

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING
MINUTES
July 9, 2020
Public Safety Headquarters
2nd Floor Conference Room
Gaithersburg, Maryland

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Hilary Miller, Chair (by phone)
Anita Powell, Vice Chair (by phone)
Commissioner Scott Emmons (by phone)
Commissioner Robert Ford (by phone)
Commissioner Michael Burns (by phone)
Commissioner Tony Coleman (by phone)

STAFF PRESENT

Fire Chief Scott Goldstein
George Giebel, Staff Director
Ed Haenftling, County Attorney

100 – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Miller called the meeting of the Montgomery County Fire and Emergency Services Commission to order at 7:01 pm. The meeting was conducted by tele-conference through ZOOM telecommunications systems.

101 – Report of the Commission Chair – No Report

102 – Approval of the FESC Commission minutes of May 14, 2020

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Ford to approve the May, 2020, Commission minutes, SECONDED by Commissioner Powell. The MOTION passed, unanimously.

103 – Comments from Commissioners – None

104 – Fire Chief's Report –

The Fire Chief reported out on the current status of the Coronavirus and the actions taken by his department to address staffing issues during the pandemic. He answered questions from the Commissioners on COVID 19. He stated the virus is going to get worse. Currently, supplies are available and waiting on a vaccine to slow COVID 19 down.

FY2021 budget – The County Executive through OMB requested a 6% budget reduction request but since has reduced it to 2%. The CE is considering reductions in the recruit class, Officership class and IT budgets.

200 - BUSINESS ITEMS

201 – FCGO No. 20-04, Prohibition of Disruptive Symbols in the Work Place.

The Fire Chief presented FCGO No. 20-04 for consideration by the FES Commission for approval. He explained the formulation of the order at the request of the Chief Administration Officer, Mr. Kleine and the review and approval of the County Attorney Marc Hansen. The basis of this order is if a MCFRS member displays in the workplace or while performing an official MCFRS duty a symbol that causes a disruption in the MCFRS operations, a supervisor must order the member to stop displaying the symbol.

The President of the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Ms. Goodloe, stated the opposition of the Association to the Commissioners.

The Commissioners debated the FCGO.

MOTION by Commissioner Burns to, NOT APPROVE the FCGO No. 20-04. The Motion to SECOND was made by Commissioner Powell. The Commissioners votes were counted, For the Motion – Commissioners A. Powell, S. Emmons, R. Ford, T. Coleman, and M. Burns. Against the Motion H. Miller. MOTION PASSED

202 - Incident Response Policy No. 24-01, Appendix “U” Management of Cardiac Arrest. The Fire Chief requested the Commission to approve Policy No. 24-01, Appendix “U.” MOTION by Commissioner Ford, SECONDED by Commissioner Emmons to approve IRP Appendix “U.” MOTION passed unanimously

203 - Incident Response Policy No. 24-01, Appendix “O” Definitions
The Fire Chief requested the Commission to approve Policy No. 24-01, Appendix “Q.” MOTION by Commissioner Ford, SECONDED by Commissioner Emmons to approve IRP Appendix “Q.” MOTION passed unanimously

300 – ADJOURNMENT -MOTION by Commissioner Emmons, SECONDED by Commissioner Powell to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Gabel for Hilary Miller
Hilary Miller, Chair