

The Avon Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

996TH BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Company 1,

25 Darling Drive, Avon, CT 06001 Meeting Hall

Thursday, June 26, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE:

Board President Jamie DiPace called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Also present: Treasurer Stephen Gwizdak, Assistant Treasurer Christina Adajian, Secretary Jeff Bernetich, Board Member Dave Bourgojn, Board Member Tom Post, Vice President Mark Wilson, AVFD Member & Town-Appointed Representative to Town Council Jim Speich, Chief Bruce Appell, Member Dennis Bianchi, and Member Tori Haskins.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. MINUTES FROM PRECEDING MEETING(S):

- Regular Meeting May 2026:
Dave Bourgojn motioned to approve minutes as submitted; seconded by Tom Post. All were in favor; 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 AND AUDIENCE:

- Tom Post discussed the AVFD Family Picnic 2026, and it will be held on July 19th. He stated there was a need to send invitations, and mentioned the platform SignUpGenius. Regarding the country's 250th independence celebration, he will discuss with Chief Appell the coordination of the fire extinguisher demonstration. He mentioned that the fire exit door at the Co. 1 Meeting Hall has been broken for many months. He inquired about the issue's status.
- Dennis Bianchi discussed an issue.
- Victoria Haskins asked for clarification on Explorer program rules. The Explorer program was moved from Board control to line officer control in September 2023. This change was supposed to be recorded in the AVFD SOGs. This has not been done.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Chief Evaluation – Concerns and Positive Feedback by June 22, 2026:
Jamie DiPace called for the Board to submit their evaluations.
- CT Fallen FF Memorial Wall Paperwork Almost Completed:
This issue was discussed further in continuation of the May 2026 Board meeting agenda item.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT FROM TREASURER/ASSISTANT TREASURER:

- Month-end Report for FY25/26 – Corporation Funds:
Stephen Gwizdak will meet with Assistant Chief Tom Kline and Administrative Coordinator Susan Guimaraes to complete the fiscal year-end reporting.

- Fundraising Account
- EB Trust Fund:
The funds claim is still in process. The probate court hearing took place on June 24, 2026. The AVFD is awaiting the results.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- Building Committee Update - Jim Speich:
He reported on activities such as PR releases, the community Coffee with the Chiefs series, and Avon's events celebrating the country's 250th independence anniversary.
- Stipend Transition Status – Working Group:
The work for this program is in progress.
- Scholarship - Budget \$4000 Per Year - 1 gift in Chief Theriault Name - Amount to Be Determined:
Continuing.
- 250th Sponsorship – AVFD Duties June 30th
- AOG MEM-2c Revisions – Tabled.
- Duty Shift Planning

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- LODD Monument Committee:
The committee formation is in progress, and a chair will be appointed.

10. CHIEF'S REPORT:

- Status of New Apparatus:
An update was given.
 - Announced: a new part-time secretary has been hired to support the AVFD, and she will start June 30, 2026.

11. OTHER BUSINESS (PENDING ITEMS):

- Retired Members Status: Pending
- AOG Proposed Revisions: Pending
 - MEM-2e – Termination of Membership and Reinstatement

12. ADJOURN:

8:07 p.m. Dave Bourgoin??? motioned to adjourn; seconded by Mark Wilson???. All in favor; motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Susan Guimaraes, Administrative Coordinator, on behalf of Secretary Jeff Bernetich's notes.

Upcoming Regular Meetings at Co. 1 Meeting Hall, 25 Darling Drive: Corporation meeting on July 13, 2026, 7:00 p.m.; Board of Directors meeting July 30, 2026, 7:00 p.m.