

**UNION FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF WARDENS
MEETING MINUTES
131 ASA POND ROAD, WAKEFIELD, RI 02879
April 6th, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

Wardens: Present: Mark Nelson (Chairman), Anthony Manzo, Richard Collinson, Joseph Mason and Kathleen Mack

Others Present: Chief Steven Pinch, Legal Counsel Tim Bliss, Treasurer Richard DeSista
District Administrator Brian Mahoney

CALL TO ORDER: Warden Nelson calls the meeting to order and confirms the presence of the Board of Wardens for the Union Fire District of South Kingstown (UFD) at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE WARDENS MEETING:

Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve the minutes from the April 06, 2026 Warden's meeting. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chief's Report

- Chief Pinch updated that the SK class is working on hose lines and duty ride along which is giving them field conditions training.
- The Chief reports that a committee has been formed to review NFPA 1500 to focus on inspections and safety points and review policies. This includes a recent communication for anyone who missed a hepatitis shot.
- The Chief and duty crew will be going to Monsignor Clarke to give the students new basketballs for their service in shoveling hydrants this past Winter.

Building Committee Report

- District Administrator Mahoney speaks about capital projects reporting the admin gate is on order, ice machine is coming next week, and that the open projects will be going to bid next week.
- He reports that the district landscaping bid is closing in 10 business days.
- DA Mahoney reports that the Matunuck and West Kingston projects will be discussed as agenda items and that Wakefield and Peacedale ideas and designs are being worked on with the district architect. Chief Pinch clarifies that the stations being architecturally worked on are Wakefield and West Kingston.
- DA Mahoney thanks Dan Nolan for his work on repairing the damaged grass lot at the Wakefield station.
- An update is given that Martone and the UFD architect are working on final packages such as flooring and colors for the Forestry project. He speaks about the Town of SK having the project permit on their April 13th agenda to be approved by the Town Council.

Truck Report

- Chief Cinquegrana reports that Ladder 1 and Engine 18 are out of service

Grant Report

- District Administrator Mahoney reports there is no update at this time per Kevin Quinn.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS

Purchases of construction services and gear

- DA Mahoney presents Tower Construction's CP #30 for the trim work at the Matunuck station noting he had met with Dan Nolan and architect David Horton on site to review the proposal. He notes that Tower construction will have a supervisor on site and that the original siding company would be doing this work if approved. Warden Manzo makes a motion to approve CP #30 for \$15,469.19 from Tower Construction. Warden Nelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- The next item on the agenda is for structural engineering assessment at the West Kingston station, and DA Mahoney clarifies that Aharonian and Associates would be doing this work with an in-house engineer. Discussion is had to clarify that this work is to see if the building can be added on to and is structurally worthy. Warden Nelson makes a motion to approve the structural engineering from Aharonian and Associates for \$8,750. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. DA Mahoney clarified that \$8,750 was the correct total. All voted in favor, and the motion carried. DA Mahoney did not have a schedule for the vendor yet for this work.
- Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve Dunn's Corner Fire Dept to use the burn building 5/16/26 at a 50% fee. Warden Nelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Building use and administrative items

- Warden Mason makes a motion to approve purchase of (10) sets of turnout gear from Firematic for \$35,000. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- The Chairman of the Matunuck fire station speaks about having an open house on 6/27/26 at 10am to welcome the public into the new station. He reports that this would include speakers, recognition of members, and the revealing of the plaque honoring Mary Carpenter. Chief Pinch speaks about the importance of this event and asks the board if they would support this event's food and setup costs. Warden Nelson makes a motion to approve \$500 funding for the event and then after discussion updates his motion to approve not to exceed \$1,000 in funding for the event. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

- DA Mahoney reports about a meeting of UFD representatives and Veolia Water at their Wakefield location. He speaks about the meeting being productive and the outcome being the UFD receiving clarification on our hydrants as well as data from Veolia. He notes that Veolia would be willing to teach the firefighters or CTE class about hydrant systems and do a demo for them. Discussion is opened up and DA Mahoney reports that we do not have all the data such as flow rates because Veolia had to speak to their legal team first. Also, he clarifies that they will not be color coating the hydrants but do have a plan to paint them. Chief Pinch discusses the flags and testing of hydrants as well as the UFD training ground hydrants. Further discussion is had about the UFD paying for maintenance on the training ground hydrants which should have been by Veolia. Warden Collinson brings up meeting with Veolia again and DA Mahoney will coordinate this. Discussion is had about them coming to a Wardens meeting versus a meeting with the Chief and DA and it is decided the 1st step will be to meet with the Chief. The concern is discussed that the district needs all data from Veolia as it affects the ISO rating for all South Kingstown residents. Also, the hydrants being buried, rusted, height clearance, and flow rates being wrong were mentioned.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS/FIREFIGHTERS

- The floor was opened for comments, Captain Holmander states his reservations about re-using sections of the West Kingston station due to storm leakage and safety concerns. His and his members recommendation is waiting to do work at the West Kingston station to find funding to fully replace the current station rather than renovate.
- Warden Collinson speaks about the Greeks coming back and that there is some funding issues. He has set up a meeting to find some funds for them to come to RI again.

AJOURNMENT

- After all business was completed Warden Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

 Brian C. Mahoney
 District Clerk

Date Amended_____

Date Accepted_____

I, Brian C. Mahoney, do certify that the attached minutes are a true and accurate copy of the April 6, 2026 meeting of the Board of Wardens of the Union Fire District and that they have not been amended except as cited above.

 Brian C. Mahoney
 District Clerk