



POQUONNOCK BRIDGE FIRE DISTRICT

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Board of Directors Meeting Minutes May 14, 2026

Present: President Ron Yuhas, Vice President Kevin Marquardt, Richard Marquardt, Clerk/Treasurer Susan Aguiar, Jon Luther, Gale Goode, Chief Rheaume, Deputy Chief Lowell and Assistant District Administrator Wanda Morales

Absent: Members Al Luther & Randy Ackley

At 6:010 p.m. President Ron Yuhas announced the call to order with the time, date and place. Roll call was taken to establish a quorum. A moment of silence and a pledge to the flag followed.

Remarks from Visitors:

n/a

Approval of Previous Minutes:

MOTION: It was MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED to accept the meeting minutes of the April 9, 2026 meeting.

Reports and Communications:

Chief Rheaume's report was submitted, read and accepted for the record. Deputy Chief Lowell's report was submitted, read and accepted for the record. Fire Marshal Bednarz's report was accepted for the record.

Old Business

a. n/a

New Business

- a. Assistant Administrative Position: Seven candidates were interviewed. From those seven, three candidates will move forward to a second interview with the Chief and the District Administrator. The Board authorized the Chief and hiring committee to select the best candidate for the position.
- b. A motion was made by Clerk/Treasurer Susan Aguiar and seconded by Kevin Marquardt to set the mill rate for fiscal year 2026-2027 to 4.70 and for Attorney Michael Satti as our counsel for FYE 2027. The motions passed unanimously.
- c. The suspense list was presented by District Administrator Morales and approved and signed by Clerk/Treasurer Aguiar.

Executive Session

The board went into executive session to discuss the Assistant District Administrator's position at 6:31 pm and ended at 6:43 pm. A motion was made by Kevin Marquardt and seconded by Susan Aguiar to authorize the Chief and the hiring committee to choose the best candidate. The motion was passed unanimously.

Good of the Department

- a. Chief Rheume informed the Board that the award ceremony held on April 10th was a success. Many on- and off-duty members attended with their families, along with members from neighboring fire departments.
- b. The department received a \$1,000 grant through Walmart's Spark Good Grant Program. The grant will help offset the cost of screens in the firehouses that will display computer-aided dispatch information, which had been budgeted for FYE 2027. Walmart recently renovated its Groton store, and the department participated in the grand reopening on May 8th.
- c. Old Saybrook Fire Department will be purchasing from us the Scott air packs, including the RIT Pack, 200 masks, and SCBA bottle, for \$8,000.
- d. Deputy Chief Lowell thanked the Groton Auto Body for their continued support of the department. The vehicles they provide for training are invaluable and allow members to conduct realistic hands-on extrication and stabilization training throughout the year.

Presentation and payment of bills

Treasurer/Clerk Susan Aguiar announced that the bills to be paid for April 2026 in the amount of \$133,225.22 were accepted.

MOTION: At 6:51 PM it was MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED to adjourn. The annual meeting will be held on June 11, 2026 at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Aguiar, Clerk
Poquonnock Bridge Fire District