

# The Avon Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

**993<sup>RD</sup> BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Company 1, 25 Darling Drive, Avon, CT 06001**  
**Meeting Hall**  
**Thursday, March 26, 2026, 7:00 p.m.**

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

7:03 p.m. Those present: President Jamie DiPace, Vice President Mark Wilson, Treasurer Steve Gwizdak, Assistant Treasurer Christina Adajian, Secretary Jeff Bernetich, Town Council Representative (TCR) to the AVFD Jim Speich, Chief Bruce Appell, and Assistant Chief (AC) Tom Kline.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3. MINUTES FROM PRECEDING MEETING(S):

Regular Meeting February 2026: Motion by Assistant Treasurer Christina Adajian to approve the minutes. Seconded by Vice President Mark Wilson. Motion carried.

### 4. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

*All agenda items from audience are limited to five (5) minutes or less*

### 5. COMMUNICATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Vice President Wilson mentioned that the Explorer program inclusion is missing from the AOG/SOGs.

### 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Membership in the CT. Firemen's Historical Society \$60 (History Group)

### 7. FINANCIAL REPORT FROM TREASURER/ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Month-end Report for FY25/26 – Corporation Funds provided.

Fundraising Account total discussed.

501c3 status achieved.

### 8. OLD BUSINESS:

Building Committee Update: Jim Speich provided the update. A mailer will go out to the community regarding the new stations proposal.

Stipend Transition Status: Secretary Bernetich, AC Kline, and TCR Speich indicated the stipend program should continue to be developed.

### 9. NEW BUSINESS:

Scholarship - Budget \$4000 each year - 1 gift in Chief Theriault name - amount to be determined. The Board agreed for President DiPace to continue developing this scholarship request.

250th sponsorship.

AOG MEM-2c Revisions.

Status of money on FP body (Rhode Island Company) \$22,000.

Bring in new members from other volunteer communities - Have other communities been spoken with and should they be?

### 10. CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Appell discussed the stipend matrix, encouraged moving the plan forward. The Quickbooks Online expert was working out well in transitioning the bookkeeping. Several uncashed checks issued over the last few years were identified. Regarding Avon's 250<sup>th</sup> independence celebration, the AVFD will be looking for donations of services, not monetary donations. A leadership speaker/consultant will give a second presentation to the AVFD and external parties.

#### **11. OTHER BUSINESS (PENDING ITEMS)**

Duty Shift Planning: Tabled.

Retired Members Status: Pending.

AOG Proposed Revisions: Pending.

- MEM-2e – Termination of Membership and Reinstatement
- AWD-4 – Legacy Award (new)

Annual Performance Evaluation of Fire Chief: Pending

#### **12. ADJOURN**

8:58 adjourned.

*Upcoming Corporation meeting, April 20, 2026; Board of Directors meeting April 30, 2026.*

Submitted by Administrative Coordinator Susan Guimaraes on behalf of Secretary Bernetich's minutes.