

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING
MINUTES
February 11, 2016
Public Safety Headquarters
1st Floor Conference Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Kevin Maloney, Chairman
Anita Powell, Vice Chair
Tony Coleman
Michael Burns
Ray Sanchez (by phone)
Augustine M. Kelley
Ronald Ogens

STAFF PRESENT

George Giebel, Staff Director

100 – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kevin Maloney called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

101 – Report of the Chair – The Chair noted that the January 14, 2016, Fire and Emergency Services Commission meeting was cancelled.

102- FESC Minutes - Motion to APPROVE FESC minutes of September 10, 2015, by Commissioner Kelley and Seconded by Commissioner Coleman. Motion passed.

103 – Comments from Commissioners – No report

104 – Report of the Fire Chief – Acting Chief Steckel represented Chief Goldstein who was out of town. There was no report.

200 – Action Item:

201- Fire Chief's General Order No. 16-01, Rescue Squad / Rescue Truck or Engine Dispatch Pilot Program

Motion made by Commissioner Ogens, 2nd by Commissioner Coleman to approve FCGO No. 16-01.

Commissioner Kelley commented that the MCVFRA submitted comments under Notice and Opportunity and some of them were not accepted. He also asked Battalion Chief Pete Friedman if there were any policies or orders that conflict with this document and Chief Friedman advised there is not any conflict with current policies.

Commissioner Kelley also mentioned that FCGO's should not be signed and implemented until the Commission approves an order. Commissioner Ogens agreed with

his statement. Chairman Maloney advised that the current process of approving FCGO's has been a long standing practice, initiated by Chief Tom Carr in 2005.

The FCGO was approved unanimously.

202- Fire Chief's General Order No. 16-02, Incident Command Teams.

Motion by Commissioner Coleman, and Seconded by Commissioner Ogens to approve FCGO No 16-02.

Commissioner Kelley shared the opinion of the MCVRA that this General Order should have gone through a committee process, including MCVFRA. He also stated that it would be beneficial if the comments that were submitted should be included in the Commission package.

Voting for the Motion: Commissioners Sanchez, Ogens, Maloney and Coleman
Voting against the Motion; Powell Kelley, Burns
Motion passed 4-3

203- MCFRS Document Policy

Motion by Commissioner Sanchez, Seconded by Commissioner Ogens to approve the MCFRS Document Policy.

Commissioner Ogens requested that staff change the language on Page 5 of 5 of the policy. Section 7. Procedure, "o". Fire and Emergency Service Committee to Commission.

Commissioner Kelley announced that he would vote against the motion to approve this policy due to the fact that MCVFRA's comments were not received and reviewed after the comment period of Notice and Opportunity closed. The MCVFRA had 75 days under Collective Bargaining Agreement to submit comments on the draft policy. FESC staff requested Commissioner Kelley to submit the MCFRA comments in writing so they could be included in the minutes.

Voting for the Motion: Commissioners Coleman, Sanchez, Maloney and Ogens
Voting against the Motion: Commissioners Kelley, Burns and Powell
Motion passed 4-3.

204 – Identification Cards and Facility Access Policy

Motion by Commissioner Sanchez, Seconded by Commissioner Coleman to approve the Identification Cards and Facility Access Policy.

Commissioner Kelley advised that MCVFRA has submitted comments under Notice and Opportunity but not all their comments were included in the final version. One example was that the LFRD President does not know when members leave the LFRD's so how can he/she be responsible to collect the ID badges.

The Motion passed on the Policy - unanimously

Discussion item Commissioner Ogens requested staff to take some concerns to the Fire Chief on his behalf. He observes that the Commission does not receive briefings from the Fire Chief. Examples would include;

- Budget – the Commissioners have not input or reviewed in the last 2 years
- Programs
- Lack of Commissioners participation on any Committees
- General lack of information to the Commissioners to make recommendations as required in Chapter 21.

Commission Staff Director George Giebel offered to create County emails for the Public Commissioners and put them on the MCFRS distribution list. This venue would supply daily information from MCFRS to each Commissioner.

300 – Adjournment

MOTION by Commissioner Kelley and SECONDED by Commissioner Ogens. Motion Passed.

Commission Adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Kevin Maloney, Chair