

**WADING RIVER FIRE DISTRICT  
1503 North Country Road  
Wading River, NY 11792**

Minutes of the November 25, 2019 Meeting

The meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner McManus at 1900 hours with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our first responders and military who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Vice Chairman Harrigan, Commissioner McManus, Commissioner McQueeney, Commissioner Moreno, District Manager Michalakopoulos, Treasurer Bushell, Secretary Donnelly, Chief Bitalvo, and Attorney Sapienza, were present at the meeting. Chairman Meier, absent due to work.

Commissioner McManus made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McQueeney, unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2019 meeting.

**Public Comments:** **Secretary Donnelly**

- None.

**Correspondence:** **Secretary Donnelly**

- November issue of The Counsellor.
- Town of Brookhaven Volunteer Firefighters Tax Exemption form.
- Copy of Town of Riverhead Fire Districts Council letter to The Town of Riverhead requesting additional Fire Marshal staffing.

**Secretary Report:** **Secretary Donnelly**

- Annual Election update.

**Wading River Fire Department:** **President Hammer**

- Not present

**Chief's Report:** **Chief Bitalvo**

- Submitted the following memos:
- 19-96 – firefighter Robert Mudzinski request for an additional one year personal leave.
- 19-97 - candidate for membership request for Desmond Gamble.
- 19-98 - candidate for membership for Karyn Borner.
- 19-99 - candidate for membership for Cassandra Picker.
- 19-100 - candidate for membership Christopher Edelstein.



**Treasurers Report:**

**Treasurer Bushell**

- Bills total \$120,326.90. Commissioner McManus made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McQueeney, unanimously approved to pay the bills.
- Received a check from VFIS in the amount of \$394.28 for the 6-3-6 glass claim.
- Requested the following budget adjustments:
  - Increase
    - Equipment \$30,000.00
    - Signal 8 \$5,000.00
    - Repair & Maintenance \$30,000.00
    - Service Contracts \$20,000.00
    - Training \$3,000.00
    - Uniforms \$3,000.00
  - Reduce
    - Wages \$30,000.00
    - Workers Compensation \$31,000.00
    - Employee Health \$30,000.00

Commissioner McManus made a motion, seconded by Vice Chairman Harrigan, unanimously approved to make the budget adjustments.

**Attorney’s Report:**

**Attorney Sapienza**

- NYS Governor has signed a bill that would allow for an increase in amount contributed to defined contribution service award programs. Wading River, similar to most of Long Island has a defined benefit program. Any change in plans would require approval from the voters.
- Requested executive session for pending litigation.

**Adjournment for Executive Session                    1934**  
**Reconvene from Executive Session                    2036**

**Commissioner Reports**

Vice Chairman Harrigan reported:

- Effective today Eric Ramirez is removed from the per diem list. And the following Per Diems are added - Kaitlyn Ortiz, Dominique Spogowski, and Steven Galvao.
- Candidates for membership submitted by the Chief tonight will not be accepted at this time without an update on the duty crew lists.
- Requested that in the absence of Chairman Meier or himself, another member of the Board should be allowed to sign change order contracts. Commissioner McQueeney made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moreno, unanimously approved for Commissioner McManus be authorized to sign.
- Requested that the bay doors safety mechanisms are corrected. District Manager reported the cost to repair the sensors is \$14,280.00. Vice Chairman Harrigan requested that as this is a safety issue a motion is made to repair the safety mechanisms at a cost of

\$14,280.00, seconded by Commissioner McManus, unanimously approved. Discussion regarding the bay doors which are original to the building.

**Chairman McManus**

- Inquired on the status of the computer equipment upgrades requested and put on hold. District Manager will put together information for the next meeting.

**Commissioner Moreno**

- Nothing to report.

**Commissioner McQueeney**

- Nothing to report.

Commissioner Moreno made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McManus and unanimously approved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 2046 hours

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Donnelly  
District Secretary  
Wading River Fire District