



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 January 25, 2010 VSMAI meeting in North Madison, CT.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Maxson at 19:42 hrs with a salute to the flag.

Attendees – January 25, 2010

1. Paul Jacobs – Killingworth	2. Bob Gerard – Madison
3. Brian Koczak – North Madison	4. J.T. Dunn – Old Saybrook
5. Brian Manware – Clinton	6. Charlie Herrschaft – Guilford
7. Jim Long – Westbrook	8. Charles Greeney Jr. – Chester
9. Steve Biasi – North Madison	10. Clark Maxson – Old Saybrook

CHESTER HOSE CO., INC.
 PO Box 214
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 860-526-0019

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 35 East Main Street
 Clinton, CT 06413-2049
 860-669-8131

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WESTBROOK FIRE DEPT.
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 860-399-9492

Special Presentations:

None

Approval of the previous meeting minutes: MMS (Long/Dunn) to accept the December 28, 2009 minutes as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

Reading of communications: None

Treasurer's report: The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$7,234.89, with \$0.00 of income. Ending balance is \$7,234.89. MMS to accept the Treasurer's report as presented (Long/Gerard). Motion passed unanimously.

Bills to be paid:

NONE		
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Committee report(s):

Statewide Disaster:

No Report

Regional Preparation/Pre-Planning:

No report



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Radio Frequency/Communications Committee:

- Deputy Chief Brian Manware of Clinton explained there were two items to distribute for review. The two items will be the common language document and the Middlesex County Plain Language document transported in the Valley Shore SOP. Chief Manware requests that each chief and department officer review the documents.
- Deputy Chief Manware reports the Middlesex County Mutual Aid Policy will be send out. Chief Manware was not sure if the Valley Shore organization adopted the policy and voted to accept it as policy.
- Chief Herrschaft was also unsure if the Valley Shore organization was adopted and agreed to but believes it may have been voted on in January 2009.

Old Business:

NONE

New Business:

- Vice President Maxson requested nominees for the nominating committee for the Valley Shore organization. J.T. Dunn and Jim Long were nominated and voted in as the designees. The committee will return next month with a slate of officers.
- Vice President Maxson requested nominees for the Auditing Committee for the Valley Shore organization's budget for 2009. Brian Manware, Paul Jacobs and Charlie Greeney Jr. were nominated and voted in as the designees.
- The attendees agreed that the annual dues for each member department of Valley Shore will be \$100.00 for calendar year 2010.

Interest to the Organization:

- Deputy Chief Manware of Clinton reported that Clinton Fire Department will be hosting an Instructor I course in the April/May/June time frame. The course will be limited to 16 students. There is a requirement to have two instructors for each class. Ron Jonas will be the lead instructor. Deputy Chief Manware explained another Fire Instructor I course will be sponsored by Clinton Fire Department in mid June/early July. The course will be five days long with a six day set aside for the evaluation. The course will be full days and on Saturdays and Sundays. Currently there are no official dates but there are opening available.

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- Chief Herrschaft of Guilford reported there is \$50,000 available to Region 2 for rescue courses. These courses include Heavy Rescue Extrication with Captain Morse of FDNY. Chief Herrschaft reported Guilford just completed a rescue core class. Another rescue core class is being held in Cheshire and will advise of the dates. Chief Herrschaft explained the \$50,000 must be spent by Region 2 by June 2010.
- Chief Koczak of North Madison reported North Madison will be hosting a Rescue Core Class, a Pump Operator class and an Incident Safety Officer/Fire Suppression. The courses being held in North Madison are Connecticut Fire Academy calendar course and the information is available at their website and in the CFA calendar.
- Chief Maxson of Old Saybrook inquired with Chief Herrschaft as to whether it was required to have rescue core prior to taking the heavy rescue course. Chief Herrschaft reported it was a requirement and explained the course will be held in Guilford.
- Chief J.T. Dunn of Old Saybrook reported that the Firefighter Competition for 2010 will be held on June 6th with June 13th being the rain date. Chief Dunn explained there are some changes to come events from last year and penalties will be included in the events this year.
- Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook reported the temporary bridge to Fenwick has been installed. The bridge capacity is 25 tons.
- Chief Maxson of Old Saybrook reported the new ship for Old Saybrook Fire Department is near completion and sea trials are set for February 18th-20th.
- Chief Gerard of Madison reported their department's original tanker has been shipped off to Grand Sling, Texas which has a population of 2,600. February 15th is the final inspection date for their new tanker. Chief Gerard reported their old tanker is already going on calls in Grand Sling and was put to use when a tornado came through the town.
- Chief Maxson reported Old Lyme's new ladder truck is in service. Chief Herrschaft explained there was no firm guidance as to identify a quint from a pump or a ladder.
- Chief Herrschaft explained Guilford was currently going through ISO review. Chief Herrschaft explained the review included, but was not limited to, the department's pumpers, dispatch, two means of contacting volunteers, and water supply. Chief Herrschaft was unsure of the cell phone texting was an approved means for contacting the volunteers.
- Chief Herrschaft explained training records were reviewed. Chief Herrschaft explained the records must be sign by the attendees, the training should be documented as at least three hours in duration, and the attendees must be able to understand the training. Chief Herrschaft explained the town's hydrant system is evaluated along with their commercial structures including the sprinkler systems in the commercial structures. Chief Herrschaft explained IOS also evaluated the availability



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and size of underground tanks. Chief Herrschaft explained 30,000 gallon tanks are required to be accepted by ISO. Chief Herrschaft explained Guilford is currently rated as a four (4) by ISO but may go to a three (3). Chief Herrschaft explained the hydrant system is the biggest hurdle.

- Chief Maxson inquired as to whether Milford Fire Department is still rated at a one (1). Chief Herrschaft explained Milford was still rated as a one (1).
- Chief Herrschaft explained ISO is looking to have fourteen (14) firefighters on a scene within a minimal amount of time. Chief Herrschaft also explained that one (1) career firefighter equaled three (3) volunteer firefighters at a scene. (i.e. 14 career firefighters one fireground vs. 42 volunteers)
- Chief Herrschaft explained it was not necessary or worth the cost to purchase unnecessary equipment and put on apparatus to gain a tenth or half a point in the ISO scoring. Chief Herrschaft did explain that you should have at least two(2) five(5) gallon pails of foam which is required.
- Chief Koczak inquired to Chief Herrschaft about areas of the town which are greater than five (5) miles from the firehouse.
- Chief Herrschaft also explained IOS was concerned with areas greater than five (5) miles from the firehouse and added that moving their firehouse to its current location has helped along with mutual aid agreements. Chief Herrschaft added that having reserve pieces of apparatus helped with ISO points.
- Chief Herrschaft explained most fire districts that do not contain hydrant systems are rated at a nine (9) by ISO but re-emphasized that training records and dispatch were some of the biggest area of focus by ISO along with pre-plans. ISO also looked for training and water flow with mutual aid towns

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

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Biasi
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2010 in Old Lyme at 7:30 PM.