



*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.

## Minutes of the March 26, 2007 VSMAI meeting in Clinton, CT.

The meeting was called to order by President Fazzino at 20:10 hrs with a salute to the flag.

**Special Presentations:** President Fazzino introduced Senator Eileen Daily and Representative Brian O'Connor who were in attendance for a discussion on minor firefighters. John Brady provided a brief overview of the issue followed by an open forum discussion amongst those in attendance. The major concern with the new guidelines revolves around the hours / days that minor firefighters can participate. Senator Daily and Representative O'Connor committed to researching the issue further and coming back with a recommendation of how to best address (align with Vo-Ag programs as an example). MMS (Herrschaft / Hesel) to appoint John Brady as the VSMAI liaison to Senator Daily and Representative O'Connor for this issue. John Brady also asked for Senator Daily's and Representative O'Connor's support on the training bill (6338) that would provide funding for FF1, FF2 and FF recruit classes.

### Reading of the previous meeting minutes:

MMS to accept the February 26, 2007 minutes as distributed (Hajek / Herrschaft).

### Reading of communications: None.

### Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$5,028.35. MMS to accept the Treasurer's report as presented (Hajek / Herrschaft).

### Bills to be paid: None

### Committee report(s):

1. Clark Maxson reported that the Audit Committee has completed their review of the 2006 financials and all records / information is in order. MMS to accept the audit committees' recommendation (Hesel / Voss).
2. Gregg Prevost provided the following updates on behalf of the Middlesex County Fire-Rescue Coordinators:
  - New coordinators appointed by Middlesex County Chiefs - Gregg Prevost – Coordinator, Rick Swan - Assistant Coordinator, Terry Parmalee - Assistant Coordinator.
  - All County Coordinators and Statewide Staff are being outfitted with low-band mobile radios with primary operating channel on 46.16 with a secondary back-up frequency of 46.18.
  - The county is completing task force and strike team pre-plans. The state is in the process of compiling county by county resources available for mutual

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aid to assist in statewide mobilizations. Strike teams consisting of "Engine Company - Tanker - Forestry - Marine - Heavy Rescue - LDH" are being developed statewide county by county.

- The coordinators have received the following equipment available to be brought out to scenes as a resource: laptop computer with NIMS / ICS software, ICS vest system, master resource guide of available state assets (decon / foam units, etc.) and how to officially request them.
- STOCS interoperability boxes have been ordered and should be going into the decon units to interface with the I-Call / I-Tac repeater sites, as well as being issued to the county coordinators for interoperability.
- The coordinators are here to assist the IC, not to take over scenes. The purpose of the coordinators is to handle resource allocation and requests and facilitate the interoperability of those same incoming resources so the IC can focus on the overall incident.
- The Statewide Coordinators and representatives of DEMHS recently returned from a trip to Ohio that recently went live with a new statewide interoperability communications system based on the WEB-EOC program. This system fully integrates radio communications, CAD and records management across Fire / EMS / Law Enforcement / Emergency Management. The system also has the capability to maintain local response protocols, access county and statewide resources and operates on an integrated communications and data network running consisting of 198 radio tower sites covering all 88 counties in Ohio. The CT group was extremely impressed how it all worked together with emphasis on the multi-agency input and operation.
- There is a disaster drill planned for Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> in the morning in Fairfield County. They are looking for volunteers to participate in a mock task force move-up into Fairfield county from one of the other counties, if anyone is interested in participating contact Gregg. They will be looking to test communications capability using I-Tac / I-Call / Stocs / Statewide 46.16 to coordinate assignment and travel time to move into the area. Those participating will be required to physically travel to Fairfield County.
- There is a big push to gather updated county by county resources, we will be entering data into a template currently being used by the New London and Tolland County Groups to complete an up to date statewide resource list.
- The state is still working on the final consolidated curriculum to expand on IMT (Incident Management Team) Certification. There is currently a trained IMT in New London county, the state would like to get 3-4 IMT's trained to facilitate local availability should the need arise without having to bring in teams from out of state or the federal gov't.
- There is a statewide ID / accountability tag system being introduced using the "Salamander" system. This will include a photo and barcode system with imbedded training information in a standard format being done in conjunction with the CROG (Council of Regional Governments) for all public safety



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employees. The system includes an application which will have to be certified by the local Chief prior to issuing individual ID's. The plan is for sites to be in place in all counties to expand the program statewide.

- The new I-Tac / I-Call base at Troop F has been installed to expand the coverage in the lower county area.
- The Fairfield County chiefs held a very productive meeting with the Litchfield County chiefs with discussions emphasized on resources availability county to county. They have scheduled the same type of meeting with the New Haven County chiefs.

### **Old Business:**

1. Drug / Meth Labs: President Fazzino reported that a tentative date has been set for the Drug / Meth Lab training session, Saturday June 16. The class is 6 hours, cost is TBD. Clark Maxson will check on the availability of the Old Saybrook Middle School and President Fazzino will confirm costs. It was recommended that lunch not be provided.
2. Bob Gerard reminded all departments that Madison Hose Co is selling T-Shirts, pint glasses and plastic mugs to commemorate their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. See Bob if you are interested in obtaining any merchandise. Bob also reminded all departments to send in their response cards for the parade if you have not done so already.
3. Clark Maxson asked that all Chiefs contact him to let him know whether or not their department will be participating in the upcoming Field Day. If VS Departments are not planning to participate their slot will be offered to a non-VS town.

### **New Business:**

1. Jeff Hesel reported that Clinton will be hosting their annual dive rescue class again this summer, date / details to follow.
2. Membership: Durham's one-year probationary period is over. MMS (Prevost / Hajek) to vote the Durham Volunteer Fire Company into full VSMIAI membership. Motion passed with one abstention.

### **Interest to the Organization:**

1. John Brady reported that North Madison's banquet will be held on Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>. Invitations will be coming out shortly.
2. John Brady recommended that all departments send a personalized thank you note to Eileen Daily and Brian O'Connor for attending this evening's meeting. E-mail addresses will be sent out with the meeting minutes.



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MMS to adjourn at 21:25 hours (Hajek / Herrschaft).

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Bauer  
Secretary / Treasurer

Next meeting will be Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Deep River at 19:30 hours.

**Attendees – March 26, 2007**

Brian Ahearn – Killingworth  
Tim Ballantyne – Deep River  
John Battista – Clinton  
Dick Bauer – Killingworth  
John Brady – North Madison  
Jim Budney – Deep River  
Paul Fazzino – Essex  
Bob Gerard – Madison  
Charlie Greeney – Chester  
Todd Hajek - Killingworth  
Charlie Herrschaft – Guilford  
Jeff Hesel - Clinton  
Gary Klare – Haddam  
Brian Manware – Clinton  
Clark Maxson – Old Saybrook  
Steve Olsen – Essex  
Gregg Prevost - Westbrook  
Frank Schrempp – Clinton  
Bob Voss – Clinton

**Guests:**

State Senator Eileen Daily, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
State Representative Brian O'Connor, 35<sup>th</sup> District