

**MEETING MINUTES - BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
OCTOBER 19, 2022 – 11:00 AM  
Meeting ID: 994 4925 0236**

**1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 11:03 AM**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:**

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

Crew Boss Gerardo Rincon  
Captain Charles Krampota  
Chief Timothy Pfleger  
Assistant Chief Michael Moody  
Chief Curtis Brown  
Firefighter Brendan Torres

**4. Roll Call:** Commissioners Rosenberg, R. Russo J. Meszoros, J. Larcheveque, G. Pettway\*, A/Chief Edwards, A/DC Cronin.

**Absent:** A/DC Firpi, W. Marshall, C. Maignan

**5. Minutes:**

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

Commissioner Russo moved; Commissioner Larcheveque second; all in favor: I's have it.

**6. Old Business:**

- i. Local 834 Grievance 2022-5 in response to the City's failure to abide by the terms and conditions of the settlement agreement related to SBMA Case 2004-A-0121, Acting Captain. (See attachment).

Attorney Mitola is requesting the item to be tabled to the November Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting to complete his legal opinion.

Commissioner Larcheveque moved; Commissioner Russo second; all in favor: I's have it.

- ii. Local 834 Grievance 2022-6 where the City of Bridgeport violated Article 12 Section 3 #2-d of the Collective Bargaining when it required Captain Giovanni Sanzo to use Personal Leave rather than Vacation Leave to be granted time off on June 19, 2022.

A/Chief Edwards advised this item was included on the Agenda in error. No motion required.

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**7. New Business:**

- i. Local 834 Grievance 2022-8 including but not limited to Article 6, Appendix K whereas FI Hiram Velez was scheduled to work an outside overtime and without just cause and Due Process, was removed from the overtime detail resulting in forfeiting 6 hours of overtime pay. Local 834 is requesting FI Velez be made whole.

Union President Dobbs described the events regarding the Overtime Detail and loss of pay to FI Velez for the Sound-on-Sound event in September. Commissioner Russo recused himself due to a conflict. Quorum not available. Recommended by Attorney Mitola the Board table to the item to next month's meeting where a quorum would be available to vote on the item.

Commissioner Larcheveque moved; Commissioner Meszoros second; all in favor: I's have it.

- ii. Firefighter Terence O'Connell requesting the City is to return his income tax (state and federal) from the date of injury of 11/21/2022 in the amount of \$391.00. (Assigned Grievance 2022-09).

Firefighter O'Connell provided an overview of his correspondence that the City of Bridgeport pay his accountant to amend is 2021 state and federal income tax return including all costs associated with this amendment. Union President Dobbs advised the Commission FF O'Connell withdrew from the Union and has declined Union representation. Attorney Mitola advised that FF O'Connell under his own representation can file his own grievance. Commissioner Meszoros advised there should be a grievance number assigned to this case. Mitola asked if we had any documentation; FF O'Connell advised he will forward the necessary documentation to prove the \$391.00 and \$15.00 co-pay the Administration will review. (Assigned Grievance 2022-10).

Commissioner Meszoros moved to table to November's Board of Fire Commissioner Meeting; Commissioner Russo second; all in favor: I's have it.

- iii. Firefighter Terence O'Connell is requesting he be made whole for a 24-hour shift including the night differential for an overtime opportunity on October 6, 2022, where he was skipped over.

Firefighter O'Connell provided contract language pertaining to the Rules and Procedures for Overtime Hiring. Chief Edwards quoted language from the CBA *"If an overtime assignment has been worked by the wrong employee or rank, due to an unintentional error or mistake, then the City and the Union agree that such unintentional error or mistake shall not be the subject of a grievance"*. (page 47 of the CBA). Discussions ensued that this grievance is not grievable. According to the CBA the Union or any employee does not have the right to grieve this issue. The Board does not have jurisdiction to vote on this.

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Commissioner Russo moved to deny the grievance based on the grounds that the Board does not have jurisdiction over it. Commissioner Larcheveque second it. Commissioner Meszoros abstained. Motion passes.

*Commissioner Pettway entered the meeting at 11:30 AM\**

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

• **FF Ronald Reed – Not in Attendance**

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

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

FF Torres continues with PT. Next doctor's appointment 10/25/2022.

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

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

FF Sorensen advised he met with his doctor on 10/17/2022 and he is doing well. Started PT 2-3X a week. Continue to monitor his progress with his doctor.

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

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

FF DeCarlo advised he continues with PT 2-3X a week and using a leg stabilizer. Next doctor's appointment is 11/3/2022.

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

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

Commissioner Meszoros moved to accept the Report of Sick and Injury; Commissioner Russo second, all in favor: I's have it.

**10. Policy and Procedure Review:**

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- Acting Fire Chief Edwards will address the Board on key issues
  - Provided numbers on Red Cross, Narcan Administered, Smoke Alarms Installed and Number of Inspections held between September/October.
  - 2 FEMA Grants (LUCAS and Tech Rescue) we applied for have been denied.
  - Contract mediation on 10/3 went very well.
  - 11/4/2022 Graduation of the 21 Firefighter Recruits and will be assigned to the line on 11/5/2022.
  - Rescue 5 should arrive late November

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

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Larcheveque second; all in favor: I's have it.

Meeting Ended 11:38 AM

Prepared: G. Bottillo