



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

*Vice President*  
**Clark Maxson**  
 Old Saybrook Fire Dept.

*Secretary - Treasurer*  
**Steve Biasi**  
 North Madison Vol. Fire Co.

**Minutes of the November 23, 2009 VSMAI meeting in Killingworth, CT.**

The meeting was called to order by President Fazzino at 19:38 hrs with a salute to the flag.

**Attendees – November 23, 2009**

1. Robert Gerard – Madison	2. Bobby Kytte – Madison
3. Chris Yenco - Madison	4. Bob Voss - Clinton
5. Charles Greeney – Chester	6. Gregg Prevost – Westbrook
7. Jim Long – Westbrook	8. Mike Jenkins – Westbrook
9. Gary Clare – Haddam	10. Harry Hall – Durham
11. Scott Wright	12. James Budney – Deep River
13. JT Dunn – Old Saybrook	14. Charlie Herrschaft – Guilford
15. Brian Manware – Clinton	16. Paul Jacobs – Killingworth
17. Clark Maxson – Old Saybrook	18. Paul Fazzino – Essex
19. Steve Biasi – North Madison	

**Special Presentations:**

None

**Approval of the previous meeting minutes:** MMS (Manware/Prevost) to accept the October 26, 2009 minutes as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reading of communications:** None

**Treasurer’s report:** The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$7,284.89, with \$0.00 of income and no expenses. Ending balance is \$7,284.89. MMS to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented (Manware/Long). Motion passed unanimously.

**Bills to be paid:**

NONE		
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**Committee report(s):**

Statewide Disaster:

NONE

Regional Preparation/Pre-Planning:

NONE

**CHESTER HOSE CO., INC.**  
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## Radio Frequency/Communications Committee:

- Deputy Chief Brian Manware of Clinton reported the Radio Frequency committee is in their “23<sup>rd</sup>” hour of finalizing the Valley Shore radio frequency list. With 85% of the Valley Shore chiefs being present Chief Manware requested that all chiefs review the radio frequency document and confirm it for accuracy for their department.
- Chief Maxson of Old Saybrook expressed concern with the confidentiality with the PL’s being distributed on the radio frequency list.
- Scott Wright explained there was nothing of extreme confidentiality with the PL’s being listed in the radio frequency list but did caution about sending the information out to the general public.
- VS President/Chief Fazzino advised all department chiefs to obtain a copy of the radio frequency list and sign off on it as soon as possible.
- Deputy Chief Manware of Clinton opened discussion on the use of plain language. Deputy Chief Manware explained the radio frequency committee, the group designated with exploring the use of plain language on behalf of the valley shore organization stated the committee decided to go with and propose adopting the 2006 version of the Middlesex County Plain Language Policy.
- Deputy Chief Manware stated that once the frequency list is finalized he would forward it to the Valley Shore Secretary to e-mail to the department chiefs for one last review.
- VS President/Chief Fazzino stated the Valley Shore organization should adopt within the Tanker Striker SOP that fire apparatus containing more than 1,000 gallons of water be identified as tankers and any apparatus containing less than 1,000 gallons be identified as engines excluding aerial apparatus.
- Chief Maxson of old Saybrook agreed with the use of plain language but stated it would be difficult to apply to fire apparatus especially if departments are expected to change labeling and current apparatus designations.
- Deputy Chief Manware explained only the radio traffic will be changed and not the fire apparatus.
- Chief Long of Westbrook stated he would object to changing the lettering on his department’s apparatus.
- Scott Wright stated that Valley Shore should consider including a statement and/or amendment in the Radio Frequency policy/list that includes the language stating that towns can utilize one another’s frequencies. It is happening but should be stated in the organization’s policy/list.

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### Old Business:

- Deputy Chief Manware asked the attendees if everyone received and responded to Cheshire Fire Chief Jack Casner's e-mail inquiring as to whether each Region 2 fire chiefs preferred a Class A or fuel-gas fired burn trailer. Deputy Chief Manware explained Rocky Hill Fire Department has a fuel-gas fired burn trailer but does not feel the trailer is realistic.
- Chief Herrschaft of Guilford explained money was allocated for the purchase of a Class A trailer and then all of a sudden the discussion of a fuel-gas trailer came up within Region 2. Chief Herrschaft felt the career chiefs on the other side of the river should not be making the overall decision on the type of trailer universally for the chiefs/departments on this side of the river.

- **Chief Herrschaft stated ALL Valley Shore chiefs should make their opinions known and should definitely vote for their choice of burn trailer. This vote is very important and each chief should definitely make their vote and opinion known to Cheshire Fire Chief Jack Casner. His email address is [jcasner@chshirect.org](mailto:jcasner@chshirect.org).**

- Chief Herrschaft stated a hauler for the trailer has already been contracted and established but each department still has the availability to go and pick the burn trailer up if they have an appropriate vehicle equipped with a fifth wheel and safe capacity to haul the trailer.
- Deputy Chief Manware stated there will be a train-the-trainer course for the use of the trailer.
- Chief Prevost stated there may be a per use monetary cost for using the burn trailer.
- Chief Hall of Durham inquired as to which department would house the burn trailer and where would it be stored.
- Chief Prevost explained the trailer would be housed at the New Haven Fire Department and would be maintained by the New Haven Fire Department.
- Chief Herrschaft explained the main issue currently is getting the trailer and getting the trailer which most benefits the majority of departments.
- VS President/Chief Fazzino of Essex explained that most of the new, younger firefighters have very little or no experience when it comes to live fire training and do not believe fuel-gas fire training is the right means of training.

### New Business:

NONE



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

- Chief Gerard of Madison reported his department conducted their annual elections in October. Chief Gerard reported he remains chief, Dave Thomas remained Captain (2-01), Bobby Kyttle remained First Lieutenant (2-02) and Chris Yenco was elected Second Lieutenant (2-03).
- Chief Hall inquired with the attendees as to whether any department is using or had purchased Mercedes double jacketed 5" diameter hose with stortz connections.
- VS President/Chief Fazzino stated he knew it was expensive.
- Chief Hall inquired as to whether the hose was worth the cost.
- VS President/Chief Fazzino explained Angus does not believe the hose is worth the cost.
- Chief Hall inquired with the attendees if anyone was having problems or issues with the fire engine/apparatus standards. Chief Hall stated he was trying to avoid the new 2010 standards which add additional costs to the apparatus.
- VS President/Chief Fazzino stated he had similar problems back when the then-new 2007 standard were implemented which included longer and wider fire apparatus measurements and attempting to fit the new apparatus in the current fire houses.
- Chief Hall explained he was attempting to offset and possible avoid added costs with new 2010 requirements.
- Chief Greeney of Chester had no further information on a Firefighter I course in Chester. Chief Greeney reported it was still tentatively scheduled to begin in January 2010.
- Chief Hall of Durham explained Wallingford Fire Department was planning on conducting a Firefighter I course starting in February 2010. Chief Hall explained he would send additional information and detail onto the Valley Shore Secretary for distribution when he receives more information.

MMS to adjourn at 20:00 hours (Manware/Dunn).

Respectfully submitted,

**Steve Biasi**  
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 28, 2009 in Madison at 7:30 PM.