



RUSH FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioner
District Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2026

Roll Call: Meeting called to Order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Dale Sweet followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Present	Name	Capacity	Notes
YES	Faugh, Robert	Commissioner	
YES	Goodman, Scott	Commissioner	
YES	Pfersick, Diana	Commissioner	
YES	Sweet, Dale	Commissioner (Chair)	
Absent	Terzo, Michael 'PeeWee'	Commissioner	
YES	Pacheco, Roseli	Treasurer	
YES	Stappenbeck, Kitty	Secretary	
YES	Faugh, Jon	Chief	
YES	Kwiecien, Dan	Asst. Chief	
YES	Socola, Andrew	Asst. Chief	
Absent	Villegas, Shaun	District Administrator	

Other Attendees Noted

Present	Name	Capacity	Notes
NO	Richard Tracy	Fire Marshal	
YES	Phyllis Wickersham	Community Member	
YES	Riley Evans Van-Buren	Rush Fire Dept	
NO	Derek Brown	Town Councilmember	
YES	Heidi Sweet	Fire Dept President	

Approval of Minutes: The following corrections were noted for the 6/16/26 meeting minutes, by D.Sweet:

P2. under Buildings and Grounds: remove the statement 'otherwise, D.Sweet will reach out to L.Kaplan...installing the drinking fountain'. (Mr.Kaplan does not do plumbing)

There was a correction noted by the Treasurer, \$45, 983.09 was reported for June, change to \$45,777.51.

Motion by D.Pfersick and seconded by S.Goodman to accept the meeting minutes from 6/16/26, with corrections. Passed 5 - 0.

NOTE: Corrections to minutes in **BOLD** and noted in the meeting minutes from 8/18/2026.

Liaison Town Board: No Planning/Zoning Board documents for review

Fire Marshal

Absent, No report

Town Councilmember:

Absent, No report

Chief's Report:

The chief reported an average of 46 calls for the first 6 months of 2026. For the current month, 16 calls were transport calls, 9 of which were handled by Rush - 43%. The ambulance is keeping up with the agreed upon % of EMS calls.

The chief sent metrics for the first 6 months of the year to the secretary to be forwarded to the town via Rick Tracy for use at town board meetings if wanted.

Buildings and Grounds:

- S.Goodman reported that Leo Roth gave him a quote for installing the drinking fountain. The amount is approximately \$3500 and includes the unit and installation.

A motion was made to have Leo Roth order and install the drinking fountain by S.Goodman and seconded by D.Pfersick. Passed 4 - 0.

- Siren timer does not work, M.Terzo is aware and S.Villegas is looking into
- L.Kaplan will help D.Sweet put up the light at Station 2 after Carnival
- *Motion by D.Pfersick and seconded by D.Pfersick to go forward with the parking lot project. Passed 4- 0.*

Vehicles:

Truck #	Issue	Resolution
582	Backup alarm replaced by D,Sweet Air Packs have been tested HarRob replaced the foot pedal valve.	Truck has to go back to Tracy Road for power steering issue, oil pan. Suggestion to pull rear tire and check brake
583	In service	Rewind button works
584	Will be at Harrob for a few more days	The hydraulic tool passed inspection Elec prob w/emergency lights The Chassis will be serviced and NYS inspection while at HarRob
587 - Brush Truck	AED expired	

Truck #	Issue	Resolution
588 Rescue	All hand tools Electric pump was fixed	Fix capacitor in the hydraulic tools
589 (Ambulance)	A.Socola reported that the AED expired in February and a proper check of equipment had not been done. Challenges were brought up as well regarding medication, and while money is saved by ordering in quantity, managing expiration dates is still a concern.	
Chief's Vehicle		
Boats - Station 2		

- S.Villegas will make arrangements for the rest of the trucks to be inspected at Tracy Road.

Equipment:

- Fire Extinguishers - Global Fire Protection Svcs - S.Villegas is waiting for call back
- Old Radios have been inventoried by S.Villegas and should be surplused. D.Kwiecien asked if he could put something on FaceBook Marketplace to gauge interest. The commissioners agreed. The secretary will print a list from Red Alert.
- Recruits still need gear to attend FF1 class - it may need to be ordered. D.Kwiecien will work with M.Terzo.
- Quotes for fire hose were discussed. It appeared that the quotes were for different specs. D.Sweet took the quotes and will discuss with S.Villegas

Information Technology:

- Fobs for carnival were discussed. The department brought up the issues from last year's carnival and that no one could get into the Firehouse. H.Sweet wanted to know why someone from the department does not have access to Lenel. D.Kwiecien said he already knows how to use the Lenel system.
 - A motion was made to give access to the Lenel system to D.Kwiecien by **D.Pfersick**, seconded by **S.Goodman** passed 4 - 0. The secretary will follow up with Kables to see if we have enough licenses and to get D. Kwiecien access.
- Discussion with the 6-month limit on active key fobs was also brought up. It is believed this practice should be stopped.

SOGs and SOPs:

- Truck policy - The secretary did not compile responses by membership. She will take care of and resend to Commissioners for the August meeting.
- Conflict of Interest: A discussion on setting up a committee to address incidents of conflict of interest - ultimately, if a committee is needed one will be chosen to review the issue. The secretary will clean up the Conflict of Interest SOG and send it to the members for review.

- **A motion was made to send the Conflict of Interest to the membership for input by D.Pfersick, seconded by S.Goodman and passed 4 - 0.**
- The secretary will send the Code of Ethics to the membership to review. The members have 30 days to respond with questions or concerns from initial date of receipt

Personnel:

The secretary will get a job posted for laborers with a rate of \$25 per hour. Flexible 8 hour shift between 7 am and 5 pm

The timeframe was agreed upon from information the secretary came across when on the NYS ERS website.

Publicity and Associations:

No report

Physicals:

- Rush is still waiting for a date for Healthworks
- The secretary reported challenges in getting enough firefighters to take advantage of the cancer screenings through UDS. She will notify members and UDS that Rush will step out of this process for 2026.

Inventory, Inspection and Dinner:

Dinner is set for November 14, 2026; 5:00 PM cocktail hour, 6:00 pm dinner

- The commissioners discussed selling P.Terzo's gear to Mendon: Coat, pants, helmet, boots. The secretary will try to get pricing.
 - H.Sweet asked if his pager had been returned.
- Print out the inventory on the pagers for the next meeting.
- A.Socola reiterated that he cannot get into Red Alert. The secretary asked him to see her after the meeting
- **A motion was made by S.Goodman and seconded by D.Pfersick to sell M.Terzo's turnout gear to Mendon Fire Department by S.Goodman, seconded by D.Pfersick, passed 4 - 0. The cost will be determined by taking the cost at new, divided by 10 (# of years of use) times the number of years use left on the gear.**

Insurance/Budget/Attorney:

- The Certificate of Insurance has been received from Wright Wisner relative to the carnival = the certificate is for the Department.
- Roseli will contact Jason from Donnegan to get updated budget numbers.
- The topic of budgeting for laborers for 7 days a week was discussed. D.Sweet indicated Rush should focus on laborers for the weekdays and rely on members for the weekend.
 - D.Kwiecien said he would get something out again to the members.
- The budget for 2027 was discussed. It was agreed that the budget committee would meet with Jason from BPD again to finalize some personnel salary numbers. The

secretary will schedule a workshop meeting with the public for August 18 prior to the monthly meeting.

- Cyber Insurance form still needs some tweaking before submitting to Wilkins (insurance agent).

Membership: No report

Treasurer Report:

Vouchers 570 through 598 in the amount of \$37,654.91 were reported by the Treasurer.

Motion to accept the bills as indicated by

The correction for June reported here, is listed above under approval of the minutes.

Audit Firm:

Per the secretary, Fire Districts are required to use RFP at least once every five years for an audit firm.

MMB has been used for longer than 5 years.

Per the treasurer, Rush can stay with the same firm as long as the lead auditor changes. She asked our auditor, Tom Zuber at MMB about this and he agreed.

Other Financial Business:

Old Business:

D.Sweet indicated that the 'new truck' committee will get back on line after carnival.

New Business:

- Question: from the secretary - other districts invite their attorney to attend meetings on a regular basis. Is there any interest from the board to ask Mr. Weishaar to attend quarterly? *D.Sweet indicated that it is not necessary and would cost more money. We would invite him as necessary.*
- Large Meeting Room - Doug Watson - 7/12/2026 - Motion to allow by S.Goodman, seconded by D.Pfersick. Passed 4 - 0
- Large Meeting Room - Riley Evans-VanBuren - 9/5/2026 11 am - 6 pm Motion by S.Goodman, seconded by D.Pfersick. Passed 4 - 0
- D.Kwiecien asked if the District had someone who could write grants for them. He indicated the Hurst Tools have to be upgraded. D.Sweet said that no, the District currently does not have anyone to ask..
- H.Sweet asked if the Fire Department can pay for some renovation. D.Sweet responded that no one would say no.

Motion to Adjourn made by D.Pfersick, seconded by S.Goodman. Meeting was adjourned by common consent at 9:12 PM

Respectfully submitted
Kitty Stappenbeck, Secretary

Please Note: Problem with getting camera and speakers to work for the meeting. These minutes were produced using the secretary's notes and an AI Meeting Summery