



President
Paul Fazzino
 Essex Fire Engine Co. No. 1

Vice President
Mike Jenkins
 Westbrook Fire Dept.

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

Minutes of the March 27, 2017 VSMAI meeting in Clinton, CT.

Vice President Mike Jenkins called the meeting to order at 19:35 hours with a salute to the flag.

Attendees – March 27, 2017

Sam Baber – Haddam	Brian Manware – Clinton
Arnie Moore – Killingworth	Mark DeCillis – North Madison
Brian Koczak – North Madison	Michael Shove – Guilford
Ben Bagnati – Old Saybrook	Joe Johnson – Old Saybrook
Joshua Painter – Essex	Jed Perkins – Essex
Jim Budney – Deep River	Chris Going – Essex
Paul Fazzino, Jr. - Essex	Jim Schaefer – Chester
Mike Jenkins – Westbrook	Steve Biasi – North Madison

Special Presentations:

Clint Havercamp presented a wholesale firefighting supply company selling directly to fire departments. The new business is Strategic Safety Dynamics. For more information please contact Clint at ClintH@SSDonline.us

Approval of the previous meeting minutes:

A MMS (Baber/Manware) to accept the February 2017 minutes was made. Motion passed unanimously.

Reading of communications:

None

Treasurer’s report: The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$4,780.58, with \$00.00 of income and \$0.00 bills or payments. The ending balance is \$4,780.58. MMS to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented (Baber/Manware). Motion passed unanimously.

Bills to be paid:

None

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 69 Lyme Street
 PO Box 102
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 860-434-2424

OLD SAYBROOK FIRE DEPT.
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Committee report(s):

State Fire Coordinator's Report:

No Report

Regional Preparation/Pre-Planning:

No Report

Radio Frequency/Communications Committee

Chief Brian Manware announced he did receive official communications from Westbrook Fire Department concerning their radio frequency update. Chief Manware announced the Valley Shore radio frequency list would be update to reflect Westbrook's radio changes.

Website:

Deputy Chief Joe Johnson of Old Saybrook announced there was no update to the website.

Tanker Strike Team SOP:

No Report

Tanker Fill Site Setup SOP:

No Report

Accountability SOP



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No Report

RIT/Mayday SOG Review

Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River announced Deep River will be implementing a new RIT/Mayday policy/procedure and is currently looking for input from other Valley Shore departments.

Chief Paul Fazzino, Jr. announced the Valley Shore organization already has a RIT/Mayday policy and Deep River should review the Valley Shore policy and ensure Deep River is following the policy.

Deputy Chief Budney stated Deep River is following the valley shore procedure. Deputy Chief Joe Johnson of Old Saybrook stated their department uses the emergency button on their portable radios. Conversation was had amongst the group and it was decided the radios acknowledge the mayday emergency, however, the information is sent to dispatch but does not relay the down firefighter's location and status.

Conversation ensued amongst the groups concerning the operation on a tactical channel because they are on a repeater and within dead zones dispatch cannot hear important radio communications.

Incident Command SOG

No Report

Old Business:

No Report

New Business:

Paul's Action/Topic List:

1. Firefighter Competition: The dates for the 2017 Firefighter's Competition was announced and with the many events ongoing that weekend many of the attendees suggested changing the date(s). Deputy Chief Joe Johnson of Old Saybrook stated he would take the information concerning the current

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dates and holiday events back to the officers of Old Saybrook and would get back to the departments.

2. **Regional Burn Trailer – Assistant Chief Mike Shove of Guilford:**
The Regional Burn Committee hasn't met in years and currently New Haven Fire Department manages the trailer. The current operating guidelines need to be reviewed and the annual maintenance/sustainability for the trailer required approximately \$15,000.00 annually. The trailer was last serviced last year. Currently, it costs a department \$750.00 to use the trailer per department, however, the committee is looking to raise that cost to \$850.00 to cover the increase in costs with operating the trailer. The cost for departments outside the region would see their cost increase from \$1,150.00 to \$1,250.00. Assistant Chief Shove stated a train-the-trainer course has also not been conducted in years and since over 50% of the certified trainers are not longer present additional training courses are needed. Assistant Chief Shove explained the need to track the number of firefighters using the trailer in order to validate the trailer's need with legislators and the Governor. The committee will be looking to have each department that uses the trailer complete the "after action" report and if that report is not completed they may restrict that department from using the trailer in the future. Additionally, each department will still need to complete the New Haven liability form and the minimum rental duration is one month. Each time the trailer is moved to another location the cost is \$300.00.
3. **Mayday –** The discussion concerning "Maydays" was discussed earlier in the meeting – please see the earlier meeting minutes.
4. **Radio frequencies –** The discussion concerning radio frequencies was discussed earlier in the meeting – please see the earlier meeting minutes.
5. **"Mask Up Before the Door" with Todd Andrews –** the seminar is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 2017 at Guilford Fire Department. Todd Andrews is a 29-year veteran of the fire service and is a captain and acting battalion chief with the Springdale, AR Fire Department where he has been a member since 2002 and is assigned to Station 3, the hazmat station. Chief Andrews has written multiple articles for Fire Engineering and presented at the National Fire Academy. Chief Andrews' seminar will focus on hydrogen cyanide and carbon monoxide around active fire structures. Chief Andrews believes cyanide antidote kits should be available in the field at fire ground locations. The cost for the seminar is \$2,000.00. Deputy Chief Joe Johnson of old Saybrook made a motion for Valley Shore Mutual Aid to pay for the cost of the seminar. Chief Arnie



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Moore of Killingworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Vice President Mike Jenkins announced there would be no cost for Valley Shore members/firefighters and depending on the number of participants from Valley Shore departments it would be decided later whether to open the seminar to outside departments.

6. Station coverage – Vice President Mike Jenkins opened discussion by announcing when station coverage is requested typically 1-2 firefighters arrive to cover stations. Chief Paul Fazzino, Jr. of Essex recommended it might be test to simply tone out other departments to respond to calls in towns where the home department is actively engaged at an emergency situation. Chief Arnie Moore of Killingworth also recommended requesting departments from outside the area or region. Chief Moore stated this is a good situation where the fire coordinators should be utilized and are pertinent to large-scale emergency situations. Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River stated one other option may be to tone for another department making that outside department aware they are “on-call” for the department actively engaged in an emergency situation. For example, Deep River is at a structure fire and Essex is toned making Essex aware they are first due or “on-call” for any calls in Deep River. Chief Jim Schaefer of Chester also recommended having a second staging area near the active emergency situation where those departments/apparatus could be dispatched to calls within the town where the emergency situation is ongoing. Vice President Jenkins confirmed there was not much interest with departments performing station coverage.

Interest to the Organization:

No Report

MMS to at 20:17 hours (Manware/Baber).

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Biasi

Steve Biasi
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2017 in Deep River at 7:30pm.