equipment through auction or marketplace. These items are items that are not in inventory due to their low value. Will sell at original purchase value of less than a \$1,000.

Comm. Jackson made a motion to surplus that office stuff. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

5. Firefighter/Paramedics – we are approaching a paramedic shortage. Some groups are at minimum, and one group is one below minimum. Operations wise, we need four paramedics per shift without having to hire to replace. Wants to continue to send members to paramedic school; the Board approved four to attend; currently vetting different schools. Start date would be sometime in August.
6. This is the time of year to convene Finance Committee meetings. Need to start ASAP.
7. Requesting the Board to authorize and up to, not to exceed \$11,500 from the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for the purchase of six (6) SCBA bottles.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp

1. Volunteers attended Poughkeepsie Plaza's Spring event and was told it was a well-visited event; thanked the Board for allowing them to attend.

C. Director of EMS David Violante – No report

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – No report

1. Last week, received the last \$8 million dollars from the Town of Poughkeepsie. The funds have been invested into CD's.
2. Still have to receive the PILOT funds

11. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

There were no school requests submitted for Board notification purposes only.

**The following school request requires consideration by the Board of Fire Commissioners:**

- A. “NYS Technical Rescue Conference”, May 28 – 31, 2026 in Oriskany, NY. (No cost, lodging covered by NYS, use of District vehicle)
1. Charles Fager – 24 hours District time
  2. Branden Benedetto – 14 hours District time
  3. Joseph Bedetti – 24 hours District time
  4. William Morrissey – 24 hours District time

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Comm. Valdez asked Treasurer Passikoff questions related to CD’s.

With no further open business to discuss, Comm. Jackson made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 6:25 p.m.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:31 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, Comm. Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Loucks  
Acting Secretary