

Tioga County Fireman's Association, Inc.

14 Main St., PO BOX 746, Wellsboro, PA 16901

Regular Meeting

May 12th, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Host: Galeton Fire Department

CALL TO ORDER

The May meeting of the Tioga County Fireman's Association was called to order at 1900 by President Alex Kulish. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and invocation given by "someone". The welcome address was given by Chief 10, Joe Cimino.

MEETING WAS RECESSED FOR DINNER AT 1901

MEETING WAS RESUMED AT 1910

READING OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the previous TCFA meeting, held at the Mansfield Fire Department on March 10th, 2026, were read by Secretary Rob Satterly. The minutes were unanimously approved.

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurers' report was read by Treasurer TJ Riley at 1921

- Paid \$30 for TCFA Safety Deposit Box
- A07 paid dues at meeting
- We received a check back from River Valley

Kevin Kulish made a motion to accept the report, Seconded by Bret Mathers, Unanimously Approved

OFFICER ROLL CALL

President: Alex Kulish - Present

1st Vice President: Austin Cooper - Excused

2nd Vice President: John Barnes - Present

Treasurer: TJ Riley - Present

Secretary: Rob Satterly - Present

Trustee: Josh McCarthy - present

Trustee: Sam Warren - Absent

Trustee: John Andrus - Present

Fire Coordinator 1: Brian Davenport - Excused

Fire Coordinator 2: Bill Goltz - Excused
Fire Coordinator 3: Lee Strange - Absent
Fire Coordinator 4: Galen Martin - Present
Fire Coordinator 5: Doyle Swetlan - Present

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE

Elkland Fire Department submitted the following letter:

“The Elkand FD has recently purchased the former rescue 1-38 UTV. We are equipping it for both rescue/transport and wildland fire suppression. We are respectfully asking for the radio designation of UTV-3. Thank you. Signed: Chief Mark Goodrich”

A motion to accept the new radio designation was made by Kevin Kulish, seconded by Pongo, Unanimously approved.

Per Treasurer TJ Riley, dues are still missing from F07, F19, and A26.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

❖ DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

- No Update from Jim Douglass
- Bret Mathers
 - There's a mess up in the online calendar, it's being fixed
 - The WRER class coming up on May 30th still needs more students
 - The Emergency Boat Ops class coming up on June 27th still needs more students
 - A PA Fire Weekend is coming up in Mid-July, that is FREE
 - July 17-19 at National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, Maryland
 - See online training calendar for more details
 - Starting on August 7th there will be an Officer Command Class being held by the PA State Fire Academy
 - Curriculum will teach you how to be an officer taking you from starting up a fire department all the way to dissolution
 - Also teaching about municipal contracts and interacting with your municipality
 - August 7-9; August 21-23 @ Mansfield University
 - See online training calendar for more details
 - The County has 32 hours of training left to use this year, so if you'd like a certain class email Bret
 - With 2027 fast approaching, please email Bret with classes you'd like next year

❖ EXECUTIVE

❖ FORESTRY COMMITTEE

❖ STANDARDS COMMITTEE

❖ COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

❖ TRAINING COMMITTEE

- Class this weekend has 24 people signed up for the full course, and 1 signed up for the lecture part only. The committee is expecting to see random people not signed up to show up for the lecture.

❖ FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

- September 12th, 2026 is the 10th annual TCFA Golf Outing at River Valley Golf Course
 - River Valley has replaced carts meaning we will no longer have to rent them, saving the TCFA a lot of money
 - Food is set up and good to go
 - TCFA is seeking sponsors
 - Hole in One Prize, Hole Sponsors, etc...
 - A letter requesting sponsorship will be sent out to all former sponsors

❖ FIRE COORDINATOR REPORT

- Per FC1, new FC Helmets have been handed out. Two old ones were turned in, still awaiting the return of 3 more old helmets. Old FC helmets will be donated to the FFR Program.
- The Fire Coordinators will begin incident reporting for all incidents they respond to
- TCFA FC's and Steuben County Coordinators are working together to compile a list of resources between the two counties
 - Another meeting between TC and SC will be held soon

❖ SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

- Necessary changes have been made to the letter from the TCFA to seniors/schools/administrators regarding the TCFA scholarship and will be sent out June/July time

OLD BUSINESS

An email was received from the STPR team inquiring the status of volunteers for the event, as well as volunteers bringing fire trucks as well. Without support the event can not happen.

Wellsboro Fire Department is covering the fire stand-by for FeastFest (11a-11p) – They are still looking for EMS stand-by volunteers.

DEPARTMENT 50:

A certified letter was sent to Ron Warren after the March TCFA meeting, Ron has responded – “As of now, department 50 should be considered out of service indefinitely

for emergency response activities...” – President Alex Kulish responded to Ron asking about his plans moving forward. The plan is to keep it civil and if the TCFA is provided with no answer, the organization will be more direct. There is a lot of concern regarding the money given to Department 50 that came from the TCFA and TCFA departments during F50’s start up. Money was donated to FD50 to help them purchase equipment and supplies. Per Chief 1, he has spoken to some FD50 members and they have offered to set up and run the department, but it seems as though Ron has basically lost interest.

It was mentioned we should find out if FD50 has started to dissolve. Also suggested that the TCFA recommends the equipment purchased using funds from the TCFA be redistributed to an organization that still benefits Tioga County departments. Kevin Kulish made a motion that the Executive Committee send a certified letter expressing our concerns about FD50’s intentions and ask what is happening with their equipment – stress that the letter is strongly supported by the entire TCFA organization...motion was then amended to a meeting between FD50 and the TCFA Executive Committee be set up as well. Motion seconded by Pongo. Unanimously approved.

Per Mark Goodrich and Valley Community Ambulance, it’s been a good ride, the building is sold, and other apparatus and equipment is being sold off as well currently.

NEW BUSINESS

Brought up that money would need to be moved from bank accounts to pay for the Searchable vs. Survivable Class.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Chief 1, Josh McCarthy, stated though he has been skeptical of the Fire Coordinator role, this set of Fire Coordinators have changed his view. Kudos to the FC’s.

It was asked how Fire Coordinator helmets will be tracked – a sign out form was suggested.

Chief 12, John Barnes, inquired about TCFA insurance coverages and regarding the FC helmets – they are covered under a blanket coverage.

Project Life Saver has 1 individual signed up in Wellsboro, and they have quite a few other individuals interested.

COMMITTEE ROSTERS:

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Doyle Swetland, John Barnes, Brian Davenport, Bret Mathers, Sam Warren

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Josh McCarthy, Lee Strange, Andrew O'Connors, Todd Bourdette, John Pagano

TRAINING COMMITTEE

Bret Mathers, Tyler Andrus, Jim Shepard, Rob Satterly, Bill Goltz, Kevin Kulish

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Kevin Kulish, Rob Satterly, TJ Riley, Jim Shepard, Alex Kulish

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Lacey Miles, Andrew O'Connors, Galen Martin, Alex Kulish, Brian Davenport

TJ RILEY MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY BRET MATHERS, @ 1959

***THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE JULY 19TH AT THE WESTFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT
@ 1900.***

**MEETING MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:
ROB SATTERLY, SECRETARY, TCFA**