

**UNION FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF WARDENS
MEETING MINUTES
131 ASA POND ROAD, WAKEFIELD, RI 02879
August 17th, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

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

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 7:01 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE WARDENS MEETING:

Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2026 Warden's meeting. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chief's Report

- Chief Whaley starts by thanking the recruitment and retention committee for running the UFD golf tournament and commends Wakefield station for their community family day.
- He thanked all who attended the bi-annual award ceremony and congratulated all the award recipients.
- Chief Whaley spoke about call volume remaining high and an upcoming officers meeting to plan additional duty shifts.
- He notes that there are currently 15 students in the High School CTE class.
- He spoke about the South County hospital call and makes it known that there was a great response.

Building Committee Report

- DA Mahoney reports that the Forestry project is moving along and speaks about the gas lines and the concrete floor being poured.
- He confirms that the exterior lights at the UFD have been fully completed and the only lights remaining to be installed are at Snug Harbor.
- He speaks about capital projects noting the gate project is to be completed tomorrow with the installation of a pedestal and then IT Work noting that 3 of 5 parts have arrived so far. Captain Allbee spoke about the gate and moving the camera to see it. DA Mahoney then spoke about the training ground painting, and roof projects are going out to bid.

Training Report

- Chief Bradley reports looking into getting members into fire 1 classes at the Fire Academy and that he is working on setting up trainings with outside companies.

Recruitment and Retention Report

- Chief Duckworth reports receiving (5) applicants since the last meeting and that the UFD golf tournament and award banquet were upcoming events. He also notes the golf tournament and award ceremony were successful and mentioned planning details for the New York trip.

Truck Report

- Chief Cinquegrana reports engine 18 and engine 2 are out of service and ladder 1 is back in service.

IT Report

- Captain Allbee mentions just waiting on parts for the gate project.

Grant Report

- DA Mahoney reads Kevin Quinn's report noting it states there are no further updates and the UFD continues to wait on decisions from submissions in July.

OLD BUSINESS:

- DA Mahoney reports that he has spoken to Captain Sgalia at the SK police about using the training ground and establishing an MOU. He asks for a motion to table at this time. Warden Nelson makes a motion to table. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- Warden Collinson speaks about the New York trip and asks Chief Bradley if there has been interest yet and Chief Bradley reports no one has signed up yet. DA Mahoney notes they have not located the bussing company yet from the last trip. Chief Duckworth reports he has received over 20 people who are interested in going and mentions bloom bussing. Warden Collinson makes a motion to table the New York trip. Warden Nelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- DA Mahoney presents the MVR drivers checks schedule and evaluation which was requested by the insurance company. He notes that this would have the UFD drivers get MVR checks yearly instead of only when they start drivers training and that drivers would report motor vehicle license issues within 24 hours to their superior. He notes there will be an additional cost to get everyone checked, which was previously budgeted. Warden Nelson makes a motion to approve the insurance company requested changes. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- DA Mahoney presents the junior membership program guidelines update which was requested by the insurance company. He asks that it be tabled at this time. Warden Collinson makes a motion to table. Warden Mason seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Administrative

- Chief Bradley speaks about the New England Fools requesting to use the training grounds 10/17-10/18 with waiving the rental fee but they will pay the UFD firefighter detail and offer free training spots to the UFD firefighters. Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve the use of the training ground and waiving the fee. Warden Mack seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- Chief Whaley requests that the SOG 01-002 Personnel Accountability System be tabled to next month. Warden Nelson makes a motion to table. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Fire Marshal, Tax Collector, and Treasurers Reports

- Warden Manzo makes a motion to accept the Fire Marshal's report for July 2026. Warden Mack seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- Warden Mack makes a motion to accept the tax collectors report for July 2026. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- Warden Collinson asked about the monthly electric bill pricing and DA Mahoney noted with AC's running there have been small increases and decreases but no spikes. DA Mahoney mentions that the lighting upgrades have reduced the usage by 40% at some locations. Warden Nelson 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

- Warden Mack asked how many drivers the UFD had and Chief Cinquegrana says he's working on revamping the list. DA Mahoney notes that the MVR checks have been coded and budgeted in the past and are in our systems.
- Warden Nelson took a moment to thank the recruitment and retention committee and Chief Pinch and the other Chiefs for putting together a great ceremony.

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 7:21pm.

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 August 17, 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