

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 September 15, 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, N. Carroll, C. Curtis, B. Raymond-LaPrease, C. Wilson, Pac B

K. Thompson made the correction that the offer to N. Carroll was for an average of 40 hours a pay period not to exceed the budgeted salary. C. LaPrease made the motion to approve the August 18, 2025 meeting minutes and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	43,377.67
	Savings	423,403.20
	NY Class General Fund Acct.	598,554.85
	Firehouse Payroll	36,539.21
	Capital Imp. Reserve	173,630.50
	NY Class Capital Imp.	863,155.99
	Apparatus Reserve	58,903.10
	NY Class Fire Apparatus	272,805.19
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	3,680.62
	NY Class Contin. & Tax	43,735.60
	Equipment Reserve	64,860.77
	NY Class Equipment	348,660.66
	NY Class Retirement Fund	56,273.40
	Vouchers	136,846.31
	CODES Checking	1,985.99
	CODES Savings	7,193.47
	NY Class CODES bequest	83,464.90
	Vouchers	0.00

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. Reviewed the CODES report. Reviewed the district report. The memo field is missing to say what the voucher is for. A. Speech reported that the request for proposals for the audit is progressing. M. Harrison made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. K. Thompson made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited, and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. K. Thompson will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month. K. Thompson will review the NY Class accounts. M. Malone made the motion to close out the permissive referendum to redeem the bond for L1 and the referendum to purchase the rescue pumper is at zero and can be removed from the report and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Correspondence:

- Our application for the Tompkins County Health Insurance consortium has been reviewed and will be voted on at their annual meeting September 25th. M. Harrison made the motion to approve the travel for K. Thompson and A. Speach to attend the annual meeting on Sept. 25th for Tompkins County Health Insurance Consortium and M. Malone seconded the motion. K. Thompson abstained. Carried.
- Fire District Affairs was received.
- Physical provider vendor information was received.
- Building construction & design vendor information received.

Chief's Report:

T. Gleeson reported:

Personnel: Request for canvass of the list was sent to Onondaga County Civil Service. Four new FF/EMTs completed orientation and are being scheduled for shifts. The schedule for next month looks great.

Purchase Requests & Notifications:

Surplus Requests:

Surplus & Dispose or donate:

- Turnout gear - 4 additional coats thermal damaged, 1 pant thermal damaged, 1 coat 17 YRS old in poor condition -Dispose.
- Motorola XLT 1500 mobile radio SN 726CJZ1385, Failed and inoperable. Dispose (station 2 base radio)
- Sensi- wrap, Elasticized Cloth bandage. Not carried in EMS Bags. 102 rolls. Donate - 2 agencies that are willing to take it.
- 4" supply # 4706, 4600, 4609, 4712, 4604. Used the Stortz coupling for curb jumpers – Dispose.

M. Harrison made the motion to dispose of or donate as outlined and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried.

Surplus and Auction:

- Nothing currently

Purchase:

- Notification – Curb Jumpers from Jerome. Six 50' 4", Four 25' 4". Two 25' 2 ½. – hose is good condition and in serviceable date.
- W-Steps telescoping ladder. \$700 From E21 Additional equipment permissive referendum. Looking to purchase an additional ladder for the new E21 from the permissive referendum.
- Knox Box 2 Key safe for E-11 – From "General Equipment" budget line approximately \$1500 – to upgrade to carry both ours and Northwest FD key.

C. LaPrease made the motion to make the purchase of the ladder, and the Knox box and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Communications:

- Worked with State Office of Fire Prevention and Control to enroll the district in the Municipal Training Program as required. We have folks signed up for instructor authorization so we can meet the personnel levels and teach in-house.
- Business Community Meeting was hosted today we had 10 businesses, and it went well, very enthusiastic and ready to move forward. They were asked to complete a survey and give us information and we have received a few back already.

Projects:

- SCBA Plan & Purchase – fit testing tonight.
- E-21 Outfitting

K. Thompson asked for further explanation of the MTO program. T. Gleeson explained that we are required to have the program as we have more than 6 employees. We can send our people to training to get trained to teach certain classes. Those classes can be taught in house. Other departments cannot be in those classes unless approved by the county coordinator. We will be setting up a meeting to discuss the program with the county coordinator. We would like to include coalition departments/mutual aid partners. They would still get a state certificate. Discussion regarding tower use. We can look at ways to share costs if necessary, but we may not be able to charge as it is specified in the program you cannot charge for the course.

Policy:

- No significant updates

Natoli: T. Gleeson reported for D. Natoli.

- Working on edits for policies – membership levels have been released.
- Agency EMS Recertification submitted – pending review from DOH. Submitted the certification for the 4 vehicles.

Melchior: Training Update

- EMS- 65% of EMTs have CMEs done.
- Modified CPAT was completed at drill last week.
- EVOC will be completed.
- SCBA training.
- CPR – there are a handful of people that need to update CPR, almost 100% members have CPR.
- List of requests to the state for training classes.

M. Chura asked about locators for apparatus. J. Melchior reported that he has worked on updating everyone's IAR to see where they are. Further discussion. M. Chura clarified that he was looking for response for apparatus. T. Gleeson reported that the apparatus modems have been updated and 911 can see our locations.

Community Risk Reduction:

Carroll:

- Held a meeting with Red Cross regarding their smoke detector program. N. Carroll Explained the program, the target demographics, the paperwork and tracking involved at our end. The plan for BCSFD would be to create a QR code to be on the website as well as at events. There is specific paperwork to be completed for installation and follow up. The Red Cross provides enough detectors to have a home be in compliance with code. We would need to notify the Red Cross if detectors are damaged as we do have to report on numbers of detectors and pay for any unaccounted for. N. Carroll reported that he has completed the necessary paperwork for BCSFD and is requesting approval to sign and submit it to be the manager of the program. Discussion. C. LaPrease made the motion to designate N. Carroll as the manager of the program and to sign the American Red Cross Smoke detector program agreement and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Committee Reports

Long Term Planning: Chair M. Malone reported:

- The August long term planning meeting identified our gaps, expectations and infrastructure. It was very productive and looking forward to the next phase.
- Working on scheduling the next meeting.

New Truck Committee: Chair M. Harrison reported:

- The new E21 has arrived and the electronics will be installed this week.
- The tool mounting is moving forward.
- The pieces of apparatus we are selling are listed on Garage, Brinlee Mountain, DMA and Fire Tech.

Lysander Public Safety: Chair C. LaPrease reported:

- No meeting in August
- Next meeting September 16th at Phoenix FD. Station #1. The discussion will be fire prevention at the schools.

Budget & Finance: Chair K. Thompson reported:

- The 2026 Preliminary Budget was reviewed last month, and she has not received any concerns. M. Chura had questions about the budget to reserve. The Chief's budget reflects a budget to reserve line for future planning. M. Malone made the motion to approve the 2026 preliminary budget and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Roll call vote requested. M. Chura had additional questions regarding supplemental insurance. Lengthy discussion. K. Thompson will review the supplemental insurance with counsel. Roll call vote continued: Malone – yes, Harrison- no, Thompson- yes, Chura-no, LaPrease-yes. Carried.
- The budget hearing will be October 20th at 6pm, prior to the regular commissioners meeting.

IT Committee: Chair C. LaPrease reported that we need to review the security system invoice as we have cameras that are no longer in use, and we are billed per camera. C. LaPrease also has concerns about the expense of the website and its use. The Community Risk Reduction Specialist will be working to update the website.

Personnel: Chair K. Thompson reported:

- The four FF/EMTs have started and are on the schedule. A fifth FF/EMT was made an offer and accepted and he will be coming in this week.

Truck Maintenance: Chair M. Harrison reported that T2 had some issues and went to Ballston Spa for repair. M2 needed the battery replaced.

Building Maintenance:

- Chair M. Harrison reported that we received the revised bids. M. Harrison made the motion to move forward with the lowest qualified bid from Davis Walbridge for \$83,655 and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote: Malone- No, Harrison – yes, Thompson- no, Chura- yes and LaPrease – yes. Carried.
- Nothing further on the washer/dryer.

Fire Prevention: Chair M. Harrison reported that the Palmer Elementary evacuation drill will be September 19th and fire prevention will be on October 30th.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Youth member application for Gavin Rasmus. Discussion regarding the youth program and mentor program. C. LaPrease made the motion to approve Gavin Rasmus's application as a youth member and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Malone, Thompson, Harrison and LaPrease in favor. Chura opposed. Carried.

Public comments:

- M. Chura reported on alarm statistics total alarms, scratches, call % for chiefs and response times. Lengthy discussion.

Executive Session: M. Chura made the motion to enter executive session for the resume and employment history of an individual that may lead to his or her dismissal and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. 8:36pm. Returned to open session at 10:00pm.

Meeting dates:

Budget Hearing – October 20th at 6pm

Commissioner's meeting –Monday October 20th at 7pm

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

M. Chura made the motion to adjourn at 10:01 PM and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Speach
District Secretary