



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 July 25, 2016 VSMAI meeting in Haddam, CT.

President Paul Fazzino called the meeting to order at 19:40 hrs. with a salute to the flag.

Attendees – July 25, 2016

Sam Baber – Haddam	Ben Gagnati – Old Saybrook
Joe Johnson – Old Saybrook	Mike Jenkins – Westbrook
Jim Budney – Deep River	Jim Schaefer – Chester
Charles Herrschaft – Guilford	Harry Hall – Durham
Steve Biasi – North Madison	Paul Fazzino - Essex

Special Presentations:

None

Approval of the previous meeting minutes:

A MMS (Baber/Jenkins) to accept the June 2016 minutes was made. Motion passed unanimously.

Reading of communications:

None

Treasurer’s report: The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$5,090.11, with \$0.00 of income and \$559.53 bills or payments. The ending balance is \$4,530.58. MMS to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented (Baber/Johnson). Motion passed unanimously.

Bills to be paid:

None

CHESTER HOSE CO., INC.
 PO Box 214
 Chester, CT 06412-0214
 860-526-0019

CLINTON VOL. FIRE DEPT.
 35 East Main Street
 Clinton, CT 06413-2049
 860-669-8131

DEEP RIVER FIRE DEPT.
 57 Union Street
 Deep River, CT 06417-2011
 860-526-6042

DURHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE CO., INC.
 PO Box 154
 Durham, CT 06422-0154
 860-349-9112

ESSEX FIRE ENGINE CO. NO. 1
 11 Saybrook Road
 Essex, CT 06426-1402
 860-767-1258

GUILFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT
 390 Church Street
 Guilford, CT 06437-2004
 203-453-8000

HADDAM VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT
 439 Saybrook Road
 Higganum, CT 06441-4110
 860-345-4945

KILLINGWORTH VOL. FIRE CO., INC.
 333 Route 81
 Killingworth, CT 06419-1218
 860-663-1785

MADISON HOSE CO. NO. 1
 PO Box 573
 Madison, CT 06443-0573
 203-245-2772

NO. MADISON VOL. FIRE CO.
 864 Opening Hill Road
 Madison, CT 06443-8202
 203-245-2772

OLD LYME FIRE DEPT.
 69 Lyme Street
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 Old Lyme, CT 06371-0102
 860-434-2424

OLD SAYBROOK FIRE DEPT.
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 860-395-3149

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Committee report(s):

State Fire Coordinator's Report:

No Report

Regional Preparation/Pre-Planning:

No Report

Radio Frequency/Communications Committee

No Report

Website:

No Report

Tanker Strike Team SOP:

No Report

Tanker Fill Site Setup SOP:

No Report

Accountability SOP

No Report



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RIT/Mayday SOG Review

No Report

Incident Command SOG

No Report

Old Business:

- Deputy Chief Joe Johnson of Old Saybrook stated there was not update on the organization's website. Deputy Chief Johnson stated he is working on getting a new domain for the website and will have more information at the upcoming meetings.
- President Fazzino recommended working with Jay from Guilford if a new website needs to be developed.
- President Fazzino announced the letter to Durham did not get sent as outlined during last month's meeting. President Fazzino again announced the meeting are not only for chief officer but are for everyone. President Fazzino announced Durham did participate in the field day in Old Saybrook and the recent tanker shuttle drill.

New Business:

- Past Chief Harry Hall of Durham opened discussion concerning the brush fire in Haddam over the past weekend where numerous mutual aid departments were on scene. Past Chief Hall believed there was a lieutenant from a department with a white helmet. Past Chief Hall inquired as to whether this was something new.
- Chief Jim Schaefer of Chester inquired whether there were any standards across the board for officer helmet colors? Chief Schaefer believed Past Chief Charlie Greeney stated the use of white helmets for all officer a few years ago.

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- General discussion amongst the attendees occurred and there was many variations across the board among the departments and there was not standardized practice or standard operating guideline (SOG).
- President Fazzino inquired whether the attendees were interested in developing a committee to look further into the issue of just each department poll their members and firefighters.
- Past Chief Harry Hall stated it may not be an issue and was just inquiring if this was a normal practice.
- Chief Charlie Herrschaft of Guilford believed it should be “home rule” and is should be the decision of each department as to their officer’s helmet color.
- President Fazzino suggested having this conversation again at the upcoming meetings to get additional input from other departments.
- Chief Sam Baber of Haddam announced at the recent mutual aid calls some responding departments did not have Haddam’s operating frequencies. Chief Baber suggested departments responding to Haddam to please be aware of Haddam’s radio frequencies on the radio frequency spreadsheet and ensure their radios have the current programming.

Interest to the Organization:

- Chief Mike Jenkins of Westbrook announced two of the three new engines arrived. Chief Jenkins also announced Westbrook will be having a Wet Down for their new apparatus on Saturday, September 17, 2016 at Westbrook Fire Department. Information will be sent to the Secretary for distribution.
- Past Chief Harry Hall of Durham opened discussion on the closing of Kx in Middletown.
- President Fazzino stated the closing does not really affect valley shore departments, however, Valley Shore Dispatch is now dispatching for East Haddam and Haddam Neck. East Haddam will be installing/constructing a new radio towers in order to increase radio coverage in their area. Additionally, a new simulcast system costing approximately \$400,000 will be built in the valley shore coverage area with Haddam allowing the use of one of their UHF channels in order to allow coverage to the entire area.
- Chief Jim Schaefer of Chester announced their department recently had their officer elections. The following officers were elected:



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Chief – Jim Schaefer
Deputy Chief – James Grzybowski
Assistant Chief – John Brainard
Battalion Chief – Kim Brainard
Captain – Sara Blaschik
1st Lieutenant – Jacob McNally
2nd lieutenant – Jon Saunders

- President Fazzino announced Killingworth also had their officer elections. Arnie Moore is the new chief with the previous officer remaining the same.
- Chief Sam Baber of Haddam thanked everyone for their help during the recent mutual aid calls to Haddam.

MMS to at hours 20:20 (Schaefer/Jenkins).

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Biasi

Steve Biasi
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2016 in Killingworth at 7:30pm.