

987th Board of Directors Meeting, September 25, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Jamie DiPace at 19:00

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Christina Adajian, Bruce Appell, Jeff Bernetich, Dave Bourgoin, Chip Carpenter, Nancy Crozier, Jamie DiPace, Steve Gwizdak, Tom Post, Jim Speich and Mark Wilson.

Other Members Present: Joe Speich

June 26, 2025, board minutes were approved with a spelling correction under Board Member Reports, Jim Speich non Avon residents and August 28, 2025, minutes were approved with a motion made by Christine Adajain and seconded by Chip Carpenter. Motion passed.

Communications from Members: None

Board Member Reports:

- Tom Post:
 - Explorers will be going to the EMS Expo. One Explorer will be spending a year in Japan. Pat Olmstead will be deploying with the army.
- Dave Bourgoin
 - Dave would like to take pictures of all the members and if each member would like to have their picture in a frame Dave can do that. It would not cost that much to do. Jamie DiPace told the board that he would like pictures of the board and would also like pictures of members to put in their fire station, and pictures of all apparatus. Chip Carpenter made a motion to spend up to \$1,000 for pictures of members, board, and apparatus with Jeff Bernetich seconding. Motion passed unanimously.
- Christina Adajian
 - November and December board meetings are on holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The board will meet on November 20th and December 18th.
- President's Report
 - Emergency Service Day was a great success. Well attended. Ben Shapiro, Jen Rosado, Christine Adajain and Laura Ward did a great job. There was a lot of work, but everything went really well.
 - State is addressing the decline of volunteer firefighters in the state.
 - Jamie would like the board to have either shirts or jackets. He will get a quote and report back to the board.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gwizdak

- Went over the expenses for the grant money and the corporate money.
- Since membership approved the changes to By-Laws Article I and Article VIII Steve will start the process of changing to a 501c3.

Old Business:

- Building Committee Update
 - This Town Council does not want to vote on the fire stations proposal due to this being an election year.
 - Jim Speich would like to see the department make a video of what is needed and why so that this can be shown to the public and the town council before any referendum is put to the vote.

Old Business cont.

- Stipend
 - Joe Speich presented to the board a preliminary stipend system with what it would cost to implement this system. The board members had a lot of questions that need to be answered before they could make any type of recommendation for this program. Jim Speich suggested that Assistant Chief Joe Speich could check with other volunteer departments that have a stipend system in order to see how they do their stipends.
- Fundraising letter
 - Christine Adajain will send out the fundraising letter one more time just to have the board members look it over one more time before sending it to Minuteman Press.

New Business:

- CIP Budget – Assistant Chief Joe Speich
 - Assistant Chief Speich went over the CIP budget and answered some questions from the board members. Dave Bourgoin made a motion with Chip Carpenter seconded. Motion carried.
- Conflict of Interest AOG
 - Since the membership approved the changes to By-Laws Article I and Article VIII the board decided to wait for the 501c3 application to go through before approving this AOG.
- Purchase Santa Suit
 - The board decided to purchase a Santa suit since the one that the department had been using belonged to a member. A motion was made by Chip Carpenter and seconded by Jeff Bernetich to spend up to \$600 for a new Santa Suit. Motion passed.
- Purchase Table for Fallen Firefighter dinner at Aqua Turf for \$500.00. Dave Bourgoin made a motion with Mark Wilson seconding to purchase a table for \$500.00. Motion passed.

Chief's Report:

- If there is anyone from the board that would like to go to VCOS please let the chief know.
- Looking into leasing a mobile office trailer for Company 3 for gear for around \$9,500 per year or we buy a used one for \$41-\$50k. The Chief is also looking at a carport for behind Company 4 around \$5k.
- Will be looking to do repairs at Company 2. Will put a package together of all items that need to be repaired or replaced.

Tom Post informed the board that the Family Picnic will be held on July 26, 2026.

Motion was made by Tom Post and Nancy Crozier, seconding to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed

Meeting adjourned at 21:25

Meetings Schedule:

- Board Meeting October 30, 2025, at Company 1 7:00 pm
- Board Meeting November 20, 2025, at Company 1 7:00 pm.
- Board Meeting December 18, 2025, at Company 1 7:00 pm
- Annual Corporation Meeting November 10, 2025

Respectfully submitted by
Grace Bianchi
Board of Directors Clerk