

**UNION FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF WARDENS
MEETING MINUTES
131 ASA POND ROAD, WAKEFIELD, RI 02879
May 18th, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

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

Others Present: Assistant Chief Lance Whaley, Legal Counsel Tim Bliss, Treasurer Richard DeSista, District Administrator Brian Mahoney

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman 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 May 05, 2026 Warden's meeting. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chief's Report

- Chief Whaley gave Chief Pinch's report and spoke about attending a public safety meeting for the 250 anniversary South Kingstown fourth of July fireworks event. Noting that this year there is changes due to local construction.
- Chief Whaley and Chief Bradley attended the RI Firefighters Memorial service at the Fire Academy.
- Station 9 was given a CPR AED first aid class.
- Wellness and safety events for Safety Stand Down 2026 will be June 14- 20
- The High School class is working on prepping for their practical exam.
- He speaks about recent difficult calls including 2 attempted suicides noting that this was potentially the first time some of these firefighters have seen these types of calls

Building Committee Report

- District Administrator Mahoney speaks about meeting with Martone and Holland electric at the Forestry building and that materials are starting to be delivered.
- He confirms that the Matunuck station siding has been completed and inspected. Dan Nolan has been working with Tower Construction on resolving heating issues noting that the system is now going under testing.
- DA Mahoney speaks about bid for HVAC at the Tuckertown station.
- He notes that he and Dan Nolan met with the structural engineer at West Kingston station and we are awaiting the final report.
- He updates on current projects that the admin gate working is starting next week, library has been painted, and AC work has been done at the admin building.

Training Report

- DA Mahoney gives the training report that 6 members are attending the National Fire Academy Weekend in July. Also 4 hazmat operations, 1 firefighter one, and 1 live burn instructor classes have been completed.

Recruitment and Retention Report

- Chief Duckworth speaks about the upcoming UFD golf tournament on July 25th 10AM at Pinecrest. He also spoke about planning the New York trip for this year.
- He reports 3 applications have been received since the last meeting.

Truck Report

- Chief Cinquegrana reports all are in service other than ladder 1.

IT Report

- Captain Allbee reports there is no new update at this time.

Grant Report

- Kevin Quinn reports FEMA has opened for grants and the AFG. He is working on a grant for hose and equipment

OLD BUSINESS:

- DA Mahoney reports there is no update at this time on the SK police to use the training ground and asks for it to be tabled. Warden Collinson makes a motion to table. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Payment and Procurement

- DA Mahoney presents paying Tower Construction the final payment for the Matunuck Station. He notes that the siding work has been completed and that the HVAC work is ongoing. He speaks further about the testing of the HVAC equipment and warranty of the work. Dan Nolan agrees that Tower Construction has completed the work other than the HVAC. There is further discussion about the total and whether final payment should be made. DA Mahoney notes a log of all calls and requests about the HVAC have been logged by Dan Nolan. Further discussion is had about what total value should be paid and warranty. Warden Manzo makes a motion to approve the final payment to Tower Construction. Warden Mason seconded the motion. (4) Members voted in favor, Warden Collinson voted against, and the motion carried.
- Warden Nelson makes a motion to approve the purchase of Mercedes fire hose for \$17,912.90 from C and S Specialty. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. Warden Mack asks about the quote having 100ft hose which was not on the potential purchase,

and DA Mahoney and Chief Cinquegrana confirmed that the 100ft is not being ordered at this time. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

- DA Mahoney presented the bid results for the generator and transfer switch replacement at the UFD training ground and asks for it to be tabled at this time due to an electrical code one vendor had noted. Warden Mason asks about the bid spec and DA Mahoney spoke about the spec, addendum, site walk and notes that he wants to look at the procurement policy and meet with legal to review the code issue. Warden Nelson makes a motion to table the bid. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. (4) Members voted in favor, Warden Mason voted against, and the motion carried.
- Warden Manzo makes a motion to approve purchase of Y nozzles from C and S Specialty for \$1,620.54 and adapters from MES Northeast for \$180. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- DA Mahoney presents purchase to replace MTR 2000 from Marcus Communication for radio channel 7. He notes that pricing and procurement are based of Mass State contract PSE01. Warden Collinson and Chief Whaley discuss that this station is for emergencies and that UFD and possibly Kinston Fire would have access. Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve the replacement of MTR 2000 for channel 7. Warden Mason seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- DA Mahoney presented a request from Chief Pinch for an additional \$900 in scholarship funds for the SK High School firefighter class. Warden Nelson makes a motion to approve the funds for the students. Warden Mack seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- DA Mahoney presented a request from the Special Olympics to use the Forestry building for an award ceremony on May 29 9am-2pm as they have done in the past. He notes he has already received their insurance certificate. Discussion was had about setup and a fire detail being present for the station operations. Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve the event. Warden Mason seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Fire Marshal, Tax Collector, and Treasurers Reports

- Warden Nelson makes a motion to accept the Fire Marshal's report for April 2026. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- Warden Nelson makes a motion to accept the tax collectors report for April 2026. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- Warden Collinson asks about the Caliente restaurant invoice on the report and DA Mahoney clarifies that restaurants only submit bills quarterly and that new food locations have been added for the firefighters. Warden Manzo makes a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Warden Mack seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS/FIREFIGHTERS

- DA Mahoney reminds the audience that the annual meeting will be June 1 at 7pm at the Admin building. Kevin Quinn confirms he is ready for the meeting
- Chairmen Nelson thanks Dan Nolan and DA Mahoney for their work on the Matunuck station project.
- Warden Manzo speaks about the difficult calls Chief Whaley had discussed and spoke about reaching out to those in need and the importance of mental health and to always say something.
- Captain Allbee speaks about members who have approached him about the change in pay schedule for the firefighter program details noting that payment could take up to 6 weeks for a shift. He speaks about the importance of this income to the members. DA Mahoney notes that the station pay was brought up at the captains meeting. Warden Mack spoke further about the overall number of checks per cycle and checks in the past which were not cashed, also noting moving towards all direct deposits. Chief Duckworth also reports that people had contacted TJ Lee with the same concern as Captain Allbee and it is potentially discouraging firefighters taking shifts.

AJOURNMENT

- After all business was completed Warden Manzo made a motion to adjourn. Warden Mack seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:36PM.

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 May 18, 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