

# Cromwell Fire District

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FIRE DISTRICT OFFICE  
WATER DIVISION

FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** **Health & Safety/Building Committee**

**Thursday, April 7, 2022**

**5:30 PM**

**Coles Road Firehouse  
105 Coles Road  
Cromwell, CT**

Present: Commissioners Robert Donohue (Chairman), David Colligan and Chip Darius. Also attending were Water Operations Manager Joseph Palmieri, Executive Director Julius Neto, Fire Chief Jason Balletto and Communications Manager Justin Lonergan. Commissioner Robert McIntyre was absent.

- I. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM, by Chairman Donohue.
- II. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Colligan, seconded by Commissioner Darius and unanimously approved to accept the agenda as submitted.
- III. Public Comment. There were no public comments to report.
- IV. Old Business. There was no old business to discuss.
- V. New Business
  - A. Update with Division Heads. Chief Balletto reported that mandatory training has started. They have three of the full time shifts already completed. There is one shift left to complete the training. They are planning for the first and second Mondays in May for part-time and volunteer training. Once that has been completed that will make the Department compliant for the year with mandatory training. The Infection Control, Respiratory and Hazcom policies have all been revised. Hazcom has also been updated with the Water Division staff. The Water Division has completed all training that is mandated by OSHA.  
  
Mr. Palmieri reported that the Water Division completed training as noted by the Chief. They have some upcoming OSHA training. He noted that they were planning to do OSHA 30 instead of OSHA 10. Commissioner Darius had recommended to Mr. Palmieri that they do the Construction Module rather than the General Industry. The Water Division did the General Industry the first time. Mr. Palmieri said that they would be doing the training through OSHA.com unless Commissioner Darius had a better suggestion.

Commissioner Darius suggested if they can do something to avoid online training, they should do that. The online training is not the best way to go. There are plenty of instructors around that can do a live class. Mr. Palmieri has extra money in his training budget for this class. Commissioner Darius gave some suggestions for classes. CCIA does one of those classes in the Spring. On the OSHA website there is a list of authorized trainers. Commissioner Colligan suggested contacting Connecticut Utility Contractors and ABC or Arborio who have a lot of connections or may have instructors within their company.

Mr. Palmieri asked about training for sit down forklift. The training was completed by his staff a few years ago. He asked if there was an expiration date or a renewal date for that training. Commissioner Darius noted that every 3 years the skills of every operator have to be re-evaluated. All documentation for skill evaluation must be kept on file. The online training is one part of it.

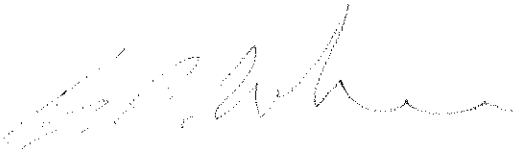
- B. Updates from IAFF Local 4662 and AFSCME Local 1303-475. Chris Bellamo was in attendance to give a report from AFSCME Local 1303-475. He noted that they received the filters for the purifiers.
- C. Water Department Training for Mandatories. This item was discussed under Item A.
- D. Report on Incident of March 24, 2022. The Chairman stated that he no longer needed this item on the agenda. Chief Balletto asked to address the Committee. His office was notified on March 24, 2022, by the on-duty Lieutenant that there was an issue. The next day the Chief had a discussion with the Communications Manager, Justin Lonergan. They came up with a plan going forward and resolved the issue. The Chief added that during that process he was not approached by anyone from Local 4662 that there was a safety concern. It was an issue that involved day-to-day operations.

Commissioner Colligan noted that issues such as these should be brought through the chain of command. The proper procedure was not followed.

VI. Commissioners' Comments. There were no comments to report.

VII. Adjournment. There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Colligan, second by Commissioner Darius and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Donohue, Chairman

Nancy Deegan  
Recording Secretary