

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 May 18, 2026 by Chairperson C. LaPrease.

Pledge to the Flag

Present: K. Thompson, M. Malone, C. LaPrease, M. Speech, W. Dwyer, A. Speech, D. Natoli, N. Carroll, J. DiFabio, R. Crowell, G. Bradford, Pac B.

M. Malone made the motion to approve the April 20, 2026 meeting minutes and M. Speech seconded the motion. Carried.

<b><u>Treasurer's Report:</u></b>	Checking	85,129.36
	Savings	363,904.57
	NY Class General Fund Acct.	1,568,603.20
	Firehouse Payroll	62,167.08
	Capital Imp. Reserve	73,446.08
	NY Class Capital Imp.	1,083,354.18
	Apparatus Reserve	42,635.28
	NY Class Fire Apparatus	352,213.56
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	3,731.62
	NY Class Contin. & Tax	44,827.23
	Equipment Reserve	53,166.39
	NY Class Equipment	608,628.91
	NY Class Retirement Fund	209,486.71
	NY Class Fund Balance	308,113.24
	Vouchers	168,661.65
	CODES Checking	3,657.23
	CODES Savings	3,983.09
	NY Class CODES bequest	72,219.78
	Vouchers	2,278.66

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. Reviewed the CODES report. Reviewed the district report. M. Speech 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. Speech seconded the motion. Carried. C. LaPrease will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month. K. Thompson will review the NY Class accounts.

**Correspondence:**

- Fire District Affairs was received.

**Chief's Report:** D. Natoli reporting for T. Gleeson.

**Personnel:** 6 of 7 new employees have completed onboarding and ride along and are now being scheduled for shifts. Request permission to apply for SAFER Grant. Details to be forwarded

once announced by FEMA. Discussion. K. Thompson made the motion to approve moving forward with the SAFER grant and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Purchase Requests & Notifications:

• Surplus Requests:

○ Surplus & Dispose or donate:

- Computer Equipment – Proper de-commissioning and Dispose
- Computer peripherals and other electronics

M. Speach made the motion to surplus and properly de-commission and dispose of computer equipment, peripherals and other electronics and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried.

○ Surplus and Auction:

- Nothing Currently

• Purchase:

Permissive Referendum for SCBA Masks and regulators, minimum \$34,050, waiting on quote. Discussion. K. Thompson made motion for the following resolution for up to \$38,000 from the equipment reserve for SCBA masks and regulators and M. Speach seconded the motion. Carried.

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 May 18, 2026 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 \$38,000 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

- Permissive Referendum for various PPE components, hoods, gloves, helmets, up to \$5,000. Discussion. M. Malone made motion for the following resolution for up to \$5,000 from the equipment reserve for various PPE components and M. Speach seconded the motion. Carried.

The following resolution, which is SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, intend to expend funds on hand in the Reserve Fund for Equipment for personal protective equipment/gear for firefighting for the Fire District.

Whereas, at a meeting of said Board of Fire Commissioners on May 18, 2026 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 \$5,000 TO BE USED FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT/GEAR FOR FIREFIGHTING, INCLUDING LEGAL AND ADVERTISING COSTS.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF  
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- June – Portable radio Purchase (3) included in 2026 budget.
- MDT Service Contract – up to \$5000 to keep MDTs running. M. Speach made the motion to approve the MDT contract up to \$5000, and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.
- Request to Apply to AFG grant for AEDs or Turnout Gear if AED is non-funded or lower priority. Details to be forwarded once announced by FEMA. Discussion. K. Thompson made the motion to move forward with the AFG application and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Communications:

- Haz-Mat IQ System exploration with Town of Lysander FDs and primary Mutual Aid Departments more to come.

Projects:

- Station 2 Permanent Truck Bay & Tower use for Wellness & Fitness. M. Speach made the motion to approve using the space at station #2 as a permanent space for wellness and fitness and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.
  - A. Speach provided an update on the wellness grant. Discussion. M. Malone made the motion to allow A. Speach to sign the contract with the consultant for the wellness grant and M. Speach seconded the motion. Carried.
- Ongoing plumbing issues at Station 1. Discussion. M. Malone made the motion to approve AP Plumbing and M. Speach seconded the motion. Carried.
- Plumbing, electrical and/or mechanical services annual contract bid – OK to move forward with specifications and requests for proposals.
- Station 2 Boiler & Pump controller repair completed.

Policy:

- SOG Re-write - Members have been solicited.
- Uniform Policy – Filo trial wear test has begun.

**Natoli: Nothing** additional to report.

### **Melchior:**

Online Fire/EMS training platform onboarding process.

### **Carroll:**

- Total smoke detector installs 2026 – **187** smoke detectors and **29** Carbon monoxide detectors at **37** residences.
- Received the mannikins for CPR training. Working on the order for the rest of the supplies.
- Completed the Fire and Life Safety Educator I course and will take the National Cert Exam on May 22 in Albany.
- Attended the Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Technician training. We can now do inspections and installations. Have created a partnership with OCSO, Deputy Roser heads their program.

### **Committee Reports**

**Long Term Planning:** Chair M. Speach reported the architect has completed the survey work and we are waiting for the report.

**New Truck Committee:** Chair M. Harrison was not present and did not provide an update on the sale of apparatus.

**Lysander Public Safety:** Chair C. LaPrease reported:

- Next meeting is on May 19<sup>th</sup> at Cody FD at 7PM.

**Budget & Finance:** Chair K. Thompson reported that the budget committee met today to begin planning and will meet again in June.

**IT Committee:** Chair M. Speach reported that there is nothing new to report.

**Personnel:** Chair K. Thompson reported that 7 new hires have started. There are several additional interviews to schedule. All applicants have been of excellent quality.

**Truck Maintenance:** D. Natoli reported that we are waiting to hear back from Colden for the warranty on the paint for E11.

### **Building Maintenance:**

- Station 2 boiler repair completed.

### **Old Business:**

- Policy review:

- Procurement Policy - K. Thompson provided the revised policy as discussed. K. Thompson made the motion to approve the procurement policy as amended to add professional services and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.
- Membership review. Discussion - send feedback to C. LaPrease.
- Training Stipend Program - updates with the Governors' newly approved courses. Discussion. Pre-approval form is needed to outline any costs associated. K. Thompson made the motion to approve the training stipend program as amended and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

**New Business:**

- M. Speach made the motion to approve the active member application for John Pickard pending his physical and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried.
- A. Speach reported that both stations will be used for the June primary and we will need coverage to watch the hall, \$100 paid to a member for the day for each station.

**Public comments:** none

At 7:52PM K. Thompson made the motion to enter into executive session for the employment history of an individual and M. Speach seconded the motion. Carried. D. Natoli was asked to join the executive session.

Returned to open session at 8:15PM

K. Thompson made the motion to appoint D. Natoli as full-time Deputy Chief effective June 8, 2026, at a salary of \$106,000 plus benefits and authorizes C. LaPrease to sign his contract and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried

The BOFC will adjourn the meeting after the vouchers are reviewed.

**Meeting dates:**

Commissioner's meeting on Monday June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

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

C. LaPrease made the motion to adjourn at 8:31PM and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Speach  
District Secretary