



VESTAL FIRE DISTRICT

1136 Front Street, Suite 01
Vestal • New York • 13850
Phone: 607-797-2756
www.vestalfiredistrict.org

**Board of
Fire Commissioners**
David Harrington
Daniel Kirchheimer
Thomas McCartney
Keith Purdy
Mark Tomko

Special Board of Fire Commissioner Meeting Minutes JUNE 11, 2026

1. Present Thomas McCartney, Chairman
 Daniel Kirchheimer, Vice Chairman – Arrived at 7:15 p.m.
 David Harrington, Commissioner
 Mark Tomko, Commissioner
 Keith Purdy, Commissioner

District Staff: Susan Bowen, Fire District Secretary
 Erika Pereira, Assistant Fire District Secretary
 Paige Willes-Brown, Director of Purchasing
 Marisa Butler, Fire District Treasurer
 Clay Ellis, Director of Communications

2. Commissioner McCartney called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

3. Commissioner McCartney led the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Work Session for 2027 Fire District Budget

The commissioners conducted a detailed, line-item review of the 2027 budget submissions from all fire stations and departments, focusing on justifying specific purchases, standardizing equipment, and ensuring fiscal responsibility. Key decisions included standardizing the budget process to include inflation, moving forward with a phased Knox Box upgrade, and selecting a vendor for new chief vehicles, while also approving several financial transfers and new policies.

Commissioner Kirchheimer arrived during the budget session at 7:15 p.m.

5. Treasurer Report

5.1 Motion by Commissioner Tomko, seconded by Commissioner Kirchheimer to accept a check from Weitsman Shredding LLC in the amount of \$40.82 for disposal of scrap metal at the Training Site to be deposited into Account A3410.426 (Training Site).

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

6. Approval to Properly Audit and Pay Claims as Submitted

6.1 Motion by Commissioner Tomko, seconded by Commissioner Purdy to approve the Audit of Claims for 2026 Expenses dated June 12, 2026, in total amount of \$69,093.28.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.



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7. Director of Purchasing Report

7.1 Motion by Commissioner Tomko, seconded by Commissioner Kirchheimer to approve payment to Hannigan Law Firm PLLC for services rendered and receipt expenses due to a legal matter in the amount of \$4,677.78 on June 24, 2026.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

7.2 Motion by Commissioner Kirchheimer, seconded by Commissioner Tomko to approve the following budget transfers:

From Line Item	To Line Item	Amount Requested	Explanation
A878CR1	A3410.208	\$60,000.00	Purchase of UTV/ATV2
A878CR1	A3410.208	\$60,000.00	Purchase of UTV/ATV3
A878CR1	A3410.208	\$90,555.12	Cover Overage in Brush Truck Project
A882TS	A3410.426	\$10,000.00	Cover Overage in Line
A3410.401	A9025.4	\$1,000.00	Cover Overage in Line
A878CR1	A3410.208	\$44,500.00	Resolution 2025-008

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

Clarification: Brush 32-1 project overage resulted from \$90,000 not being encumbered in the 2025–2026 period; Commissioner McCartney wanted the minutes to reflect that the project is not over budget.

7.3 Motion by Commissioner Tomko, Commissioner Purdy to approve reimbursement to Paige Willes-Brown for travel to DMV in Owego at the per diem rate of 72.5 cents a mile for a total of 49.2 miles in the amount of \$35.68.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

7.4 Motion by Commissioner Tomko, seconded by Commissioner Kirchheimer to purchase upgraded DVR systems for all stations and fire district office in the amount of \$4,654.92 from the Computer Shop.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

8. Unfinished Business

8.1 Mini-Bid for Two (2) 2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4WD Crew Cab Custom Trail Boss

- Don Ferrario
Ferrario Auto Team, Chevrolet \$100,800.60 for 2
Towanda Automotive, Inc.
212 Golden Mile Rd.
Towanda, PA 18848



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- Lester Sowell
Matthew's Auto Mall, Inc. \$129,256.40 for 2
3733 Vestal Road
Vestal, NY 13850
- Bid for 2026 Chevy Silverado 1500 Crew Cab Custom Trail Boss as chief vehicles; rationale for pickup trucks: separate gear from crew cabin.
- Matthews: \$129,256.40, valid bid with V8 and quick delivery; accepted via motion.
- Ferrario: \$100,800.60, invalid; bid V6 turbo instead of V8; second attempt omitted specified options.

Motion by Commissioner Kirchheimer, seconded by Commissioner Tomko to award the bid for two 2026 Chevy Silverado 1500 Crew Cab Custom Trail Boss to Matthew's Auto Mall, Inc, 3733 Vestal Road, Vestal, NY 13850 in the amount of \$129,256.40.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

8.2 Discussion on UTV 3

- Station 3's desired Polaris model was special order and not on the state contract; pricing was available via Sourcewell/government site, but the exact model is not on state contract.
- Because the UTV is over \$20,000, procurement options are: go to bid for the exact model or select a model that is on state contract via Sourcewell.
- Consensus: go back to Station 3 with Sourcewell models on the schedule and proceed with a compliant option that includes desired features. Tracks were discussed as a likely most expensive option; further discussing needed.

9. New Business

9.1 There was a brief discuss on the training vehicle usage policy and it was decided to move forward with said document.

Motion by Commissioner Kirchheimer, seconded by Commissioner Tomko to approve policy #302.00 Training Vehicle Usage Policy with an effective date of June 11, 2026.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

9.2 Motion by Commissioner Tomko, seconded by Commissioner Kirchheimer to approve Station 2's Doug's Fish Fry fundraiser on Thursday, June 18 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Tractor Supply Parking Lot on the Vestal Parkway. Doug's Fish Fry employees will be working at the fundraiser. Station 2 members will not need to be on hand for the fundraiser.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.



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9.3 Motion by Commissioner Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Tomko to approve to spend up to \$1,000 for dual language media brochure for the Fred Singer Training Facility to be produced by Curcio Printing in Vestal.

All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

10. Announcements

10.1 Special Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. to work the 2027 Fire District Budget.

11. Public Input Session – no comments at this time.

12. Executive Session - None

13. Motion by Commissioner Tomko, seconded Commissioner Kirchheimer to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m.
All in favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: 0 Absent: 0. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Bowen
Fire District Secretary