



President
Paul Fazzino
Essex Fire Engine Co. No. 1

Vice President
Clark Maxson
Old Saybrook Fire Dept.

Secretary - Treasurer
Richard Bauer
Killingworth Vol. Fire Co.

Minutes of the December 22, 2008 VSMAI meeting in North Madison, CT.

The meeting was called to order by President Fazzino at 19:30 hrs with a salute to the flag.

Attendees – December 22, 2008

Steve Biasi – North Madison
Paul Fazzino – Essex
Bob Gerard – Madison
Harry Hall – Durham
Charlie Herrschaft – Guilford
Clark Maxson – Old Saybrook
Gregg Prevost – Westbrook
James Budney – Deep River

Special Presentations: None

Approval of the previous meeting minutes: MMS (Hall/Provost) to accept the November 24, 2008 minutes as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

Reading of communications: None

Treasurer's report: The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$6,174.49, with income from the seminar of \$420 and expenses of \$414.60. Ending balance is \$6,179.89. MMS to accept the Treasurer's report as presented (Prevost / Hall). Motion passed unanimously.

Bills to be paid: The following bill is from the Training Seminar:

Cliff's Quality Meats	\$414.60	Steaks / sides for seminar dinner
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MMS to pay the bill as presented (Prevost / Hall). Motion passed unanimously.

Committee report(s):

1. November Training seminar: The President reported that the final spreadsheet from the November seminar had been completed. The bottom line was the seminar cost the Valley Shore organization \$42.46. The seminar had between 400-500 attendees.
2. Statewide Disaster: NO REPORT

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3. **Nominating Committee:** The nominating committee met (Harry Hall and Greg Provost). The committee felt the same slate of officers should remain in their current positions. The President reported that the current Secretary / Treasurer was stepping down and therefore the committee needed to nominate an individual to fill the position. Chief Hall nominated “the man with the pen taking the minutes”. The President announced the nominees would be Chief Paul Fazzino for President, Chief Clark Maxson for Vice President and Deputy Chief Steve Biasi for Secretary/Treasurer. Chief Hall made the recommendation that the organization present the current Secretary/Treasurer, Dick Bauer, with a plaque in appreciation of his service. All attendees agreed.

Old Business:

1. Vice President Maxson tabled the discussion of re-starting the Engineers’ meetings. This will be brought up again next month.

New Business:

1. Chief Budney inquired to the other officers in attendance how their departments identify their junior / explorers on emergency scenes. Chief Budney added that many of the juniors / explorers are nearly the same size as some adults. Chief Maxson reported their department identifies them by their protective helmet color. Chief Hall reported that his department does the same. Chief Gerard reported that Madison uses the helmet plates to identify their juniors / explorers. Deputy Chief Biasi reported that North Madison uses a different colored helmet and has them wear reflective vests with “EXPLORER” written across the front and back of the vest. Chief Gerard added that their juniors / explorers are only allowed to leave town for brush fires. Chief Provost stated that Westbrook had the same rule for allowing their juniors / explorers to leave town. A general discussion ensued and the group suggested that possibly in future the organization may want to consider creating a standardized helmet color for all junior / explorers with the utilization of the reflective traffic vests. No firm decision was made at this meeting.



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2. Chief Maxson recommended that Northeast Utilities / Connecticut Light and Power present and short seminar /training at one of the future Valley Shore meetings on electrical emergencies. President Fazzino recommended that training could possibly be scheduled for the month when Valley Shore meets in Old Saybrook. Chief Maxson explained he would look into scheduling an individual from the utility company to conduct such training for the Valley Shore group. Chief Gerard explained that he ran into an issue with a representative from Connecticut Light and Power regarding the pulling of an exterior power meter by one of his members that is an electrician. Chief Gerard explained that he has four electricians in his department and it was common practice to pull the meters at structure fire incidents. Chief Gerard explained that the CL & P representative strongly advised not pulling the meters and explained that their personnel did not have the proper and correct personal protective electrical safety equipment to perform such an act.
3. Gregg Prevost reported that Westbrook had their elections and the following individuals were elected to the following positions:
 - Jim Long – 4-0
 - Cliff Spencer – 4-0-1
 - Mike Jenkins – 4-0-2
4. Chief Hall reported on an incident his department responded approximately six months ago and had received an Intent to Sue notice from an attorney representing the family of the deceased victim. The incident was a motor vehicle incident. Discussion of the incident and the possible lawsuit ensued. The group also discussed the insurance company's (town insurance company's) involvement.
5. Chief Maxson reported that Old Saybrook's new rescue truck has been put into service last Tuesday, December 16, 2008. No problems so far and the department is pleased with it.
6. Chief Maxson reported that the Town of Old Saybrook's public works department had an OSHA visit. Chief Maxson reported that alleged violations such as but not limited to lack of MSDSs, inadequate machine guarding for the bench grinder and a cracked windshield.
7. President Fazzino reported that Essex Fire Department has placed their new pumper into service.



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Interest to the Organization:

1. Durham will be hosting an EMT / MRT Refresher on 2/6, 7 & 8 2009.
Contact Chief Hall.

MMS to adjourn at 20:35 hours (Hall / Maxson).

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Bauer
Secretary / Treasurer

Note: Minutes taken by Deputy Chief Steve Biasi.

Next meeting will be Monday, January 26th in Old Lyme at 7:30 PM.

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