

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

Minutes of November 22, 2021 Meeting

The meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Chairman McManus at 1830 hours with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our First Responders, EMS, Police, Fire and Military who have made the ultimate sacrifice. In addition, Commissioner Harrigan's father's passing was acknowledged.

Chairman McManus, Vice Chairman Harrigan, Commissioner McQueeney, Commissioner Moreno, Commissioner Deveny, District Manager Michalakopoulos, District Treasurer Cangelieri, District Secretary Manitta, 1st Assistant Chief Gluck, Assistant Chief Berg and EMS Coordinator Danowski were present at the meeting. Chief Heller, Attorney Ring and President Hammer were absent with prior notice.

Commissioner Moreno made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Deveny, unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the November 8, 2021 meeting.

Public Comments:

- None

Correspondence: **Secretary Manitta**

- Notice from Riverhead Board of Assessors of Property Tax Exemption Renewal for 2022/23

Secretary Report: **Secretary Manitta**

- Discussion regarding the adoption of WRFD Policy 1.1 Code of Ethics
 - Vice Chairman Harrigan made a motion to adopt the 1.1 Code of Ethics, seconded by Commissioner McQueeney, unanimously approved.

Wading River Fire Department: **President Hammer**

- Not Present

Material Requests: **District Manager Michalakopoulos**

- None

District Manager Report:**District Manager Michalakopoulos**

- No checks were received.
- 6-3-2 Repaired and back in service
- 6-3-10 Repaired but is out of service for new mechanical repairs, waiting on parts.
- 6-3-32 Repaired and is ready to go back into service, MDT removed and working with manufacturer to resolve hardware issues.
- 6-3-28 At Otis Ford for Open recall checks, once returned 6-3-80 and 6-3-96 will be scheduled to address open recall items and any warranty items.
- 6-3-80 Battery issues over the weekend, district mechanic replaced battery this morning and vehicle was put back into service however there is an over charging issue which is being looked at determine if vehicle needs a new alternator or ECM
- Annual Physicals completed November 21st, waiting for results for district physician.
- UTV – Vehicle – in progress, no new ETA provided by manufacturer. Trailer delivered and in process of registering with DMV. Would like to thank Commissioner McQueeney for traveling to Ticonderoga and picking up the trailer.
- HQ Apparatus Floor Project – In progress, project began, will continue till completed with the exception of Thursday thanksgiving
- 6-3-80 (NEW) Received notification that vehicle is scheduled to be delivered tomorrow Nov 23rd. Once it arrives we will insure, register, and complete outfitter work by district mechanic.
 - Note Current lead-time and new SSV vehicle ordered regardless of make/model are between 18-22 months. Strongly recommend any replacement vehicles be ordered due to lead-time. No guarantees ordered will not be cancelled after ordered.
- HQ Garage Doors – In progress, PO issued utilizing Nassau County Contact # BPNC1500102. Order lead-time is 4 months, installation will be approx. March/April 2022
- Brush Truck AFG 2020 Award – In progress, requesting BOFC approve submitted vehicle specification be put out to bid with a bid opening date of December 15th at 10am with BOFC submittal and recommendation for December 27th meeting.
 - Commissioner Moreno made a motion for bid opening date of December 15, 2021 at 10 am, seconded by Vice Chairman Harrigan, unanimously approved.
- Text paging issues – Due to changes to FCC regulations with mobile carriers many ports are being blocked to minimize SPAM. In speaking with Verizon Wireless Rep there is an EMAG service available with will whitelist sender resolving current delays & issues. Requesting permission to move forward.
 - Vice Chairman Harrigan made a motion to move forward with the EMAG service, seconded by Commissioner Deveny, unanimously approved.

- Radio Communications items:
 - Conversion to UHF and Siren activation, this will also resolve the current noon activation time issues as all activation would come from HQ. Cost - \$9,538.75
 - Patch link between Riverhead 1 and WRFD UHF Channel work around Cost - \$7,973.00
 - Cross connect riverhead 1 to PA System Cost \$480.00
- Community Blood Drive Request - received update Ms. Halloran is working on dates for January or February, hasn't heard back yet. Will update as new information arrives.
- Requesting Executive Session for personnel
- Request from Troup 94 to use meeting room on January 9, 2022 in the afternoon. The BOFC approved this request.

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Cangeleri

- Bills total \$39,472.25
 - Commissioner Moreno made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McQueeney, unanimously approved to pay the bills.
- Proposed January 3, 2022 for reorganization meeting date.
 - Commissioner Moreno made a motion for the Annual Reorganization Meeting to be held on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 6:30 pm, seconded by Commissioner McQueeney, unanimously approved.

Attorneys Report:

Attorney Ring

Not Present

Chief's Report:

Assistant Chief Gluck

- **21-26:** Medical approval for Membership Candidate **Scott Engelhardt** (Firefighter & EMS).
- **Material Requests Laserfiche:**
 - ✓ None

➤ **Follow-Up:**

- ✓ **(21-24)** Membership Candidate Timothy Deveny (Firefighter & EMS) successfully completed the membership process and completed the medical exam on November 21st. Requesting tentative start date of December 1st pending successful medical exam approval as per **District Policy 5.5 Physical Examination Sub 3.**
 - Commissioner Moreno made a motion, seconded by Vice Chairman Harrigan to approve Tim Deveny to start December 1st pending successful passing of the physical medical exam, unanimously approved.

➤ **Informational:**

- ✓ Annual Bailout Refresher & New User Hands On tentatively scheduled for Thursday December 2nd with East Cost Rescue Solutions.
- ✓ Annual Stuff A Bus Food Drive underway.
- ✓ East Wind Santa Arrival Saturday December 4th with a rain date Sunday December 5th.
- ✓ Mobile Santa Sunday December 12th with a rain date Sunday December 19th.

Executive Session was requested by District Manager Michalakopoulos to discuss personnel.

- Vice Chairman Harrigan made a motion to move to executive session, seconded by Commissioner McQueeney, unanimously approved.

Adjournment for Executive Session 1852
Reconvene from Executive Session 1934

Commissioner Reports:

Chairman McManus

- Made a motion to approve medical evaluation for Scott Engelhardt
 - Commissioner Moreno made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McQueeney, unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman Harrigan

- Requested that the BOFC move forward with signing of contract with Elite Towers. Requested that the Chairman sign off on the contract.
 - Vice Chairman made a motion, Commissioner McQueeney seconded, unanimously approved.
- Vice Chairman Harrigan proposed two motions regarding Healthcare Benefit Changes and Retiree Health Insurance:

Healthcare Benefit Changes – (two amendments)

Full-time employees hired before July 1, 2021, the Fire District will contribute 100% towards the cost of his/her health insurance premium. An employee hired on or after January 1, 2022 will contribute 20% towards the cost of his/her health insurance premiums

Part-time employees hired after January 1, 2020, the Fire District will contribute the minimum requirements set forth by NYSHIP participating agency coverage guidelines. Employees must work a minimum of 20 or more hours per week to be eligible for this health benefit. Employees contribution will be deducted at time of payroll.

- Vice Chairman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Deveny, Commissioner Moreno abstained, all other BOFC approved. Motion passed.

Retiree Health Insurance - New

Full-time employees hired before July 1, 2012 the Fire District will pay 100% of the cost of his/her retiree health insurance premium. For any employee hired on or after July 1, 2012 the District will pay 90% of his/her retiree health insurance premium. In addition, employees hired on or after July 1, 2012, must have 15 years of service with the District to be eligible for retiree health insurance benefits.

- Vice Chairman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moreno, unanimously approved.
- Requested BOFC plan some time to meet and discuss upcoming items in anticipation of the Reorganization meeting in January.

Commissioner Moreno

- Nothing to report.

Commissioner McQueeney

- Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked them for their service.

Commissioner Deveny

- Thanked District Manager and Houseman Pirnak for assisting in PSEG Boat Launch Site photos that were sent to the Commissioner.

Vice Chairman Harrigan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moreno and unanimously approved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 1947 hours

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen F. Manitta
District Clerk/Secretary
Wading River Fire District