

RUSH FIRE DISTRICT, BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
1971 Rush-Mendon Road, Rush, New York 14543
Meeting Minutes February 17, 2026

Called to Order: 7:02 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Chairman Dale Sweet, Vice-Chair Diana Pfersick, Commissioner Bob Faugh, Commissioner Scott Goodman

Chief Jon Faugh, Asst Chief Andrew Socola

Fire Marshal Rick Tracy and Councilmember Derek Brown

Members of the fire department and the community. President Heidi Sweet was in attendance shortly after the meeting started.

Absent: Commissioner Michael Terzo

****Note:** there is no recording for this meeting. Minutes were put together from my handwritten notes which will be scanned and saved

Approval of Minutes: Corrections to 01/20/2026 Meeting Minutes: #1. Page 2, under Chief's report, third bullet - should just be LDH; #2. Under Vehicles second bullet: warning light flashing in the door (add that this alerts the driver that the door is open, but flashes even when door is closed)

#3. Information Technology, 1st bullet, add Dan's last name; 3rd bullet, add Shaun's last name. #4 under SOGs and SOPs second bullet - remove the reference to 'nodding' #5 corrections to Bills by the secretary, s/b \$24,225.13. #6 last paragraph before Adjournment - truck numbers were flipped, should be 582 to House 2 and move 584 back to House 1. #7 Under Treasurer Report, last bullet - add 'laborer' just before position.

Motion to approve January meeting minutes with corrections by Commissioner Goodman, seconded by Commissioner Pfersick, passed 4 - 0.

Town of Rush Report:

Fire Marshal had no report

Councilmember Derek Brown introduced himself as the new liaison for the town.

Liaison Town Board: no planning or zoning board applications to review

Chief's Report:

- No calls of major consequence; ambulance response is still within the guidelines set by the District
- Attended Leary School with the Fire Marshal
- Some training will be done at Leary School to familiarize the membership with the buildings and protocols

Asst Chief Socola indicated that the Ambulance SOG's must be updated this year as they should have been done last year. If not done by the ambulance inspection next year, 'we will fail'

Buildings and Grounds:

- Commissioner Sweet said he had spoken to D.J. Kyle (Highway Superintendent) regarding the paving of the parking lot. He will need to provide a new quote and government contracts so the District has the information to proceed. Project will begin after August.
- Reported by Commissioner Goodman for Commissioner Terzo:
 - The bay door at station 1 has been fixed; the window has been replaced in 589's bay door.
 - The billing issue has been resolved with Monroe Gutter.

Vehicles:

- Commissioner Sweet said that there is a power steering leak on 582.
- 584 has been moved to House 1 -intermittent issue with emergency lights
- 583 - tail light is broken off
- 588 - HarRob is supposed to work on 584 and 588

Fire Truck Committee Update:

No update since January meeting.

Information Technology:

The secretary indicated that the scanning software 'Paper Stream' needs to be installed on the PC in the commissioner's office

SOGs and SOPs:

Commissioner Sweet distributed a draft for Chief's Vehicle Standard Operating Guideline. This will be reviewed by the commissioners, the secretary will put it in SOG standard format and it will be sent to members in March, if the Commissioners agree

7:35 pm -Executive Session: Motion by Commissioner Goodman, seconded by Commissioner Pfersick to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue.
Passed 4 - 0

7:43 pm - Motion to return to regular session by Commissioner Goodman, seconded by Commissioner Pfersick. Passed 4 - 0

Personnel: no report

Publicity and Associations: no report

Physicals:

Took place on February 16. Commissioner Sweet said he spoke to Dr Carlson from Healthworks and everything went well.

Inventory, Inspection and Dinner:

No report

Insurance/Budget/Attorney:

March 11, 2026

Commissioner Sweet indicated that the insurance policies have been updated with the replacement cost of firetrucks
EAP insurance has been renewed and paid
Commissioner Pfersick will take care of the group life claim for deceased member Al Sweet
Budget; Plan on reviewing the personnel line at the end of each quarter to better prepare for budget hearing.

Membership:

Paperwork received for:
Kieran Weisenberg
Christopher Caswell
HaMin Lee

Motion by Commissioner Pfersick, seconded by Commissioner Goodman to accept all 3 applicants into membership based on the outcome of background checks.
The secretary is authorized to perform the background checks.

Treasurer Report:

Voucher #'s 2026-426 through 2026-457
Amount: \$25,496.44 (corrected total)
Motion to approve payment of invoices by Commissioner Goodman, seconded by Commissioner Pfersick and passed 4 - 0.
Vouchers were signed by Commissioners Goodman, Pfersick and Faugh.

Old Business:

New Business:

- Commissioner Pfersick asked if there was a code of ethics for the Fire District. Reference was General Municipal Law 806 that indicates we should have one. The secretary will look into it.
- Asst Chief Socola reported that the department arranged to have pallets of water delivered to the Firehouse. He asked that a filling station be installed in the firehouse. Commissioner Goodman said he would get quotes.
- Commissioner Pfersick asked that a page in the meeting minutes be dedicated to past member Al Sweet
- Commissioner Sweet asked if 'Oaths of Office' had been completed by the Assistant Chiefs. The secretary replied that Asst Chief Dan Kwiecien was done, but Asst Chief Andrew Socola's could not be done as there was a problem with the printer. The Secretary will obtain as soon as possible.
- Commissioner Sweet thanked the chief and members of the Rush Fire Department and community for their support during the calling hours of the funeral for his father. He also thanked the Assistant Chiefs and indicated that all three chiefs did a great job in arranging everything.

- There was a discussion that emails of non-members should be deleted when they are not active anymore. This was a result of an email that the membership received referencing the Commissioner meetings dates and times. It appeared to have been sent by Jim Princehorn, a long term member of the Rush Fire Department. As Jim said he did not send the email, it was thought that his email may have been compromised. Kables to follow up with this issue.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Goodman, seconded by Commissioner Pfersick. The meeting was adjourned by common consent at 8:05 pm



In Memory of Al Sweet and thanks for all he did for the Fire Service

Past Commissioner Alvin (Al) Sweet passed away January 25th, 2026 at the age of 93.

Al moved to Rush, New York when his parents bought a farm on Jeffords Road. He joined the Rush Fire Department on May 5th, 1952, and was still a member at the time of his passing. During his 73 plus years in the fire service he held many positions including Lieutenant, Assistant Chief, and then Fire Chief from 1968 to 1974. He was a member of the Board of Directors for 61 years until December 2025. Al served as a Rush Fire District Commissioner for 40 years; many of those years he served as Chairman of the Board. He served the Monroe County Fire Bureau as a Deputy Fire Coordinator for the 5th Battalion for several years, is a Past President of the Monroe County Fire Chiefs Association, served on the Monroe County Fire Advisory Board, was a member of the Monroe County Volunteer Firefighter's Association where he served on the Historical Committee, member of the Western N.Y. Volunteer Firefighter's Association also serving on the Historical Committee, member of the

Northern Central Volunteer Firefighter's Association, member of the Firefighter's Association of the State of N.Y. where he served on the Historical Committee and then the Youth in the Fire Service Committee, member of the Genesee Valley Chapter of SPAAMFAA, served as a parade judge with the Western N.Y. Judges Association. Al loved a good firefighter's parade, especially the music!

Al was Active in the Rush United Methodist Church since 1956 and served as a trustee and was a longtime usher. He was also a longtime member of the Rush Republican Committee. Al was dedicated to everything he participated in, he felt it was important to be involved to make the community a better place to live.

Al's knowledge and conversation will truly be missed by us all.