

TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

NOTICE OF MEETINGS OF TOWN DEPARTMENT AND ALL TOWN BOARDS
As Required by Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2009 which amends MGL Chapter 30 A

NAME OF PUBLIC BODY – PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT

DATE OF MEETING: April 15, 2026

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

PLACE: West Barnstable Fire Station – Training Room
2160 Meetinghouse Way (Rte.149), West Barnstable, MA 02668

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Clerk's Report
 - a. Approval of Minutes/Correspondence
 - a. Discussion of Warrant & Ballot Posting, Report Book Mailing
2. Public Comment – No Deliberation (except emergencies)
3. District Meeting Planning with Moderator & Legal Counsel
4. Review of Final Motions for Annual Fire District Meeting
5. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. FY 2025 Closing/Audit Status
 - b. FY 2026 Budget Status
 - c. Cash Reconciliations
6. Ambulance Billing / Revenue Report
7. Overtime Report – Review
8. Building Committee Update
9. Fire Chief Review
10. Fire Chief's Report – (No Prudential Actions)
 - a. Personnel Changes
 - b. Community Events
 - c. Training
11. Deputy Fire Chief's Report – (No Prudential Actions)
 - a. Building & Facilities Update
 - b. Grant Status Updates
 - c. Apparatus Updates
12. Such Other Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair

ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE: **ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE:** This meeting of the WBFD Prudential Committee will not be conducted electronically for remote participation. If you wish to participate, please attend the meeting in person at the address above. For more information, please email District Clerk, Dan Furbush at DFURBUSH@WBFDEMS.ORG

The list of matters, are those reasonably anticipated by the president/chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. It is possible that if it so votes, the sub-committee may go into executive session.

PERSONS INTERESTED ARE ADVISED THAT IN THE EVENT THAT ANY MATTER TAKEN UP AT THE MEETING THAT REMAINS UNFINISHED AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING, IT MAY BE PUT OFF TO A CONTINUED SESSION OF THIS MEETING WITH PROPER POSTING.

For your information, the section of the M.G.L. that pertains to postings of meetings is as follows: Except in an emergency, in addition to any notice otherwise required by law, a public body shall post notice of every meeting at least 48 hours prior to such meeting, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. In an emergency, a public body shall post notice as soon as reasonably possible prior to such meeting. Notice shall be printed in a legible, easily understandable format and shall contain: the date, time and place of such meeting and a listing of topics that the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting. For meetings of a local public body, notice shall be filed with the municipal clerk and posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal building in which the clerk's office is located.

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES APRIL 15, 2026

PRESENT: Chief Dave Paanenen; Prudential Committee Members Edward Smith (Chair), Daniel Dewey, and Chris Maki; District Clerk Dan Furbush; District Accountant Mary Carnevale; Moderator Michael Pierce; Legal Counsel Charles Sabatt; District Treasurer Ray Pirrone was absent; Public attendees were Austin Moloney, Pablo Almeida, Len Clark, and Kris Clark

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Smith called the meeting of the Prudential Committee to order at 4:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The Clerk provided Minutes from the March 18, 2026 Prudential Committee meeting, advising the Committee that a request to modify the record of the meeting was received from Kris Clark. The request was to substitute a letter presented to the Prudential Committee at the previous meeting that was mistakenly dated, with a letter having a corrected date. The correctly dated letter was identical in content to the improperly dated version. **Mr. Smith motioned to accept the corrected letter and make it part of the minutes. Mr. Dewey seconded and in a roll call vote the request to substitute the revised letter in the minutes was unanimously approved.**

Mr. Dewey motioned, Mr. Maki seconded, and in a roll call vote, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2026 Prudential Committee meeting, as revised and printed.

Mr. Smith also advised the Committee members that a meeting should be held before the Annual District Meeting to insure that there were no changes to the ADM plan or motions. It was agreed to schedule a meeting for the Prudential Committee on April 29, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

The Clerk provided the final version of the ADM Motions and the ADM script for discussion by the Committee, and both were favorably received.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kris Clark presented the Committee with a document titled "Whelden Memorial Library* Information from ProPublica 'Investigative Journalism in the Public Interest'." It detailed the net income reported by the Whelden Memorial Library from 2016 through 2025 and showed net revenue deficits in all but 2016. She again expressed her concern about Article 12 in the FY 2027 Warrant, saying again that there is no transparency regarding the finances of the library and that the article would be funded by taxpayers money

if it passes, taxpayers have no visibility to the way the funds are used. The Chair indicated that the article would be considered at the Annual District Meeting and that is where the taxpayers could decide on whether to fund it.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Pirrone was absent, so the agenda item was moved to the May meeting.

AMBULANCE BILLING / REVENUE REPORT:

The statistics for the department's activity in March included nineteen (19) transports, all to Cape Cod Hospital. Seventeen (17) residents and two (2) non-residents were served for sixteen (16) medical calls and three (3) motor vehicle accidents. Receipts for the month totaled six thousand six hundred seven dollars and sixty-seven cents. (\$6,607.67).

The Chief then explained to the Committee that the way in which collections of unpaid invoices is changing. Historically, the department's overdue invoices were referred to FFR but with the billing agreement with Comstar, they have been performing the collection activity. He expressed concerns about collections amounts and invoices, saying Wbfd needed better internal controls and a say in what to do with unpaid invoices.

He then then introduced an unstaffed ambulance agreement between Sandwich and West Barnstable. It is a protection against lost revenues when the ambulance is out of service. The cost of the agreement is \$5,000 plus the cost of insurance to cover the ambulance when employed. He said it is a very low cost way to insure redundancy for ambulance service. He said that the department requires some training on the differences in the operation of the other ambulance as it had a few differences, but the department could adapt easily. Mr. Smith asked why all ambulances on Cape Cod are not outfitted identically. The Chief said that all are except for West Barnstable. The next purchase of an ambulance will remedy that issue.

Mr. Dewey motioned, Mr. Maki seconded and in a roll call vote, the decision to enter into the third party ambulance agreement was unanimously approved.

REVIEW OVERTIME REPORT & SICK/VACATION LEAVE REPORT:

There overtime report indicated that 695 hours of overtime was used in March, similar to February, and he said it was expected that it would continue to be a similar amount in the coming months.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Chief Paananen informed the Committee that he had a meeting with the architects to review the requested changes to the scope and that the changes were still not favorable for the department. He said that the

total cost of the project was reduced to \$7,302,500 and that a full replacement of the station would cost \$12,477,500. The reason for the high cost of the renovation is that there are unavoidable expenses for updating systems that are not part of the project. He indicated that a meeting was planned for April 27, 2026, to see what the building committee would support for the project. He said ideas such as not including the painting or ceiling replacement would be considered to lower costs. Finally, he said that he does not have a final feasibility study to present at the ADM and would likely withdraw the article for funding the project further.

FIRE CHIEF'S REVIEW:

The Clerk advised those in attendance that all annual reviews of the Fire Chief had been received and shared a document indicating the averaged scores for all Prudential members and any comments included in the review. The Chief's overall average for all performance categories was 4.96 out of a possible 5, indicating a very high satisfaction level of the Chief's performance by the Prudential Committee.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

The Chief informed the Committee that three firefighters were lost to other departments, one of whom had no experience but was still hired by Hyannis Fire.

The department will attend the funeral for Deputy Chief Deputy Dan Wittenmeyer Sr.

Fraud training at Cape Cod Community College was attended by Chief Paananen, Deputy Chief Morrison, and District Accountant Mary Carnevale. Take aways from that training included reducing the number of written checks and more cybersecurity training for the whole department.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

The deputy reported that for facilities and building updates, the following was addressed:

Shredded pulley on the dryer was fixed on March 25, 2026 and a leak in the sprinkler compressor identified by the Chief was repaired. A GFCI device is repeatedly being tripped by the refrigerator and will require attention. The old compressor and tank were sold at auction for \$11.00 but he is still awaiting payment. The urinal in the men's room is repaired. The department was awarded a DFS grant for Firefighter Safety Equipment totaling \$12,236.10 and will be used to purchase four SCBA masks, a gear dryer, and repairs to a vehicle. Another grant was applied for on April 7, 2026 to the Firehouse Subs Organization. Apparatus Updates include replacement of leaking hubs on Engine 1 and the coolant site glass on Trailer 1. A new radiator, and power steering cannister will be installed in Engine 2 along with a yellow rear light. A corroded primer wire on Engine 1 was replaced, and two new tires were ordered for Ambulance 1.

Finally, all air paks were flow tested with no major issues.

Deputy Chief Morrison also advised the Prudential that he would be attending an IAFC Board of Directors meeting on May 17-19, 2026 and provided the appropriate form for approval by the Prudential Committee, which was signed by Mr. Smith.

Both Chief Paananen and Deputy Morrison advised that they will be unavailable for the regularly scheduled date of the May meeting and requested it get moved to May 27, 2026. **Mr. Dewey motioned, Chris Maki seconded and in a roll call vote the move to May 27th for the next meeting was unanimously approved.**

There being no further business to conduct, **Mr. Dewey motioned, Mr. Smith seconded, and the motion to adjourn was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

DOCUMENTS USED IN THIS SESSION:

Public Sign-in Sheet

Meeting Notice and Agenda

Minutes from March 18, 2026

Annual District Meeting (ADM) Script

Final Motions for the ADM

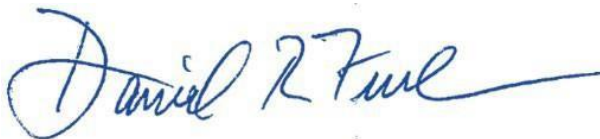
Whelden Memorial Library* Information from ProPublica "Investigative Journalism in the Public Interest

Disclosure by Non-Elected Public Employee of Travel Expenses for Deputy Morrison

Unstaffed Ambulance Agreement

Fire Chief Review Summary

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel R. Furbush, District Clerk