

RUSH FIRE DISTRICT, BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
1971 Rush-Mendon Road, Rush, New York 14543
Meeting Minutes June 17, 2025

Called to Order 7:03 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioner Scott Goodman, Commissioner Bob Faugh, Commissioner Dale Sweet, Commissioner Doug Platt, Commissioner Mike Terzo, Chief Jon Faugh, Asst Chief Dan Kwiecien, Treasurer Aletha Steehler, Treasurer Roseli Pacheco, Secretary Kitty Stappenbeck. Town of Rush: Rick Tracy, Fire Marshal and Councilmember Jeanne Morelli.

Absent: Asst Chief Terzo

Others: Members of the fire department, members of the community

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from 05/20/2025 made by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Sweet and approved 5 - 0.

NOTE: Asst Chief Kwiecien mentioned that he was listed under both present and absent - Secretary fixed - he was present

Report From the Town:

From the Fire Marshal - nothing of significance to report

From Councilmember Morelli - Nothing major to report, but still working through the code sections. She asked if one of the Commissioners would attend a town board meeting to update the town on plans for the ambulance. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month,

Liaison Town Board:

2025-9P Gordon: Subdivision and Single Family Home -no review/response needed (6/10/25)

2025-3Z Wolbert: Existing Shed Relocation 06/10/25 - no review/response needed (6/10/25)

Chief's Report:

- The Chief reported there were 41 calls month of May - no significant property loss - or injury; some unique car accidents, and one lawnmower fire
- Commissioner Goodman asked if the Chief had attended the Executive Chiefs Meeting with the County; yes, he did - county stuff going on but didn't have his notes to report on specifics
- Commissioner Terzo reported that digital pagers that are used will be discontinued, but no idea what the county will use because cannot rely on Bryx app - update on pagers around the county messed up Rush pagers and they are being reprogrammed

Buildings and Grounds:

Commissioner Sweet reported that he had tried to reach out to A/P Plumbing to get an update on the drains in the parking lot that they had checked, transferred 5 times; could not get anyone to talk to.

- drainage off the building into the parking lot, A/P plumbing scoped lines and they should send the report via email to Commissioner Sweet. Commission Terzo indicated he had been present for some of the lines that were scoped and at that point, A/P did not see anything would cause a problem

Vehicles:

Commissioner Terzo reported:

Chief's vehicles are in, he is working to get lettering, decal and a chevron on back of truck

Logo will be black and white and will be the District logo/patch

Fire extinguishers mounts are also needed, Leo J Roth will be contacted for pricing

- 582 brains for FOAM system to factory to see what is wrong
- 582 heater core for the defroster leaking antifreeze, so got into key system, so box is out getting repaired
- chains for snow, got turned on and broke, so out for repair
- 588 compartment lights are out - Harrob to fix if able to
- Refurbishment on 582 need response from Harrob
- 584 airride bag on officers seat needs to be installed

Equipment:

Commissioner Terzo reported:

District to look into upgrading rescue tools that are battery operated

Asst Chief Kwiecien asked if the radio room could get the ability to print to the Toshiba copier, Commissioner Terzo will follow up with Kables

Information Technology:

Still no quote on the laptops needed - Secretary will check with Kables

SOGs and SOPs: emailed to group: June 1, 2025

1. Investment Policy SOG 15-4 Motion to accept by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Sweet. Passed 5 -0.
2. Capitalization Policy SOG 15-5 Motion to accept by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Sweet , Passed 5-0.

Personnel:

Two applications to present: Ian Campo and HaJoon Lee will graduate in December and is interested in becoming an EMT.

Motion to accept on condition of clear background check by Commissioner Sweet, seconded by Commissioner Terzo and passed 5-0.

Publicity and Associations: MCFDOA- no one can attend

Physicals: June 26 - UDS - Body Scans on 10 Fire Department members; they will use the Commissioners conference room to set up.

Commissioner Platt said he would work with Healthworks to get something on the calendar for 2026

Secretary indicated that Healthworks was not telling new firefighters about getting a chest x-ray. This has since been corrected.

Inventory, Inspection and Dinner: Nothing to report

Insurance/Budget/Attorney:

- Commissioner Sweet talked with Mr. Wilkins relative to the liability for the carnival ride company. Working with Member Jim McNeil on this.
- Proxy form for workers comp insurance - Commissioner Sweet will act as contact and provide a copy to the secretary.

Commissioner Sweet will reach out to group to let them know when the date is to review insurance with Mr. Wilkins

Membership: see above under Personnel

Commissioner Sweet reported that the fire department is looking to revamp the flow of membership for applicants to make it a shorter period, yet nothing solid yet. Needs to be reviewed by the board.

Treasurer Report:

Voucher #'s: 2025-158 through 2025-195

Dollar amount: \$68,229.06

Vouchers signed by: Commissioners Sweet, Terzo, Faugh, Platt

Motion to pay the bills as indicated by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Sweet, passed 5 - 0,

Other Financial Business:

Old Business:

- Commissioner Terzo reported that ladders tested, hose and SCBA tested; everything in good shape
- Ambulance discussion
Commissioner Goodman started the discussion by talking about the ambulance being an issue since 2015 and that it is time to make the move to CHS
 - Karen Taddeo - attorney for District relative to EMS Service had been consulted about steps to turn the ambulance over to CHS
 - Rush members would be members of CHS
 - The Chief talked about getting cleared through Rush vs clearing through CHS and the length of time it takes.
 - Commissioner Terzo - brought up issue on what the process is for getting Rush ambulance personnel cleared (as he has been asking for several years)
- The Chief responded that it is up to Zach and Jenna to have a comfort level with new EMT's and that it could take some people 10 calls and others 20 calls.

Everyone is different. This is the same process that has been in place for several years.

- Town resident said that the understanding from the town residents (from the May Commissioner meeting) was that the Department would give the District a proposal outlining an improvement plan, which would be considered by the District
- Chief Faugh reported that 92% of the calls had been covered in the previous month

Commissioner Goodman read the resolution* to turn the ambulance over to CHS: When asked 'On the Question', Commissioner Sweet indicated that at the May meeting, it was agreed that the Department should be given time to test their process for call response improvement and he objected to the Resolution. He said that the District 'rattled some chains' and there was an improvement, so that was a good thing. He further stated that the residents do not want to get rid of the ambulance as was evidenced from the May meeting

Vote as follows:

Commissioner Faugh - no
Commissioner Sweet - no
Commissioner Platt - yes
Commissioner Terzo- yes
Commissioner Goodman - yes

New Business:

Large Meeting Room - to be used for a party for member Riley Evans-VanBuren - August 31; Motion to allow by Commissioner Sweet, seconded by Commissioner Sweet, passed 5 - 0.

The Secretary asked the board if they would support offering a blood drive in the coming months. The secretary will pursue for November.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Platt, seconded by Commissioner Terzo.
The meeting was adjourned by common consent at 7:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Kitty Stappenbeck
District Secretary

*Resolution read to the body

On this date July 17, 2025

The Board of Fire Commissioners for the Rush Fire District hereby authorizes the Rush Fire District to take all the steps necessary to

1. Notify the State of New York Department of Health Bureau of EMS and Trauma systems; the Monroe - Livingston Regional EMS, REMSCO and all other necessary parties that Rush Fire District intends to terminate its ambulance services and surrender its operating certificate to the State; and
2. Sell all of the assets held by Rush Fire District related to the provision of ambulance services to CHS for fair market value provided that CHS enters into a binding agreement with Rush Fire District whereby it agrees to station and operate an ambulance out of the Rush Fire District offices for a period of 2 years.