



President
Rob McCarthy
Old Lyme Fire Dept.

Vice President
Scott Andrews
Clinton Vol. Fire Dept.

Secretary - Treasurer
Richard Bauer
Killingworth Vol. Fire Co.

CHESTER HOSE CO., INC.
P.O. Box 214
Chester, CT 06412
860-526-0019

CLINTON VOL. FIRE DEPT.
35 East Main Street
Clinton, CT 06413
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DEEP RIVER FIRE DEPT.
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OLD SAYBROOK FIRE DEPT.
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WESTBROOK FIRE DEPT.
P.O. Box 691
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Westbrook, CT 06498
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Minutes of the October 24th, 2005 VSMAI meeting in Old Lyme, CT.

The meeting was called to order by President McCarthy at 19:00 hrs with a salute to the flag.

Special Presentations: Bill Buckridge & Neil Sullivan – Provided an overview of Valley Shore Emergency Management Association's plans to establish a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Neil is the Team Coordinator and is working with the local Emergency Management Directors to coordinate the recruiting & training efforts. Intent is to provide basic training to team members to support Fire Departments / Emergency Management during major incidents. Commitment would be a few nights and / or weekends per year. Neil wants to stay tied to the VSMAI, the hope is that some CERT members will be interested in a larger time commitment once they begin the training, this would be a potential pool of candidates for the Fire & EMS agencies. The CERT team is tied to the Citizens Corps but will focus recruiting efforts at the regional level. Insurance coverage during incidents needs to be clarified. VSMAI offered their support to Bill & Neil by providing instructors, facilities or any other assistance needed. Bill & Neil will keep VSMAI apprised of their efforts / progress.

Reading of the previous meeting minutes

The minutes of the September 26th, 2005 meeting were read. MMS to accept as read (Budney / Tabak).

Reading of communications: None

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$2,878.35. MMS to accept the Treasurer's report as presented (Schrempp / Tabak).

Bills to be paid: None

Committee report(s):

1. Statewide Disaster Plan: Jed Perkins reported that there will be a State meeting this week.
2. Schools: None



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Old Business:

1. Common language / radios: John Tabak reported that there was a lengthy discussion at the last Middlesex County Chiefs' meeting. The mandate to convert to common language by 10/1/2005 is not firm, at this point the state plan has not been finalized yet. John stressed the importance of having the active Chiefs attend the County meetings so that these types of issues can be fully discussed / debated before being voted upon. At this point the County has agreed to review the plan in 3 months and will continue to monitor the progress of the State's plan. Several VSMAI departments indicated that they have already adopted common language. Frank Schrempp clarified that the intent of common language was to facilitate inter-agency operations (police, fire, amb, multiple counties, etc), day to day operations could continue to utilize existing codes / naming conventions. Charlie Herrschaft indicated that FEMA has changed their position and will allow law enforcement to continue using their "10-codes", it is possible that the fire service may receive a similar reprieve.

New Business:

1. Jim Budney reported that the DRFD has started an effort to update their pre-plans. DRFD has been conducting ladder drills with their mutual aid towns to ensure accessibility. Recent drill at Piano Works may draw some publicity since one of the tenants was a reporter and was questioning why building management wasn't a part of the drill.
2. Jim Budney reported that NE Hose & Hydrant is willing to offer VSMAI a competitive rate for hose testing if we could coordinate testing dates. Departments would be required to provide a driver, the vendor does the rest. Jim will research further.
3. Jim Budney indicated that the CSP has offered to conduct a training session on drug labs for the VSMAI Departments. The course is 4 hours, Jim will look into a date / location to conduct this training in January 2006.
4. James Grzybowski reported that Chester is still planning to host a Fire Service Instructor 1 & Ladder Operations class. James will forward dates / information, looking to begin in the middle of November.
5. Charlie Herrschaft reminded all departments of the RIT Weekend, 11/19 & 20. Flyers were distributed, financial assistance is available to any VSMAI department if needed.



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6. Gregg Prevost reported that the Valley Shore EMS Chiefs are interested in convening a quarterly meeting of the VS Fire Chiefs, EMS Chiefs, Police and Emergency Management officials. Looking to hold the first meeting in January 2006, most likely in Chester. More information to follow.
7. Gregg Prevost has obtained a quote from Motorola to purchase UHF portables for \$560, normally are \$700. See Gregg if interested.

Interest To The Organization:

1. Guilford Fire has received a vehicle to transport the decontamination trailer.

MMS to adjourn at 19:51 hours (Perkins / Ballantyne).

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Bauer

Secretary / Treasurer

Next meeting will be Monday November 28th in Old Saybrook at 19:00 hours.



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Attendees – October 24th, 2005:

Tim Ballantyne – Deep River
Dick Bauer – Killingworth
Jim Budney – Deep River
Paul Fazzino - Essex
James Grzybowski - Chester
Charles Herrschaft – Guilford
Jeff Hesel - Clinton
Gary Klare – Haddam
Rob McCarthy – Old Lyme
Jed Perkins - Chester
Gregg Prevost - Westbrook
Frank Schrempp – Clinton
John Tabak – Haddam

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