

**UNION FIRE DISTRICT OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN  
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
131 ASA POND ROAD, WAKEFIELD, R.I.  
AUGUST 13, 2014 6:00 PM**

Wardens: Present: Mr. Steere, Mr. Ciccone, Mr. Boisvert, Mr. McClarnon and Mr. Sloan

Chiefs: Chief Carney, Deputy Chiefs Pinch, Collinson, Whaley and Cinquegrana

Others: District Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Steere called the meeting to order at approximately 6:18 PM.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**STATION REPAIRS:** Deputy Chief Pinch then discussed the recent move of the new brush truck from Forestry Station to the Matunuck Fire Station. This move followed safety related concerns raised by the President of the Forestry Station. Deputy Chief Pinch then advised that these concerns to be discussed by the Building Committee in the future. Discussion ensued regarding this matter. Discussion also ensued regarding the pending restroom renovations at the Peace Dale and Wakefield Fire Stations. Discussion then ensued regarding the approved budgeted funds for an ansul system at the Wakefield Fire Station. Further discussion included future building projects for the Matunuck and Tower Hill Fire Stations. At this time the Matunuck Fire Station project is on hold pending further information from South Kingstown Land Trust. The Tower Hill Fire Station building project is to follow completion of the Matunuck Fire Station building project.

**TRAINING FACILITY:** Discussion ensued regarding future use of the training grounds. Discussion included the following; limiting outside live burns to mutual aid companies, increasing user fees to \$1,200.00 for live burns plus instructor fees. Discussion further ensued regarding the recent burn building repairs and related costs. Discussion also included making changes to live burn training procedures, scheduling and which is being looked into by Deputy Chief Collinson.

**SECURITY:** Discussion ensued regarding the electronic card access system. Further discussion included recent issues and or problems with the electronic card access installed at the Tuckertown Fire Station. Also discussed was installing cameras outside doors at the fire stations as well as other District buildings and or facilities in future. Discussion also included re-keying the Chiefs

and Burn cages located in the lower basement level at the District offices. Further discussion included installing shipping and receiving cages in the future following completion of the Work Shop Storage building. Discussion ensued regarding equipment tracking to include tagging procedures, accountability tags and the ability to scan identification in the future.

EMS: Chief Carney discussed the past practice of assisting SKEMS when there were no other SKEMS units available. Chief Carney further advised these types of assistance calls have been increasing and include times when other SKEMS have been available. Chief Carney further inquired whether District members are covered for insurance purposes when assisting SKEMS with lift assists. Chief Carney further discussed the District looking into billing insurance companies for District responses to include EMS calls, vehicle crashes etc. Discussion ensued regarding this issue.

WIFI: Discussion ensued regarding providing Wi-Fi access at all of the fire stations. Wi-Fi was recently turned on at all of the fire stations with the exception of Stations 8 & 9. Additional equipment is needed for those stations. Further discussion included that additional equipment may be required in the future to extend the range of the Wi-Fi at the fire stations.

DISPATCH: Discussion ensued regarding dispatch and potential options to include Westerly and or Exeter dispatch centers.

ANNUAL MEETING: Discussion ensued regarding the large attendance that occurred at the recent Annual meeting. Discussion included having additional staffing at the check-in tables as well as moving those tables into the foyer area. Further discussion included looking into an alternative site in case attendance exceeds room capacity at the District offices.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Discussion included a review by the Chiefs involving budgeted equipment to include hose, thermal imaging cameras and SCBA equipment. Discussion ensued regarding the past practice involving facility use by the Tiverton Fire recruits. Further discussion included strategic use of regional resources to include confined space and HazMat etc. Chief Carney then discussed scheduling quarterly meetings between the Fire Chiefs from the Union and Kingston Fire Districts. Chief Carney further discussed duty night coverage for District Captains and which will include use of Service 3; Mr. Arnold to be notified of the vehicle use. Further discussion ensued regarding the purchase of a new SUV and budget related issues; District Legal Counsel and Treasurer to be contacted regarding these issues. Discussion ensued regarding District fire apparatus to include the new pumpers ordered from New England Fire Equipment and Apparatus along with District vehicles and trailers. Deputy Chief Pinch further discussed the District looking into a grant writer as well as a policy involving older drivers. Discussion ensued.

**ADJOURNMENT**: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Blessing  
District Clerk

Date Amended \_\_\_\_\_

Date Accepted \_\_\_\_\_

I, John P. Blessing, District Clerk, do certify that the attached minutes are a true and accurate copy of the August 13, 2014 Meeting of the Board of Wardens of the Union Fire District and that they have not been amended except as cited above.

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John P. Blessing  
District Clerk