

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE FAIRVIEW FIRE DISTRICT  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK  
9 MARCH 2023

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Present: Commissioner Daymon S. Yizar  
Commissioner Vikki Simmons  
Commissioner John Malone  
Commissioner Emma Walthall-Moon  
Commissioner James Robinson

Also Present: Chief Howard Reiss  
Treasurer Matilde Abate  
Secretary Sarah Senior

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Fairview Fire District, Westchester County, New York, of Thursday, 9 March 2023, convened at 18:39 hours at Fire Headquarters at 19 Rosemont Boulevard, Greenburgh, New York. The presiding officer was Chair Daymon Yizar.

**R23-03-01**

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Walthall-Moon that the meeting shall be called to order:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

Chair Yizar called the roll: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar present.

**R23-03-02**

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Walthall-Moon and seconded by Commissioner Malone that the minutes of the organizational meeting of 9 February shall be approved as submitted by the Secretary:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

Apparatus Committee

The Committee will travel to Clintonville, Wisconsin, for preconstruction meetings regarding Ladder 1 from 16 April to 18 April 2023.

Hendrickson Fire Repair addressed warrantee issues on Engine 175, they were responsive, and the work was completed professionally.

Ladder 1 requires front air-break cylinders. The parts have been ordered, and the ladder remains in service while awaiting repair.

Car 2121 and Utility-102 need an onboard auto charger to keep the car battery charged when the vehicles are not in use. Because of the extensive radio systems, the battery is often drained when the car sits idle. Hendrickson Fire Repair provided a quote of \$2,987.55, and RFC Emergency Lighting provided a quote of \$2,300.70.

Commissioner Simmons inquired if we had any experience working with RFC Lighting. Chief Reiss stated that the Department has hired them previously, and the work had been satisfactory.

**R23-03-03**

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the Board approves the purchase and installation of Kussmaul Auto Charges in Car 2122 and Utility-102 from RFC Emergency Lighting, of the Bronx, NY, at the cost of \$2,300.70:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.



Finance Committee

The committee met on 7 March 2023 and reviewed payroll, financial statements, and reports up to February 2023. The Committee found the payroll and all reports and statements in order.

Treasurer Abate reported that the Certificates of Deposit are projected to accrue approximately \$32,000 in interest over their lifetime.

House and Grounds Committee

Carpet World returned a quote of over \$13,000 to install carpet squares in the Boardroom and offices at Headquarters. The committee is looking for additional quotes.

Chief's Report

**R23-03-04**

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Simmons that the Board approves DC Primerano to attend the IAFC Hazmat Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, from 7 June 2023 until 11 June 2023 at a registration cost of \$400, plus lodging and meals:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

The Chief and Secretary are working on the COVID-19 Expense Reimbursement from FEMA. The reimbursement request will be over \$100,000.

After months of issues, the Department has been able to access the Healthcare Workers Bonus pay portals, and 26 employees have completed affidavits stating they qualify for the reimbursement.

All members will complete ASHE (Active Shooter Hostile Event) Training during March in conjunction with the members of the Greenville Fire Department, Hartsdale Fire Department, and Greenburgh Police Department. The training dates are March 3, 6, 7, and 28. Captains J. Malone and E. Malone and Firefighter Davino are the instructors. They have received excellent feedback from participants. The Westchester County Department of Emergency Services will completely fund the training.

Deputy Chief Tim Ryan will be retiring as of 29 March 2023. His retirement dinner will take place on 28 March 2023 at 6:30 PM. James Malone, Jr. and Neil Davino will be sworn into their positions of Deputy Chief and Captain, respectively, on 29 March 2023 at 5:30 PM.

The Rules and Regulations project is underway. Counsel is reviewing the current document from the 1970s and will advise where they should be updated for the Board's review.

Chief Reiss, DC Ryan, and FF Loccisano completed the 16 hours IAFF Peer Counseling Program. Chief Reiss reported that the training program was informative and rewarding and helped provide the tools to be proactive and support fellow firefighters struggling with mental health.

Captain Michael Murray was subpoenaed to testify in front of a Grand Jury on 6 March 2023 regarding an incident at Station 2 on 23 October 2022, Alarm #2022-2041. A vehicle drove erratically into the Station 2 parking lot, onto the lawn, and around the rear of the building. Captain Murray was asked to testify about what he witnessed on that day. The Legal Aid Society of Westchester has also requested to speak with Captain Murray and view any potential surveillance videos regarding the incident. We are awaiting advice from counsel concerning their request.

The Chief took a 4-hour course on 6 March 2022 concerning the dangers of Lithium-ion Batteries. He played a video for the Board showing how rapidly these fires grow and explained the chemical reactions within the battery cell and how that reaction complicates fire suppression.

On 8 March 2023, Ladder-1 was dispatched to the City of Yonkers for a 4<sup>th</sup> alarm fire. Chief Reiss, Captain Lester, and Firefighters Scaperrotta, Stone III, B. Vargas, and Cowles responded and

performed exceptionally. Members set up the Ladder 1 Master Stream Operation and performed search and rescue and overhaul, rescuing several occupants from their balconies. Members were at the scene for approximately 6 hours.

In February 2023, the Department responded to 190 alarms, 104 EMS and Extrication calls, 7 mutual aid-out responses, and 4 mutual aid-in responses.

End of Chief's Report

Secretary Senior reported that the 2023 Firehouse Expo will occur from 25 September until 29 September in Columbus, Ohio. The cost of registration is \$425 per person.

Commissioner Yizar expressed interest in attending the Expo, and Commissioners Malone, Walthall-Moon, and Robinson will check for scheduling conflicts before committing to the conference.

**R23-03-05**

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Walthall-Moon that the Board shall enter into Executive Session to discuss matters relating to the medical history and employment of particular persons and to review the Sick and Late Report for February 2023:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 19:35 hours.

The Executive Session was concluded at 19:44 hours.

**R23-03-06**

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Robinson that the Public Session shall resume:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

**R23-03-07**

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Malone that the Board shall authorize payment to employees for periods of illness/sick time set forth in the Sick & Late Report for February 2023:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

**R23-03-08**

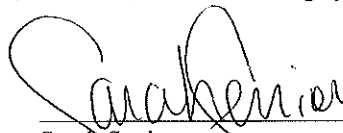
Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Walthall-Moon that the bills shall be approved as submitted by the Treasurer and recorded in the Account QuickReport as of 9 March 2023 in the amount of \$278,590.72:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

**R23-03-09**

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Malone that the meeting shall be adjourned at 20:35 hours:

Roll call: Commissioners Simmons, Malone, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Yizar voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

  
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Sarah Senior  
Fire District Secretary