

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**  
**FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
April 11, 2024  
Public Safety Headquarters / Tele-conference  
Gaithersburg, Maryland

*Commissioners Present*

Anita Powell – Chair  
Commissioner Hilary Miller  
Commissioner Tony Coleman  
Commissioner Robert Ford  
Commissioner Jane Callen  
Commissioner Ron Ogens

*Staff*

Acting Fire Chief Gary Cooper  
Staff Director George Giebel  
Batt Chief Franz Pinthiere

**100 – Call to Order**

Chair Powell called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The chair did not have a report for the Commission.

**101 – Approval of FESC Minutes.**

A motion to approve FESC minutes for November 9, 2023, by Commissioner Callen, Seconded by Commissioner Ford. Motion approved.

**102 – Fire Chief's Report**

Acting Fire Chief Gary Cooper was introduced to the FESC members. He advised that Chief Kinsley officially retired on December 31, 2023. Chief Cooper was appointed Interim Fire Chief until the County Executive nominates and the County Council approves a new Fire Chief. Chief Cooper explained the PSTA policy on cancellation of classes. He announced that the process of recruitment and hiring is handled entirely by the Office of Human Resources. Chief Sanford announced that the PSTA is graduating 28 individuals this week and a new class of 34 individuals is preparing to begin on Monday. The academy follows the guidelines set out by MFRI for classes.

Commissioner Callen inquired about the possibility that MCVFRA could have input on the selection of the position of Fire Chief. Chief Bailey said he was reviewing comments submitted on the Master Plan.

Commissioner Callen inquired about the Annual Report of the Commission as required in Chapter 21. Currently, there is no action being taken by the Commission.

New Business – There was no new business items to discuss.

**103 – Public Comments**

**104 - Adjournment**

Commissioner Miller made a MOTION to adjourn at 7:40 pm, Seconded by Commissioner Callen. Motion passed, unanimously.