



*President*  
**Paul Fazzino**  
Essex Fire Engine Co. No. 1

*Vice President*  
**Tim Ballantyne**  
Deep River Fire Dept.

*Secretary - Treasurer*  
**Richard Bauer**  
Killingworth Vol. Fire Co.

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**OLD SAYBROOK FIRE DEPT.**  
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## **Minutes of the July 24, 2006 VSMAI meeting in Haddam, CT.**

The meeting was called to order by President Fazzino at 19:20 hrs with a salute to the flag.

### **Special Presentations:**

None.

### **Reading of the previous meeting minutes:**

The minutes of the June 26, 2006 meeting were read, MMS to accept as read (Budney / Hall).

### **Reading of communications:** None.

### **Treasurer's report:**

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$3,953.35. Dues have been received from all towns except Madison. MMS to accept the Treasurer's report as presented (Brady / Budney).

### **Bills to be paid:** None.

### **Committee report(s):**

1. Statewide Disaster Plan: Jed Perkins reported that Bob Ziegler and Bob Bradley have resigned from the Middlesex County committee. They will be replaced at their August 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

### **Old Business:**

1. Drug Lab class: President Fazzino is attempting to secure a 30-minute training video that has recently made available.
2. NIMS / SOG review: Copies of the Tender Strike Team and Mayday SOGs were distributed for review. Mayday has been updated with the changes from Guilford that were discussed. President Fazzino requested that all departments review these during the next month and send any changes to Dick Bauer. These will be voted on at the August meeting in Killingworth. Dick Bauer and Terry Parmelee recently completed a line by line review of the VSMAI and Middlesex County SOGs to ensure they are still consistent. President Fazzino thanked Terry for his ongoing support and efforts to keep the groups aligned. President Fazzino indicated that he has extended an open invitation for Terry to attend VSMAI meetings.



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3. Mutual Aid Agreements: Last month Middlesex County Chiefs approved a Mutual Aid agreement. A copy of the County Agreement will be distributed for review. President Fazzino recommends that VSMAI adopt the same agreement. This will be discussed & voted upon at the August meeting in Killingworth.

### **New Business:**

1. Common Language / Communications: President Fazzino opened a discussion on the use of common language versus radio codes. There has been considerable discussion / debate recently regarding this topic. President Fazzino requested that each department review the Middlesex County common language terms and discuss this with their respective Chiefs & Officers. VSMAI needs to take a position on common language but work needs to be done simultaneously to address officer / apparatus naming conventions and the use / naming of UHF frequencies. Departments were asked to come to the Killingworth meeting prepared to discuss this further. Jamie Grzybowski indicated that he has received written confirmation that codes are acceptable when working within your normal mutual aid areas & agencies. Common language is only required during multi-agency operations (Police, Public Works, DEP, etc). It was also noted that Middlesex County will be reviewing and reconsidering their common language SOG that was approved in 2005.
2. John Tabak reminded all departments that South District's tanker will be replaced with an engine in the very near future. Any towns with South District on their Tender Strike Team list should identify a replacement.
3. Harry Hall asked if any VS towns had a dive team. Durham currently uses South District but if they are committed to another incident he would need an alternate. Guilford is the only VS town that has an active dive team, it was also noted that the State Police has a team but they would typically be committed at the same incident as South District.



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- John Brady provided an update on minor firefighters which surfaced as a result of a recent incident in New Hartford. John and Kevin Kowalski are working with the Department of Wage & Labor to clearly define activities for minor firefighters. Drafts of the activities have been distributed for review, departments are encouraged to contact John with any comments. John & Kevin have stressed the importance of Junior / Cadet programs to the fire service and will continue to push for a mutually agreeable solution. Once the list has been finalized the Department of Wage and Labor will provide training to the fire service to ensure there is a consistent understanding and application of the guidelines.
- John Tabak invited all departments to look over their new heavy rescue (5-13) and quick attack truck (7-13).
- Harry Hall asked if any departments had done training on the new hybrid cars. Jeff True indicated that Old Saybrook had hosted a session with Toyota and Honda. Gregg Prevost will check with Lorenson Auto Group to see if they would be willing to provide this training. Due to size we would need to have two sessions within VS, potentially one for upper county and one for lower county.

#### **Interest To The Organization:**

- Jed Perkins reported that Chester recently held their elections and Jamie Grzybowski was elected Chief. Other officers are as follows: Charlie Greeney Jr (7-0-1), Allen Alonzo (7-0-2), John Brainerd (7-0-3), Jim Schaeffer (7-0-4), Kevin Goff (7-0-5) and Kim Gilbert (7-0-6).
- Gregg Prevost reported that Westbrook will be hosting and EMT refresher the first two weeks of September.
- Jeff True reported that Old Saybrook would be hosting an EMT refresher the weekend after Labor Day.
- Jamie Grzybowski reported that Chester would be hosting a Firefighter 2 class starting in September, wrapping up before Thanksgiving. Exact dates to follow.
- Essex's Cruise Night will be held on August 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-9:00.



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6. Jim Budney thanked all departments that assisted at their recent structure fire. Jim extended special thanks to Old Saybrook's RIT team that provided immediate attention to the injured firefighter. Paul Fazzino thanked Deep River for ensuring there were adequate resources on scene and reported that the injured firefighter is doing fine.

MMS to adjourn at 20:10 hours (Budney / Hajek).

Respectfully submitted,

**Richard A. Bauer**  
Secretary / Treasurer

Next meeting will be Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> in Killingworth at 19:00 hours.



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## **Attendees – July 24, 2006**

Dick Bauer – Killingworth  
John Brady – North Madison  
Jim Budney – Deep River  
Paul Fazzino – Essex  
Jamie Grzybowski - Chester  
Todd Hajek - Killingworth  
Harry Hall - Durham  
Brian Manware - Clinton  
Jed Perkins – Chester  
Gregg Prevost – Westbrook  
John Tabak – Haddam  
Jeff True – Old Saybrook

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