

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 August 18, 2025 by Chairperson C. LaPrease.

Pledge to the Flag

Present: K. Thompson, M. Chura, M. Malone, C. LaPrease, M. Harrison, W. Dwyer, A. Speech, T. Gleeson, J. Melchior, T. Eckel, M. St. Andrew, B. Raymond-LaPrease, M. Evans, A. Tearney, Pac B

M. Harrison made the motion to approve the July 21, 2025 meeting minutes and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

K. Thompson made the motion to approve the August 4, 2025 special meeting minutes and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	113,033.71
	Savings	423,559.63
	NY Class General Fund Acct.	594,107.08
	Firehouse Payroll	81,064.74
	Capital Imp. Reserve	173,262.23
	NY Class Capital Imp.	860,131.46
	Apparatus Reserve	58,778.17
	NY Class Fire Apparatus	1,182,630.03
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	3,672.82
	NY Class Contin. & Tax	43,582.34
	Equipment Reserve	64,723.20
	NY Class Equipment	347,438.95
	NY Class Retirement Fund	56,076.24
	Vouchers	1,117,099.37
	CODES Checking	1,985.99
	CODES Savings	7,178.21
	NY Class CODES bequest	83,172.43
	Vouchers	0.00

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. Reviewed the CODES report. The final payment for Ladder 1 was made. The permissive referendums approved last month are on the report. K. Thompson made the motion to send out requests for proposals for the district's annual financial audit and M. Harrison made the motion. Carried. M. Harrison made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried. M. Harrison made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited, and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried. M. Malone will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month. K. Thompson will review the NY Class accounts.

Correspondence:

- Special Election results: 38 total votes, 21 yes 17 no; The referendum passed to sell L1.
- Central Region Fire Districts Association meeting – August 25th.
- Onondaga County Health Department completed the kitchen inspection and there were no critical violations. There was a minor finding, and it was corrected during the inspection.
- Pinsky Law Group seminar at Turning Stone Nov. 7th & 8th, Board of Director & Executive Officer Training.
- Update on Tompkins County Health Insurance Consortium. The district's application is in line to be sent to the board for approval at the annual meeting on September 25th.

Chief's Report:

T. Gleeson reported:

Personnel: Interviews in progress. Potential canvass of Firefighter/EMT List for NYS 229 or equivalent candidates in addition to lateral hires.

K. Thompson made the motion to approve the modified contract with David Eiffe for phase 2 and 3 and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. The results of the last meeting are posted on the walls.

There is a NYS Recruitment and Retention Grant available, and T. Gleeson explained that we can submit to start to fund a Health and Wellness program. The Chiefs are meeting with Lexipol, which offer a wellness application and a program that we can use for the 100 hours of training required for career staff. K. Thompson made the motion to submit the application for the grant and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Purchase Requests & Notifications:

C. LaPrease made the motion to approve the service contract for Milton Cat for the STA 2 Generator and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried.

Surplus Requests:

- Surplus & dispose or donate:
 - All turnout gear greater than 15 years old and gear that is 14 yrs and 6 months, approximately 23 pants and 19 coats. The NYS Chief's will take coats and helmets. There are 7 coats and 2 pairs of pants that are thermal damaged that would need to be disposed of.
 - Cabinets in back of HQ, 3 total, 2 in poor condition 1 not needed + pipes and other metal scrap in dumpster enclosure STA 2.
 - All metal/steel/aluminum to be scrapped at Weitsman's.

C. LaPrease made the motion to declare surplus and dispose of as explained and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried.

- Surplus and Auction:
 - Nothing currently

Purchase:

- E21 MDT - The trial was unsuccessful, and the chiefs would like to move forward with Patrol PC for \$5100. We have a mutual aid partner who will let us borrow one while we wait for ours to be delivered.
- E21 Battery Operated Fan discussion. The chiefs are working on getting petroleum off the apparatus, so we are looking at a Milwaukee fan but a different model than what we have. Our Mutual Aid partners are using the same so it would be interchangeable on scene, and our current batteries will also work with it. The cost is \$6400.
- Discussion of Knox box key partnership with North West Fire District. The Knox key secure boxes in the apparatus have a 2 key system, one would have the key for North West Knox boxes and they would carry ours. It is \$1434 for the key secure box for E21, and we would also need to provide permission for North West to carry our key.

M. Harrison made the motion to approve all of the above purchase requests and for North West to carry our Knox key and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

- Turnout Gear: this is notification of a budgeted item purchase. The chiefs will identify personnel for 15 sets of gear as budgeted for \$50,000 the cost is about \$4500 per set of structural gear and a nonstructural coat.
- Request Permissive referendum from equipment reserve of \$370,000 for SCBA purchase. Specific details to follow. Lengthy discussion. The following points were addressed:
 - November we will not have enough bottles for riding positions.
 - This will get us to NFPA compliance.
 - Scott – X3 Pro changing to connection to snap change, 4.5 to 5.5 cylinder – 45-minute bottle (that is where the standard is) and new face piece C5.
 - Interchangeable with mutual aid partner.
 - Air compressor: the bottles will fit in with the cascade system, but we will double check to be absolutely sure before ordering.
 - The number of SCBA has been reduced almost in half. We have built in safety to have extra on apparatus, builds in redundancy.

C. LaPrease made the motion to approve the following permissive referendum for \$370,000 to purchase SCBA from the equipment reserve and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried.

NOTICE OF SPENDING
OF FIRE DISTRICT FUNDS OF THE
BELGIUM COLD SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT
TOWN OF LYSANDER

Notice to all residents of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District that the Board of Fire Commissioners of said Fire District, pursuant to the following resolution, which is SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, intend to expend funds on hand in the Reserve Fund for Equipment for SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) for the Fire District.

Whereas, at a regular meeting of said Board of Fire Commissioners on August 18, 2025, it was resolved to use said funds as follows:

RESOLVED, THAT THE FIRE DISTRICT EXPEND FUNDS ALREADY ON HAND IN THE RESERVE FUND FOR EQUIPMENT AS FOLLOWS; NOT TO EXCEED \$370,000 TO BE USED FOR THE PURCHASE OF SCBA, INCLUDING LEGAL AND ADVERTISING COSTS.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF
FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE
BELGIUM COLD SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT

Amy Speech
Fire District Secretary

Communications:

- Town of Lysander Chiefs have tentative agreement on portions of a new Response Order Guide. Specifies actions to be taken based on arrival order. July 22nd meeting was very successful. Final Draft to be released soon.

Projects:

- SCBA Plan & Purchase
- E-21 Colden will be scheduling outfitting.
- FY 2026 Budget preparation and justification

Policy:

- No significant updates

Natoli:

T. Gleeson reported for D. Natoli. He is working on SCBA replacement plan/purchase as well as respiratory protection plan and equipment checks. He is editing the 3 policies to get them distributed.

Melchior:

- Training Update
 - This week we will be training on the new combination tool.
 - We will work on getting station 2 drivers out on E11, so they are familiar when the new E21 goes into service and getting EVOC completed.
 - Reviewing training and assigning online that can be completed as well as CPR training.
 - Working on reviewing polices and standards and getting everyone to the same level.
 - We will be grabbing people during drills to demonstrate required skills.
 - Discussion regarding TOAC – All Fire and EMS members have to perform this requirement yearly to maintain their “in good standing” and to be eligible to vote in the fall department elections. It is was preferred to provide this training

to a group, whether it's the fire as a group or EMT's as a group- but not individually.

- Update on Image Trend. PCR and Fire reporting. Working on building out the reports.

Committee Reports

Long Term Planning: Chair M. Malone reported:

- There has been continued discussion on placement of a washer and dryer.
- The HVAC system at station 1 will need to be looked at, it is aging.
- The SWOT analysis was completed Sunday night to identify our gaps. It was very productive and looking forward to the next phase.

New Truck Committee: Chair M. Harrison reported:

The new E21 has arrived, and Colden will begin working on the tool mounting.

Now that the referendum has passed, he will work on getting L1, R2 and E21 listed. He has contacts for multiple vendors. Phoenix FD has shown interest in L1, let's talk to them before listing.

Lysander Public Safety: Chair C. LaPrease reported:

- No meeting in August
- Next meeting September 16th at Phoenix FD. Station #1.

Budget & Finance: Chair K. Thompson reviewed the 2026 Preliminary Budget. Reviewed and discussed the chief's budget in detail, insurance increases and personnel.

IT Committee: Chair C. LaPrease nothing further to report, the chief covered the update to MDTs.

Personnel: Chair K. Thompson reported:

- The committee has conducted interviews and is prepared to make offers to 4 part-time firefighter/EMTs. Lengthy discussion. The personnel committee has additional interviews to conduct and will be canvassing the list before making additional offers. K. Thompson made the motion to extend offers to the 4 people presented and M. Malone seconded the motion. Thompson, Malone, LaPrease and Harrison in favor, Chura against. Motion Carried.
- Interviews were conducted for the provisional appointment of a Community Risk Reduction Specialist. K. Thompson made the motion to make an offer to Norm Carroll for part-time provisional position with an average of 20 hours a week not to exceed 40 hours a pay period and not to exceed \$30,000 a year. M. Malone seconded the motion. Discussion. LaPrease, Malone and Thompson voted in favor. Harrison and Chura against. Carried.

Truck Maintenance: Chair M. Harrison reported that preventative maintenance is progressing.

Building Maintenance:

- Chair M. Harrison asked what is needed to move forward with the paving. Discussion. A. Speach reported that bid opening was held on August 11th and 4 proposals were received. Clarification on the square footage to be paved was needed and the 4 vendors have been sent additional information and have been asked to revise their bids. M. Harrison made the motion to have himself and C. LaPrease review the revisions, report them to the board via email and move forward with the best qualified bid and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Fire Prevention: Chair M. Harrison reported that Founder's Day went well. We will start setting dates for the schools when they return in a couple of weeks.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public comments: None

Meeting dates:

Commissioner's meeting –Monday September 15th at 7pm
(All meetings at station #1 until further notice or unless specified)

M. Harrison made the motion to adjourn at 8:58 PM and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Speach
District Secretary