

## Prince George's County Fire Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Tonight's meeting was held with approximately 48 participants, was gaveled to order by Chair Johnathan Bolden at 7:30 pm.

Chaplain– Opened the meeting with an invocation prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chaplain's Corps Provided the Chaplain's report.

Volunteer Services Office – Assistant Fire Chief M. White VSO

- All ordering deadlines have passed, processing some emergency orders. They will be closing the warehouse for inventory this year.
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting with the Fire Chief on the Station Management Agreement Committee.

Commissioner Ray (Lisa)- No report

- **Asked for a motion to approve two Expenditure Requests for Berwyn Heights Co.14 in the amount of \$7,129.17 tiller truck lettering after rehab, and \$8,448.53 for emergency lighting for the new Utility 14. The motion was seconded by the Vice Chair, and with all in favor the motion passed.**
- Provided an update on the Volunteer Physical Workgroup. An additional cancer screening tests are being provided, and please be on the lookout for a survey on feedback for volunteer physicals coming out in June.
- **Asked for a motion to amend the agenda to change the 508 Policies and Station Management Agreement Policies are currently listed under old business, however they should be under new business. The Chair advised that they are policies that do not require a vote so there is no need to change the agenda. Discussion followed. Items were tabled.**

Commissioner Snyder (Kyle)– Excused- Attending Co. 14 Funeral Services

- *Joined at 7:45PM*

Commissioner Chandler (Michelle)–

- **Asked for a motion to approve Expenditure Requests for Glenn Dale Co. 18 in the amount of \$17,979.66 for hose and two thermal imager cameras to Wright National Flood Insurance Company for flood insurance. The motion was seconded by the Vice Chair, and with all in favor the motion passed.**
- **Asked for a motion to approve Expenditure Requests for Morningside Co. 33 in the amount of \$7,668.56 for two thermal imagers. The motion was seconded by the Vice Chair, and with all in favor the motion passed.**

Commissioner Holbert (Antwan) – No report.

Commissioner Bell (Gloria)–

- **Asked for a motion to approve Expenditure Requests for Morningside Co. 5 in the amount of \$5,500 for members to attend the MSFA Convention this year. The motion was seconded by the Vice Chair, and with all in favor the motion passed.**

Commissioner Selmon- No report.

Commissioner Schaible- Not present.

Commissioner/Vice Chair Surles (Vanessa)

- **Made a motion to approve the LOSAP Award to Debora Davis , the motion was seconded by Commissioner Chandler, and with all in favor the motion passed.**
- The deadline to submit for the First Responder Property Tax Credit will be June 15<sup>th</sup>. They will be sending out notifications to stations.

Chair Bolden-

- Please sign up for the cancer screenings
- All stations should have gotten their station management funds, please reach out if you did not.
- Last week he met with the County Council for the 2026 Budget
- Attended the Deputies Meeting.

Recruiter Update:

No Report.

Chairman of the Chief Council- Dave Sumner (Chief 9)

No report.

President of the Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association–President Donald Wells

- Reminded everyone of the next Association meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>
- Held a meeting to discuss the proposed Station Management Agreement.

Ladies Auxiliary:- No report

Questions from the floor:

-Bryan Lau raised several concerns. He inquired about the status of Fire Commission nominations, elections, and appointments, noting that three or four positions were currently open and that, unlike past cycles, there had been no candidate forums or public engagement opportunities. He then referenced a statement made by Barry Stanton during the recent budget meeting at Chapel Oaks, indicating that once a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is adopted, the Fire Commission would gain oversight of the entire Fire/EMS Department. Bryan expressed concern over this unprecedented shift in authority. He also pointed out that County Council discussions often refer to the “Volunteer Fire Commission,” which is incorrect—the County Charter formally recognizes it as the “Fire Commission.” Lastly, he asked for clarification regarding insurance coverage, stating that while all corporations are said to be covered, the documentation does not clearly reflect this in a usable format.

-Piero V. Mellits shared he had just attended a funeral for Co. 14 and was not fully prepared to speak but would review the minutes when available. Echoed Bryan Lau’s concerns and looked forward to follow-up responses from the Commission.

Chaplain providing a closing benediction.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner  Snyder, Secretary.