

October 16, 2013

Regular Meeting Board of Fire Commissioners

Present: President J. Klein, Commissioners J. Meszoros, D. Bradley, E. Hendricks, D/C Petrucelli, LT Gardiner

Absent: W. Marshall

Call to order: President Klein called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

Minutes:

Entertain a motion to dispense with reading of minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to accept minutes made by Commissioner Meszoros; seconded by Commissioner Hendricks; all in favor.

Miscellaneous:

- Atty Mitola confirmed that Commissioner Mary Lee can be officially taken off the roster since she stated her intention of resignation at a previous board meeting and has not returned since.
- President Klein asked D/C Robert Petrucelli to send a letter to the Mayor requesting that the two remaining seats be filled on the Board.
- Welcome two new Commissioners: Dennis Bradley and Edward Hendricks.
- President Klein read a letter submitted to Union President Whitbread regarding conduct during the presentation and discussion of grievances. Larry Osborne (Labor Relations) requests a copy of the letter to be sent to him.
- Union President Whitbread asked that special meetings be held when monthly meetings are canceled due to no quorum. There have been several pension issues that have remained on the agenda for more than 2 months. These should be resolved in a more timely manner.

Old Business:

- 1) Local 834-Grievance 2013-1; FF Joel Christy, Article 5, Disciplinary Action.
 - President Klein stated that we need to start from scratch since two new commissioners have not heard this case before. All took a moment to read over packet.
 - President Whitbread states that they want the verbal warning to be removed from FF Christy's records.
 - In a 2326 from CT Rivera, he stated that the Coach and Counsel had not worked and wanted it moved to next step.
 - FF Christy stated that there hasn't been a problem since then.
 - FF Christy stated that he felt as if he was being harassed by CT Rivera when questioned as to whether he finished his daily chores.

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- Atty Bohannon stated that the supervisor is doing his job and has every right to ask if his work was completed. FF Christy stated in his 2326 that he felt the CT was harassing him, creating a hostile environment and on a crusade to have him transferred. CT Rivera stated in his 2326 that he feels that his reputation has suffered since FF Christy has accused him of harassment. CT Rivera stated that when he goes to another firehouse, he has heard from others about this allegation. The Fire Department is a para-military organization and support of command authority is necessary and individuals' reputations are everything. A verbal warning is minor. He feels this was blown out of proportion.
- CT Rivera spoke regarding several incidents where FF Christy was coached and counseled for this type of behavior (which were written in the company log book).

Commissioner Hendricks motioned to deny this grievance; Commissioner Meszoros seconded and the Board passed it unanimously. - DENIED

- 2) Local 834-Grievance 2013-3; FF Isaias Rodriguez, Transfer.

Union President Whitbread is moving this grievance to Civil Services.

- 3) Local 834-Grievance 2013-6; Class Action OT D-Shift 12-24-12.

Union President stated that they are close to a resolution and asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 4) Local 834-Grievance 2013-7; Class Action OT A-Shift 12-24-12.

Union President stated that they are close to a resolution and asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 5) Local 834-Grievance 2013-8; Class Action OT BOFC Appearances.

Union President stated that they are close to a resolution and asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Hendricks seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 6) Local 834-Grievance 2013-2; LT Lee Taylor, Car Use.

Union President Whitbread is moving this grievance to Civil Services.

- 7) Local 834-Grievance 2013-11; Ronald Morales Pension.

To be approved. Resolved.

- 8) Local 834-Grievance 2013-12; Frank Gerardi Pension.

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To be approved. Resolved.

- 9) Local 834-Grievance 2013-13; FF Jacob Hall, Dock Pay.

Union President Whitbread is moving this grievance to Civil Services.

- 10) Local 834-Grievance 2013-14; FF Richard Rivera, Dock Pay.

Union President Whitbread is moving this grievance to Civil Services.

- 11) Local 834-Grievance 2013-10; Night Differential in Pension.

Union President stated that they are close to a resolution and asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Hendricks motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 12) Local 834-Grievance 2013-15; Other Leave NEMO Vac, Pers, Comp Days.

Union President stated that they are close to a resolution and asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Hendricks motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 13) Local 834-Grievance 2013-18; Special Leave NEMO.

Union President stated that they are close to a resolution and asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Hendricks motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 14) Local 834-Grievance 2013-20; Paul Cocca Vac. Day.

Union President stated that they are close to a resolution and asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Hendricks motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

Union President Whitbread asked to have M. Strickland's grievance back on the agenda for the November meeting.

New Business:

- 1) Communications:
a. None

- 2) Nominations and Vote for Vice President of the Board.

Commissioner Hendricks nominated Commissioner Meszoros for Vice President; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

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- 3) Entertain a motion to grant a Widow's Pension request to Patricia E. DeCarlo, widow of retired Fire Assistant Chief Donald DeCarlo, effective July 7, 2013 and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A, for implementation.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned grant this request; Commissioner Hendricks seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 4) Entertain a motion to remove Retired Fire Assistant Chief Robert J. Gleason, deceased September 20, 2013, from the Firefighter's Pension list and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A, for implementation.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned grant this request; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 5) Entertain a motion to grant a Widow's Pension Request to Dorothy A. Gleason, widow of Retired Fire Assistant Chief Robert J. Gleason, effective September 21, 2013 and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A, for implementation.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned grant this request; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 6) Entertain a motion to remove Retired Deputy Chief Earley Pettway, deceased September 28, 2013 from the Firefighter's Pension list and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A, for implementation.

Commissioner Bradley motioned grant this request; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 7) Entertain a motion to remove Retired Pumper Engineer Michael D. Murcko Sr., deceased October 8, 2013, from the Firefighter's Pension list and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A, for implementation.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned grant this request; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 8) Entertain a motion to grant a "Pro Rata" Pension request to former employee, Ronald Morales, effective August 25, 2012 and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan B, for implementation.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned grant this request; Commissioner Hendricks seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

- 9) Entertain a motion to grant a "Pro Rata" Pension request to former employee, Frank Gerardi, effective February 8, 2012 and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan B, for implementation.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned grant this request; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

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10) Local 834-Grievance 2013-22; FF Regina Scates, Article 5, Disciplinary Action.

Union President asked to table this until next month. Commissioner Hendricks motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Bradley seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

11) Executive Session for attendance review of the following individuals:
a. None

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

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Hendricks seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

13) Entertain a motion to accept the Payroll Register.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table this grievance; Commissioner Hendricks seconded; and the Board passed it unanimously.

14) Policy and Procedure review:
a. None.

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

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Hendricks seconded; all in favor.

Adjourned: 8:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., 2nd Floor at FHQ