

**MEETING MINUTES - BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 20, 2022 – 11:00 AM
Meeting ID: 994 4925 0236**

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 11:04 AM

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

3. Moment of silence for US Firefighter Line-Of-Duty deaths:

Chief John M. Pridemore	Chief Engineer Jeff Williams
Firefighter/EMT David McDonald, Jr.	Probationary Firefighter Timothy Williams
Firefighter Dustin Brandhorst	Chief Jeffrey Wyatt
Firefighter/EMT Vincent Doffont	Chief Darren Krull
Firefighter April Partridge	Firefighter/EMT Brendan Bessee
Firefighter/EMT Edward Long	Lieutenant Philip Wigal
Acting Chief Fredy Reeves	

4. Roll Call: Commissioners Rosenberg, J. Meszoros, C. Saunders-Maignan, G. Pettway, DC J. Buck, A/DC J. Cronin, Councilwoman J. Herron

Absent: R. Russo, J. Larcheveque, W. Marshall, Chief Edwards

5. Minutes:

Entertain a motion to dispense with reading of minutes of the previous meeting.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

6. Old Business:

- i. Local 834 2022-1 Article 6, Adjustment of Grievance Procedure, restricted to whether the City of Bridgeport violated the collective bargaining agreement when it failed to properly calculate FF Robert Whitbread's final payout at retirement.

Union President Dobbs advised the Board both the Union and Labor Relations agreed to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting.

Commissioner Meszoros entertained a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

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7. New Business:

- i. Entertain a motion to remove Joseph Reilly, Jr., retired Captain, deceased March 13, 2022, and refer to the appropriate City Agency for implementation.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

8. Executive Session for attendance review of the following individuals:

- **AC Manuel Firpi - Declined Executive Session**

Chief Firpi advised he has received a RTW date for full duty of May 1, 2022.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FF Maurice Barnes – Declined Executive Session**

FF Barnes advised he continues with PT 2X a week. Has a doctor's appointment April 22, 2022 and expects to be placed on Light Duty in May.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FF Ronald Reed – Declined Executive Session**

FF Reed advised he has had a new series of tests on his neck. Doctors ran the MRI and found 2 discs have bulged which are pushing on his C spine. Also saw an Ophthalmologist; he has slight damage to his left eye from the accident; may need a prism in his eye permanently. Waiting on how his nerves do before he meets with a surgeon on his shoulder.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FI Richard Minfield – Declined Executive Session**

FI Minfield advised he had an injection on his back and MRI done. He has a doctor's appointment on April 21st to determine if the herniated discs have improved or if he needs surgery. Other injuries have gotten better.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Pettway second; all in favor: I's have it.

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- **FF Sampher Adorno – Not in Attendance**

DC Buck advised that FF Adorno is not available had a PT appointment. Hoping for release for Light Duty soon.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **LT Joseph Kirkland – Declined Executive Session**

LT Kirkland advised he continues with occupational therapy 2x a week. Next doctor's appointment is April 26th, possible Light Duty in early May.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FF Jose Ramos – Declined Executive Session**

FF Ramos advised he had 2 injections on his back, however, they are not taking effect. His PT started today, April 20th.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FF Joseph Torres – Declined Executive Session**

FF Torres advised he continues with pain and discomfort in his arms. Has an MRI scheduled on April 26th.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FF Terence O'Connell – Declined Executive Session**

FF O'Connell advised he has an appointment with the orthopedic surgeon on April 22nd. Hoping for a note for a RTW full duty.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

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- **FF Michael Sorensen – Declined Executive Session**

FF Sorensen advised he has PT 2-3X a week. Still having difficulty with mobility and pain. Meets with surgeon on April 25th, may order another MRI to ensure nothing further from the surgery is torn.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FF Mark DeCarlo – Declined Executive Session**

FF DeCarlo advised he had a knee replacement 3 months ago; not healing properly. Has PT and must wear a knee straightener 3X a day for a couple of months. Next doctor's appointment is the end of May.

Entertain a motion to table to the June Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **PE James Karns – Declined Executive Session**

PE Karns advised he is 6 weeks post op from rotator cuff surgery. Continues with PT; mostly stretching, just started the weight training. Next doctor's appointment is Friday, April 22nd.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Pettway second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **FF Anthony Santiago – Declined Executive Session**

FF Santiago advised he had knee surgery 2 months ago. During surgery they discovered he had a plantaris tear. He is progressing. Still in a brace. Meets with surgeon on May 9th.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Pettway second; all in favor: I's have it.

- **Captain Giovanni Sanzo – Declined Executive Session**

Captain Sanzo advised he was diagnosed with COVID-19 on January 19th. Subsequently he has developed chronic shortness of breath. Still producing mucus and phlegm. Spoke to a Pulmonologist and his doctor to improve/increase his lung capacity. He had to cancel his doctor's appointment awaiting a call back to reschedule.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

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- **Assistant Chief William Hathaway – Not in Attendance**

DC Buck advised AC Hathaway unable to attend, he had a scheduled PT appointment today. DC Buck also advised that he has received a RTW date of May 1st from Chief Hathaway.

No motion required.

- **FF Paul Dushay – Declined Executive Session**

FF Dushay advised he had surgery on January 26th for a distal bicep in the elbow. Nerve damage to his hand; affecting his fingers. Has been doing Occupational Therapy 3x a week and has a doctor's appointment on May 24th to see Orthopedic Surgeon. He has advised that the doctors told him it may take 4-5 months for the nerves in his hand to return.

Entertain a motion to table to the June Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting; Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

9. Entertain a motion to accept the Report of Sick and Injury

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

10. Policy and Procedure review:

- A/Deputy Chief Cronin advised the Board of the following:
 - Entry level Test was completed, awaiting test results
 - Anticipating 20 or more retirements before July 1
 - Working with Civil Service on exams for Assistant Chief (job analysis complete), Captain and Pumper Engineer
 - Signing a contract for Tactical Emergency Care which is an Active Shooter Class in May
 - The new Rescue vehicle is in the works. Committee is designing the specs.
 - Budget presentation is scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd at 10:00 AM.
 - City has a new EAP Provider, KGA.
 - 1 Recruit in the CFA is doing well: no issues.

There being nothing further to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn is in order.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.