

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on February 24, 2025 by Chairperson C. LaPrease.

Pledge to the Flag

Present: K. Thompson, M. Chura, M. Malone, C. LaPrease, M. Harrison, W. Dwyer, A. Speech, J. Melchior, C. Curtis, B. Raymond-LaPrease, M. Evans, Pac B

Tony Blackwell with McNeil & Co. (ESIP) provided a summary of our insurance coverage.

M Chura made the motion to approve the January 28, 2025 meeting minutes and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	73,521.38
	Savings	8,181.41
	NY Class General Fund Acct.	65,991.18
	Payroll account	-2,192.30
	Capital Imp. Reserve	177,029.82
	NY Class Capital Imp.	836,378.89
	Apparatus Reserve	121,791.86
	NY Class Fire Apparatus	1,104,787.23
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	3,627.57
	NY Class Contin. & Tax	42,378.84
	Equipment Reserve	63,925.79
	NY Class Equipment	322,602.32
	Firehouse Payroll	55,000.00
	Vouchers	103,084.58
	CODES Checking	7,383.11
	CODES Savings	84,215.95
	NY Class CODES bequest	61,127.21
	Vouchers	500.00

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. Reviewed the CODES report. The QuickBooks conversion is progressing. The reports will look different, but we are working on setting up the reports to provide the same information. The report is as of the end of January. The tax check was received in February and will show in the NY Class report. He requested an extension from the NYS Comptroller for the Annual Financial until April 30th. M. Chura made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried. K. Thompson made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. M. Harrison will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month. K. Thompson will review the NY Class accounts.

Correspondence:

- Commissioners that are also members of the fire department and participate in the service awards program are required to disclose their membership as a conflict of interest. Commissioners LaPrease, Malone and Harrison submitted letters.
- Fire District Affairs was received and distributed.
- AFDSNY has submitted proposed by-laws amendments for review for a vote in October. A. Speach will provide the commissioners with a copy.

Chief's Report:

T. Gleeson:

Melchior reported.

Alarms:

- Members including an off-duty firefighter assisted in a successful civilian rescue at a signal 99 in Moyers Corners fire district.
- In January there were 102 alarms with an average of 5.58 responding. There were 29 fire calls and 73 rescue calls. M. Chura added to the statistics that the 5.58 breaks down to 3.2 volunteers on average and adding the career staff brings the number to 5.58. Discussion. There are not always 2 paid FF/EMTs on, can a page be sent out when only one paid FF/EMT or no paid FF/EMT is on. It was asked if the responder app, IAR, be set up in the vehicles. Discussion. IAR is used to affect decision making.

Purchase Requests & Notifications:

- Request up to \$3500 for wildland fire tools for the NYS grant to reimburse approximately 50%. Discussion. M. Malone made the motion to approve up to \$3500 for wildland fire tools, and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried.

Communications:

- Members were recognized by St. Joseph's Hospital for their efforts in two incidents resulting in Cardiac Arrest survival. There were 17 people on the alarm.
- County planning/GIS - Updated draft of the District & Town of Lysander fire service decision support maps received and under review. The final map will be shared with commissioners and long-term planning committee members.

Projects:

- The department has adopted the Mission, Vision, and Values. Belgium Cold Springs Fire and Rescue is the only change. K. Thompson made the morion to approve as amended and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Officer Meeting:

- Next meeting March 16

Policy:

- No updates currently

D. Natoli: no report

J. Melchior:

- Scheduling mandatory training to get that out of the way early in the year.
- We have covered RIT training.
- We were able to schedule drill with the Northwest Fire District and hope to continue working with them.
- Coming up this month is SCBA skills.
- The hose shipment should be in soon.

Committee Reports

Long Term Planning: Chair M. Malone reported that he will be scheduling a meeting in March. K. Thompson provided details on the Station Design Conference and proposed sending a Chief and a Commissioner as the conference. Discussion. K. Thompson made the motion to send two people with the cost expected not to exceed \$6000 and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried.

New Truck Committee: Chair M. Harrison reported that he has signed some paperwork on the new rescue pumper and the estimated time of delivery is June/July. He assured the board that the Chief's office is being consulted on changes etc. The plow trucks are listed on Auctions International. He will be looking at other options for the sale of E21. M. Chura asked to consider selling the 2017 Explorer, it does not get used very often. Discussion.

Budget & Finance: Chair K. Thompson, nothing to report.

IT Committee: Chair C. LaPrease reported that the computer replacement plan was discussed last month. A. Speach reported that the computers have been ordered and are estimated to take 2 weeks for delivery.

Lysander Public Safety: Chair C. LaPrease

- Meeting on Tuesday, March 18 at 7pm at GBAC.

Personnel: Chair K. Thompson, no report

Truck Maintenance: Chair M. Harrison reported that there was damage to E11 over the weekend and a tech will be out tomorrow to take a look at it and we may need to submit an insurance claim. A new starter was put into Car 3. The scene light on L1 that was not operating was a loose wire.

Building Maintenance: Chair M. Harrison reported that there are still ongoing leaks at the district office. Discussion.

Fire Prevention: Chair M. Harrison, no report.

Fire/EMS equipment- Chair C. LaPrease, nothing to report.

Service Awards: Chair K. Thompson stated the LOSAP disclosures were addressed in correspondence.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- K. Thompson reported that she sent an email to the board with information and a proposed tiered approach for a local training stipend. The tiers would be based on the length of the course up to \$500. This would be for classes offered through OFPC. Discussion. K. Thompson will continue to work on a stipend policy.
- K. Thompson made the motion to approve the out of district active membership application Catalina Gamboa pending their physical and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Thompson, LaPrease, Malone and Harrison voted yes, M. Chura voted no. Carried.
- K. Thompson made the motion to approve the out of district active membership application Calisa Melchior pending their physical and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Thompson, LaPrease, Malone and Harrison voted yes, M. Chura voted no. Carried.
- Discussion regarding a washer and dryer for each station. M. Malone will investigate further regarding placement, plumbing and electrical.
- K. Thompson made the motion to approve the insurance renewal and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.
- K. Thompson wanted to clarify a comment made last month that only two of the paid FF/EMTs are working. In January 22 out of the 23 part time FF/EMTs worked. There was one day with no coverage and one day with only 1 person.

Public comments:

- B. Raymond-LaPrease questioned the cost of the webhosting as she pays less for the website for the wood workers.
- J. Melchior explained that the department will be holding a Communications Meeting on March 15th at 5:30PM and everyone is invited.

Executive session: K. Thompson made the motion to go into executive session for the resume and employment history of an individual that may lead to their continued employment with the district and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

Returned to open session at 9:24PM

K. Thompson made the motion to cancel the dental insurance for employees and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

Meeting dates:

Commissioner's meeting –Monday February 24th at 7pm

(All meetings at station #1 until further notice or unless specified)

C. LaPrease made the motion to adjourn at 9:25 PM and K. Thompson seconded the motion.
Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Speach
District Secretary