



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

“Safeguarding Our Community”

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES August 6, 2018

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Ralph Chiumento – Chairman
Comm. José Seco
Comm. Jon Adams
Comm. Blake Williams
Comm. Peter Valdez

Chief: Tory Gallante
1st Assistant Chief: *VACANT*
Director of EMS: David Violante
District Secretary: Renee O’Neill
Treasurer: James Passikoff

Chairman Chiumento opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners’ meeting at 7:00 p.m., took a roll call of the attendees and reminded everyone to silence their cell phones. Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

I. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*

II. **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD** - *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*

III. **ABSTRACT**

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to approve Abstract 18–8A for a grand total of \$324,971.67, totaling 55 checks. This consists of \$6,502.59 in paid bills with a total of 8 checks and \$318,469.08 in unpaid bills with a total of 47 checks. Seconded by Comm. Seco.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. July 16, 2018 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to approve the July 16, 2018 Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting minutes. Seconded by Comm. Seco.

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

V. **MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS** - *No reports given unless otherwise noted.*

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

1. Received from RBC Wealth Management – “Portfolio Review for Period Ending June 30, 2018”.
2. Comm. Williams reported that all companies, except Rochdale, have submitted their Service Awards sheets up to June; been reviewed by him and needs to be checked by a second Commissioner.

Comm. Chiumento reported the Service Award secretaries want to have a meeting with the Service Awards Committee members.

- B. District Inspections – Comm. Williams & Comm. Adams
- C. District Officers / Chief Liaison – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Adams
- D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison – Comm. Williams & Comm. Valdez
- E. Public Relations – Comm. Williams & Comm. Chiumento
- F. Equipment Maintenance – Comm. Williams & Comm. Seco
- G. Buildings and Grounds – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Seco
- H. Capital Equipment – Comm. Williams & Comm. Chiumento
- I. Union Negotiations & Contract – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Valdez
- J. Career Staff Liaison – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Adams
- K. Volunteer Recruitment – Comm. Williams & Comm. Seco
- L. Volunteer Liaison – Comm. Williams & Comm. Seco
- M. District Safety & Health – Comm. Williams & Comm. Adams
 1. Comm. Williams reported that a meeting was held.
- N. Strategic Plan – Comm. Adams & Comm. Seco
- O. Finance Committee – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Williams
 1. Comm. Williams reported that they are working on the budget.
- P. IT Operations Committee – Comm. Williams & Comm. Adams
- Q. Croft Lease – Comm. Adams & Comm. Valdez
 1. Comm. Valdez reported that as of tonight he has not had any written documentation, e-mails phone calls, etc.
- R. Rochdale Lease – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Chiumento

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

- A. Letter dated July 13, 2018 from Red Oaks Mill Fire Company to the Board of Fire Commissioners regarding the vacant 1st Assistant Chief position.
- B. Four e-mails received from Jim Beretta to the Board of Fire Commissioners regarding volunteer membership.

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

- A. Letter dated July 17, 2018 from Anthony Dragonetti resigning as the Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator effective July 31, 2018.

A motion was made by Comm. Seco to accept the resignation from Anthony Dragonetti as the Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator effective July 31, 2018. Seconded by Comm. Adams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

A motion was made by Comm. Seco to post the job description for Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator and send out to the fire companies of the District. Seconded by Comm. Williams.

District Secretary asked when the Board wants responses back by and the Board said end of the month.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

- B. Request from American Red Cross to conduct a blood drive on Friday, October 19, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Red Oaks Mill Firehouse. (arrival for set up at 11:30 a.m. and leave at 7:00 p.m.)

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to approve the Red Cross blood drive as written. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

- C. Letter dated July 12, 2018 from James Kishbaugh of Red Oaks Mill Fire Company resigning as a member.

A motion was made by Comm. Seco to accept the resignation of James Kishbaugh of Red Oaks Mill Fire Company. Seconded by Comm. Adams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

- D. E-mail dated July 27, 2018 from Lt. Gary Lewis requesting authorization to apply and participate with the NYS Task Force 2 Urban/Technical Search and Rescue Team.

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to approve Lt. Lewis to apply to the Task Force 2 Urban/Technical Search and Rescue Team. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

- E. Letter dated July 30, 2018 from Anthony Dragonetti of Croft Corners Fire Company resigning as a member effective August 13, 2018.

A motion was made by Comm. Seco to accept the resignation as a member from Anthony Dragonetti as of August 13, 2018. Seconded by Comm. Williams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Ruth Deyo	No reason provided	\$50.00

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to accept into the General Fund. Seconded by Comm. Seco.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

IX. **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS** - *No reports and/or discussions unless otherwise noted*

- A. Comm. Chiumento

- 1. Would like to set a date for the 1st Assistant Chief

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to call for an Election of the 1st Assistant Chief on Monday, August 27th at 7:00 p.m. at the Red Oaks Mill Firehouse and resumes for the position be delivered to the Secretary by Noon on Monday, August 20th. Seconded by Comm. Williams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

X. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

- A. Chief - Tory Gallante

- 1. Update on Assembly Bill A8227A and Senate Bill S6333B

Governor Cuomo signed the Legislation on July 31st that enables the four firefighters in the proper retirement plan. Thanked Assemblymember Didi Barrett and NYS Senator Sue Serino their work and Governor Cuomo and his office for their support. Contacted the Retirement System regarding the financial implications and will follow up and discuss with the Finance Committee regarding payment and report back to the Board.

- 2. Update on HQ & ROM parking lots

Jolanda submitted updated plans with reducing the island at HQ; was verbally given permission by the DOT to reduce the size and will only be subject to the permit fees. Station 3's plans are the same, nothing changed. Requested the Board to review the plans and options and let him know what the next step is.

3. HQ A/C unit on roof is completed; A/C unit in volunteer room at HQ broke and will be replaced. New wall unit on order.
 4. Awards Committee met and we will be having a formal Awards Ceremony in May 2019. This year got canceled due to lack of awards, but now have enough to hold a formal ceremony.
 5. E-mailed the BOFC with updated job descriptions for the District Secretary and District Treasurer positions. Last advertised for both positions was six years ago. Last discussion was had about doing it at five years. Would like the Board to review and make a decision at the next meeting on what to do next.
- B. Director of EMS David Violante
1. HVREMSCO notified us that the public hearing will be August 17th at 10 a.m. at the Regional Office. Chief Gallante and himself will be attending.
- C. Treasurer James Passikoff
1. No report for July provided.
 2. Draft audit received and he needs to review; near completion.

XI. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

The following member(s) have been approved by Chief Gallante to attend the course(s) listed below. The training requested is either located in county or is a course to maintain certification and therefore is for Commissioners notification purposes only:

- A. George Finn: “Inspection Procedures for Existing Structures – “Codes 9C”, August 14 – 16, 2018 in Staatsburg, NY. (Required to maintain certification, not a CME, no costs, meals self purchase, requesting use of District vehicle, 30 hours District time)

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

- A. Todd Belsky: “Thermal Imaging: Expanding Your Horizons”, October 25, 2018 at Ulster County Community College. (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$25 registration, no other costs, not requesting use of District vehicle, 4 hours own time)

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to approve Todd Belsky for the “Thermal Imaging Expanding Your Horizons” class. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

- B. Joseph Tarquinio: “Structural Collapse Void Search and Rescue”, September 22 – 23, 2018 at NYS Fire Academy. (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$25 registration, \$71 lodging, meals provided, \$45 materials, requesting use of District vehicle, 26 hours own time)

A motion was made by Comm. Seco to deny. No second was made.

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to approve the request that Joseph Tarquinio gave, “Structural Collapse Void Search and Rescue” as listed on the agenda. Seconded by Comm. Williams.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 1 (Comm. Seco opposed)

C. Joseph Tarquinio: “Concrete Breaching and Breaking”, October 20 – 21, 2018 at NYS Fire Academy. (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$25 registration, \$71 lodging, meals provided, requesting use of District vehicle, 26 hours own time)

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to approve item “C”. Seconded by Comm. Adams.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 1 (Comm. Seco opposed)

D. Joseph Tarquinio: “Rescue Heavy Rigging”, October 13 – 14, 2018 at NYS Fire Academy. (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$25 registration, \$71 lodging, meals provided, \$40 materials, requesting use of District vehicle, 26 hours own time)

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to approve item “D” as listed. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 1 (Comm. Seco opposed)

E. Michael McNamee: “NYS 2018 Technical Rescue Conference”, September 25 – 28, 2018 in Oriskany, NY. (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$130 meals (per diem rate), no other costs, requesting use of District vehicle, 24 hours District time, 24 hours own time) *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to deny the request from Michael McNamee as listed on item “E” on the agenda. Seconded by Comm. Seco.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 1 (Comm. Valdez opposed)

F. Gary Lewis: “NYS Technical Rescue Conference”, September 26 – 29, 2018 in Oriskany, NY. (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$140 meals (per diem rate), lunch provided, not requesting use of District vehicle, 33 hours own time, 24 hours District time. *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to deny. Seconded by Comm. Seco.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 2 (Comm. Chiumento and Comm. Valdez opposed)

A motion was made by Comm. Williams to deny “G” through “I” out of budget restraints. Seconded by Comm. Seco.

- Motion Carried 4 – 1 (Comm. Valdez opposed)

G. Justin Drum: “Technical Rescue Conference”, September 27 – 30, 2018 at State Preparedness Training Center. (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$140 meals (per diem rate), lunch provided, not requesting use of District vehicle, 24 hours own time, 24 hours District time) *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

H. “Swift Water / Flood Rescue – Technician”, October 10 – 14, 2018 in Oriskany, NY.

1. Chris Whitney – (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$165 meals (per diem rate), no other costs, requesting use of District vehicle, 24 hours District time, 29 hours own time) *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

2. Eric Henschel – (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$130 meals (per diem rate), no other costs, requesting use of District vehicle, 24 hours District time, 26 hours own time) *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

I. “Emergency Boat Operations and Rescue”, October 14 – 17, 2018 in Oriskany, NY.

1. Chris Whitney – (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$130 meals (per diem rate), no other costs, requesting use of District vehicle, 24 hours District time, 26 hours own time) *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

2. Matthew Nielson – (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$130 meals (per diem rate), no other costs, requesting use of District vehicle, 24 hours District time, 26 hours own time) *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

3. Eric Henschel – (Not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$130 meals (per diem rate), no other costs, requesting use of District vehicle, 24 hours District time, 26 hours own time) *Deferred to the Board by Chief Gallante*

XII. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Chief Gallante

1. Employment history of twelve (12) individuals

With no further open business to discuss, a motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to adjourn to Executive Session. Seconded by Comm. Seco.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:41 p.m. and returned to Open Session.

XIV. OPEN ITEMS

As a result of Executive Session, a motion was made by Comm. Chimento to extend FF John Cox's Light Duty until October 15, 2018. Seconded by Comm. Williams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Comm. Seco to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Williams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O'Neill
District Secretary