

Minutes

Board of Fire Commissioners
Cutchogue Fire District

Date

January 5, 2026

Time

7:00 pm

Meeting called to order by

Lawrence Behr, Chairman
With Salute to the Flag

In attendance

Lawrence Behr, Chairman, Steven Harned, Vice-Chairman, David Blados, Michael Finnican, Commissioners, Peter Zwerlein, Treasurer, Thomas Shalvey Jr. Secretary

Board

Board made the following appointments for 2026

- Steven Harned, Chairman
- David Blados, Vice -Chairman
- Peter Zwerlein, Treasurer
- Thomas Shalvey Jr. Secretary
- William Glass. Attorney

Board established the following committees for 2026

Trucks and Equipment	David Blados	Larry Behr
Personnel	Michael Finnican	Steven Harned
Water and Physicals	David Blados (Physicals)	Steven Harned (Water)
Insurance and Service Awards	Lary Behr	Michael Finnican
Building and Grounds	Michael Finnican	Chris Talbot
Community Relations	Michael Finnican	Chris Talbot
IT services	Thomas Shalvey Jr.	

Board entered into yearly contracts with the following vendors

See Appendix 3 below

Motions

- 26-100: Motion to name Steven Harned as Chairman for 2026. Motion made by L. Behr, seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-101: Motion to name David Blados as Vice Chairman for 2026. Motion made by S. Harned, Seconded by C. Talbot. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-102: Motion to appoint Thomas Shalvey Jr. as Secretary for 2026. Motion made by S. Harned, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-103: Motion to appoint Peter Zwerlein as Treasurer for 2026. Motion made by S. Harned, Seconded by L. Behr. All present in favor motion passed.

- 26-104: Motion to hold monthly Board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at Cutchogue Fire Department Headquarters located at 260 New Suffolk Road starting at 7:00 PM. The December meeting will take place on the third Tuesday. Motion made by S. Harned, Seconded by D. Blados. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-105: Motion to employee full time custodian. Motion made by S. Harned Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-106: Motion to allow full time employees paid holidays. Motion made by S. Harned, Seconded by D. Blados. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-107: Motion to name M & T bank as official depository for District funds for 2026. Motion made by S. Harned, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-108: Motion to name the Suffolk Times as official newspaper for the District with Newsday as the backup newspaper. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by S. Harned. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-109: Motion to appoint William Glass as attorney for the fire district for 2026. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-110: Motion to approve memberships in organizations named in appendix 1. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-111: Motion to approve Company Officer as listed in appendix 2. Motion made by L. Behr, Seconded by D. Blados. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-112: Motion to approve annual contracts and leases as listed in appendix 3. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by S. Harned. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-113: Motion to authorize Treasurer to pay in advance the vendors or employees listed in appendix 4. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-114: Motion to reaffirm District policies as listed in appendix 5. Motion made by S. Harned, Seconded by L. Behr. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-115: Motion to hold annual Commissioner elections on December 8, 2026. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-116: Motion to hold annual election for Chiefs for the Department on December 3, 2026. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by D. Blados. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-117: Motion to pay for any required training for elected officials in 2025. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-118: Motion to retain Southold Town Police as primary alarm dispatcher for 2026 with Suffolk FRES as the backup dispatcher for alarms. Motion made by L. Behr, Seconded by S. Harned. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-119: Motion to allow Fire Company to use Headquarters for monthly meetings in 2026. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by S. Harned. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-120: Motion to allow CFD Ladies Auxiliary to use Headquarters for monthly meetings in 2026. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by S. Harned. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-121: Motion to allow CFD junior fire department to hold monthly meetings in Headquarters in 2026. Motion made by L. Behr, Seconded by C. Talbot. All present in favor motion passed.
- 26-122: Motion to adjourn made at 7:15 pm. Motion made by C. Talbot, Seconded by M. Finnican. All present in favor motion passed.

Next meeting

January 13, 2026 at CFD Headquarters

Appendix #1

Organizations memberships

- Association of Fire Districts
- Fireman's Association State of New York
- Suffolk County Fire Districts
- Southold Town Fire Districts
- National Fire Protection Association
- Southold Town Fire Chiefs Council
- New York State Fire Chief's Council

Appendix #2

Company Officers

- Captain: Ken Pearsall, Company
Ken Burns, Rescue
Ed Nicholson, Water Rescue
Arthur Brewer, Fire Police
- Lieutenants: Charles Witzak
Bryan Zissel
Christian Figurniak
Timothy Winters
Richard Horton
Will Voegel
Arthur Brewer
Thomas Behr
Garrett Lake
Beth Young, Rescue
Tom Robbins, Water Rescue
- Executive Officers
Tom Cybulski, Recording Secretary
Gary Ennis, Financial Secretary
Peter Zwerlein, Treasurer
Steve Harned, Trustee
Andre Cybulski, Trustee
Arthur Brewer, Trustee
- Chief Driver: Steve Braverman
Ethan Helgans
John Hinton Sr.
William Brewer
Thomas Cooper
James Rocco
Michael Finnican
Bill Fannon
Beth Young

Appendix #3

Yearly Contracts

- SCM for dispatch and service awards monitoring.
- Emerald Office for Canon and HP copier maintenance.
- XCL for Xerox copier maintenance.
- Lupton and luce of Riverhead for insurance services.
- Sheenan and Company for Audits.
- Nassau Diagnostics for member physicals.
- HGC Buying group for various equipment.
- Sourcewell Buying group.
- Equalis Buying group.
- Waterway for yearly hose and pump testing.
- Commander Electric for service contract on 355 New Suffolk Rd. and 260 New Suffolk Road generator.
- Firefly to manage District service awards program (LOSAP).
- East End Financial to manage District funds invested in service awards program (LOSAP).
- Island Tech Services for District computers and servers.
- Integrated wireless for radio, repeater and pager maintenance.
- Grant Guys to apply for federal grants.
- Stryker Medical for maintenance on District owned Stryker equipment.
- New York Cancer Benefit plan for cancer coverage for members.
- Wicked Fit of Mattituck for gym membership plan for members use.
- 8 Hands farm for lease of Cox Lane property.

Appendix #4

Advance payments

- PSEG Electric
- National Grid Electric
- USPS Postage
- Freight Companies
- Fixed Salaries
- Compensation for Employees or Offices of the District
- Town Property Taxes

Appendix #5

District Policies

- Code of ethics
- Discrimination/harassment (updated 10-23)
- Length of Service Plan LOSAP (updated 1-22)
- Physicals for members and employees
- Travel policy (updated 12-18)
- Infection control plan (updated 1-24)
- Social Media Policy (updated 4-25)
- Investment
- Personnel
- Procurement
- Workplace violence
- Freedom of Information (FOIL)
- NY State Lens driver license program
- Medical inactive (updated 10-23)