



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES August 17, 2026

ATTENDEES:

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

Chief: Adam Kangas
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp
Director of EMS: David Violante – (absent)
District Secretary: Renee O'Neill
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 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. Chiumento made a motion to approve Abstract 26–8B. This consists of \$0.00 in paid bills with a total of 0 checks and \$1,581,572.22 in unpaid bills with a total of 36 checks for a grand total of \$1,581,572.22, totaling 36 checks. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0 – 0

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. August 3, 2026 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 1 (Comm. Chiumento abstained)

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

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

1. Comm. Valdez reported that we get updates from Arrow Bank about the economy and he will reach out to request an overview of how our portfolio is managed.

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. Valdez thanked Lisa and Croft for doing a phenomenal job recruiting volunteers and for streamlining the process.

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

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

N. Finance Committee – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. ~~Jackson~~ Valdez

1. Chairman Dore reported that Comm. Valdez will be taking Comm. Jackson's spot on the committee due to his employment obligations.

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

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

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

A. Two thank you letters received from residents were read by Chairman Dore.

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. Offered to speak to David Wexler (who made public comments at the beginning of the meeting) after the meeting. Chief is aware of the situation and can't speak of it publicly due to pending litigation but would like to have a conversation with him. Mr. Wexler agreed.
2. Gas conversion proposal for HQ – Central Hudson did an assessment to convert HQ to gas. Would be a total of a 300-foot run. The first 100 feet, Central Hudson would take care of and 200 feet we would be responsible for at a cost of \$28,500. This is the cost to install just the gas lines. There are positives to this as our oil tank is getting old and not efficient; it would cost less to run, gas is cheaper; maintenance would be less as well as operations. Leaving this up to the Board to decide.

No action taken by the Board; will need to discuss further.

3. Personnel Administrator approval for title change. New title will be Director of Personnel and Business Administration. (Title Change Only - No changes to existing contract); solicited DC Civil Service for new title to align with what Heather does – not only HR, but also day to day business administration.

Comm. Chiumento made a motion to approve the change in title from Personnel Administrator to Director of Personnel and Business Administration with no other changes to existing contract. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0 – 0

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp

1. New volunteer graduated Firefighter I on August 7th. He also received an achievement award.
The BOFC congratulated him.

C. Director of EMS David Violante – (absent)

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – (No report)

11. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

There were no school requests submitted.

12. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 6:23 p.m.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:30 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. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 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: 8/17/26

David Wexler.	