



President
JED PERKINS
Chester Hose Co. Inc.

Vice President
DON JOHNSON
Essex Fire Eng. Co. No. 1

Secretary - Treasurer
BUCK TAYLOR
No. Madison Vol. Fire Co.

Minutes of the November 24, 2003 VSMAA Meeting, Old Saybrook, CT.

President Perkins called the meeting to order at 8:10 PM with 11 departments represented.

Special Presentations:

1. None

The minutes of the October 27, 2003 meeting were read, MMS to accept as read.
The treasurer's report was read. The treasurer currently reports a balance is \$4949.41.

Communications:

1. None

Bills to be paid:

1. \$53.00 - Bill presented by Don Johnson for the purchase of flowers and card for Hugh "Oscar" Allen. MMS to pay bill.

Committee(s) report(s):

1. None

Old Business:

1. Fred Dudek reported on the statewide disaster plan. Middlesex County still needs to finalize plan and submit to the state. All coordinators for the county have been named. There will be two staging areas: For Northern Operations, all departments will stage at South District Headquarters in Middletown, for Southern Operations, all departments will stage at Essex Fire Headquarters.
2. Fred also reported that the bond for the new fire school has been pushed out until Spring of 2004. The state still supports the plan, however, would like to utilize surplus state property instead of purchasing new land. CVH property is no longer being considered as a possible site.

New Business:

1. Scott Andrews reported being contacted by Homeland Security staff to inquire if his department (Clinton) had received I-Tac (800 mhz) radios. Fred Dudek mentioned that all dispatch centers would be issued I-Tac radios as well.
2. Jed Perkins brought to the Associations attention a modified Tanker Task Force assignment sheet being utilized by Valley Shore Communications. The assignment sheet showed unauthorized modifications. Jed asked all Chiefs present to review the presented document and make corrections. Jed pointed out that the tanker Task Force sheet available online is the correct document, and only assignment sheet authorized by the Association. Jed will issue a letter and corrected document to Valley Shore Communications.
3. Jeff True reports that Valley Shore did not follow radio channel assignment protocols during a mutual aid response to Essex. Valley Shore assigned 46.18 to responding Old Saybrook apparatus, when protocol orders called for 46.04. Fred Dudek and Paul Fazzino will take the issue up with Valley Shore at the next Executive Committee meeting.

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526-0019

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669-8131

DEEP RIVER FIRE DEPT.
57 Union St.
Deep River, CT 06417
526-6042

ESSEX FIRE ENGINE CO. NO. 1
11 Saybrook Road
Essex, CT 06426
767-1258

GUILFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT
31 Park Street
Guilford, CT 06437
453-8000

HADDAM VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT
439 Saybrook Road
Higganum, CT 06441
345-4945

KILLINGWORTH VOL. FIRE CO.
331 Rt. 81
Killingworth, CT 06419
663-1785

MADISON HOSE CO. NO. 1
P.O. Box 573
Madison, CT 06443
245-2772

NO. MADISON VOL. FIRE CO.
864 Opening Hill Road
No. Madison, CT 06443
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OLD LYME FIRE DEPT.
69 Lyme St. P.O. Box 102
Old Lyme, CT 06371-0102
434-2424

OLD SAYBROOK FIRE DEPT.
310 Main St.
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
395-3149

WESTBROOK FIRE DEPT.
P.O. Box 691
South Main Street
Westbrook, CT 06498
399-9492

4. Charlie Greeney reports that the Association of Town Councils has issued an interim response to Middlesex Hospital (M.H.) stating that the associated towns will not be paying Middlesex Hospital any funds. The Town Association has secured a grant to pay for an outside audit of M.H. Paramedic Services and accounting practices. Don Johnson further reports that a nurse from M.H. reported at another meeting that M.H. had made a significant profit this past year, and that all M.H. staff is enjoying a significant bonus.
5. Fred Dudke confirmed an inquiry by Jeff True that Valley Shore Communications has submitted an application to the FCC for 10, 450 mhz operating channels. Jeff reports that Old Saybrook has filed for 2 additional channels. Jim Long also reports that Westbrook has also filed for channels in this spectrum.
6. Frank Schrempp reports that Clinton recently completed the final factory inspection of it's new aerial, and is expecting delivery in the very near future.
7. A Nominating Committee consisting of Charlie Greeney, Jim Budney and Rick Swan was formed for the purpose of nominating company officers for the 2004, VSMAA fiscal year.¹

Interest to the organization:

1. Hugh "Oscar" Allen has moved to room 580 and would love to hear from friends. His new direct hospital room number is: (860) 343-4391. Hugh is expected to be in the hospital until Christmas.
2. Jim Long reports that he will be stepping down as Chief of Westbrook for a respite.
3. Richard Forristall from Deep River provided a brief overview and introduction to a book outlining the history of the Deep River Fire Department. The book entitled "The heroes of Deep River" is available for \$23, and all proceeds will be used to turn their old firehouse into a fire museum.
4. Jim Long announced that 467 (100 gallons of foam) will be back online in three weeks.
5. Rick Swan announced that Old Saybrook will be putting their 26' Center Console, Boston Whaler up for sale. The boat will be sold less motors, but otherwise in good condition. Old Saybrook is entertaining offers from departments and individuals. Old Saybrook retains the right to refuse any offer, and preference will be given to another department over individual offers. If you are interested in seeing or bidding on this boat, please contact Rick Swan (860) 388-4792 (h), (860) 388-4792 (o), (860) 250-3492 (m) or rswan3@wm.com
6. Fred Dudek reports that the Office of Homeland Security has stated that it does not follow unified command procedures, nor recognizes the Fire Chief as incident commander. The state of Connecticut's plan to be filed with the Feds, will maintain the Connecticut Statue empowering the local Fire Chief as Incident Commander.
7. Paul Fazzino recognized and thanked all the surrounding mutual aid companies for their tankers and RIT response to a recent Essex fire. It was noted that Killingworth was assigned to cover the Essex station despite being part of the Level 1 Tanker Task Force. This topic was discussed in Item #2 of New Business above.
8. Don Johnson reported that Essex Fire has received approval for it's new tanker purchase, and is expecting delivery in late spring, 2004.

The next meeting will be held in Westbrook, on December 22nd at 7:00 pm. Dinner and beverages will start an hour earlier to celebrate the holidays.

Respectively submitted
Buck Taylor
Secretary/treasurer

¹ Correction, this item added to the minutes on 12/22/2003. Item not included in 11/25/2003 version.