

March 18, 2015

Regular Meeting Board of Fire Commissioners

Present: Commissioners W. Marshall, J. Meszoros, C. Maignan, and R. Guanieri,
D/C Petrucelli, CT M. Meehan

Absent: Commissioner D. Bradley (un-excused)

Call to order: Commissioner Marshall called to order at 6:06 p.m.

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

LT John Burns
FF Joyce Craig-Lewis
FF Gus Losleben
Fire Chief Ricky Wooten Doub
FF Joseph Sanford Jr.
FF James Woods

Minutes:

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

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to approve of the previous meetings minutes (January and February); Commissioner Maignan seconded; all in favor.

Old Business:

Letter from Labor Relations Director Lawrence Osborne was read, requesting that all Union matters be tabled to April (Union President Whitbread out ill).

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table all grievances (Old Business 1, 2 and 4; and New Business 3, 4 and 5) to April; Commissioner Guarnieri seconded; all in favor.

1. Local 834-Grievance 2013-10; Night Differential in Pension. -Tabled
2. Local 834-Grievance 2014-17; FF David Otero, Article 5, Disciplinary Action. - Tabled
3. Entertain a motion to grant Marta Alfaro, widow of retired FF Elliot Alfaro, a Line of Duty Widow's Disability Pension Request effective August 26, 2014 and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A, for implementation.

Attorney Mitola stated that 2 to 3 weeks ago he sent a letter to Mrs. Alfaro requesting additional information to support the pension that she is seeking. Should receive information within the next couple of weeks. Asked to table this request to April. Attorney Mitola recommends that if we don't hear from her within a month that he would ask the Commission to deny this pension without prejudice. At some point later on she could come later on if she came up

March 18, 2015

Regular Meeting Board of Fire Commissioners

information. To date, the medical documentation doesn't support the pension that she's seeking.

Commissioner Williams motioned to table this request to April; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; all in favor.

4. Local 834-Grievance 2014-19; Directive #23 Not Followed. - Tabled

New Business:

- 1) Communications:
 - a. None.
- 2) Entertain a motion to grant a Widow's Pension request to Sharon Wentovich, widow of retired Fire LT Mark Wentovich, effective December 26, 2014 and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A, for implementation.

Commissioner Guarnieri motioned to grant a Widow's Pension to Sharon Wentovich; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; all in favor.

- 3) Local 834-Grievance 2015-1; LT Marcus Dierna, Article 5, Disciplinary Action. - Tabled
- 4) Local 834-Grievance 2015-2; PE Jose Cruz, Article 5, Disciplinary Action. - Tabled
- 5) Local 834-Grievance 2015-4; FF Eric Resko, Article 5, Disciplinary Action. - Tabled
- 6) Executive Session for attendance review of the following individuals:
 - a. FF Michael Sullivan (B) – returned to full duty on 3/17/15
 - b. FI Hiram Velez (B) – returned to full duty on 3/16/15
 - c. LT David Dobbs (B) – will return to full duty on 3/22/15
 - d. SI Leonard Bonaventura (B) – declined executive session. To date, has received shots in the neck which is the only treatment he has received so far. To see neurosurgeon tomorrow (3/19/15). Should know if surgery will be needed after appointment. Will see if he can do light duty. The time that has past has waiting for office visits and treatments to be authorized by the comp company.

Mrs. Bonaventura asked that she be allowed to speak on her husband's behalf who is a nurse practitioner. Commissioner Guarnieri motioned to allow Mrs. Bonaventura to speak; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; all in favor. Mrs. Bonaventura stated they had followed appropriate channels but it has been a very long process to have treatments and tests approved by worker's compensation. Had she brought his to the emergency room the night that he woke up with the pain after the injury, he probably would have already had his back surgery, physical therapy

March 18, 2015

Regular Meeting Board of Fire Commissioners

and been back to work full time. Disappointed in the whole system. Mrs. Bonaventura stated that SI Bonaventura has a C7 herniation.

DC Grace stated that at every staff meeting he reminds staff to immediately report an injury to the supervisor (in SOP). Workman's Comp will question why all of a sudden the injury is coming up.

SI Bonaventura feels that he is well enough right now to be assessed if he is capable of light duty.

Attorney Mitola stated if worker's comp delays is problematic at times, it doesn't preclude the employee from going through his or her own medical insurance to get treated. You're not waving anything with respect to worker's comp if you do that.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table this to April; Commissioner Guarnieri seconded; all in favor.

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

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to accept the Report of Sick and Injury; Commissioner Guarnieri seconded; all in favor.

- 8) Entertain a motion to accept the Payroll Register.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to accept the Payroll Register; Commissioner Guarnieri seconded; all in favor.

- 9) Policy and Procedure review:

- a. Approval of Revised Rules and Regulations.

Chief Rooney stated that they need the Union to be present.

Commissioner Meszoros motioned to table this to next month; Commissioner Guarnieri seconded; all in favor.

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

Commissioner Guarnieri motioned to adjourn at 6:29 p.m.; Commissioner Meszoros seconded; all in favor.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., 2nd Floor at FHQ